

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2011

# pulse



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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

## **OB gets new mom/baby site**



**Jennifer Williams** was one of the new unit's first patients.



**L to R: OB nurses Shelley Campbell, Melissa Thorbjornsen, Apryl Van Groningen, Stacy Porter and Laurie Synowicki.**

Great news for moms, babies and dads: last Tuesday OB welcomed its first mom and baby to its new coupling location in the old Two West. The area now boasts a fresh, welcoming look and will provide more privacy for postpartum moms and babies. The rooming-in rooms are private, and will allow for greater patient satisfaction, infection control and more. Congrats to all on the swift and smooth transition, (*Carol Farron, ext. 7535*).

## **LMH, Regent partner with 17 docs**

Lodi Memorial Hospital and Regent Surgical Health, a surgery-center management and development company specializing in hospital/physician joint ventures, announced last Thursday a partnership between LMH, Regent Surgical Health and 17 area physicians. Two outpatient medical centers, Lodi Outpatient Surgical Center and the Endoscopy Center of Lodi, will now come under the umbrella of this joint venture. The facilities provide specialist surgeries for ear/nose/throat, endoscopy, general surgery, orthopedics, podiatry, ophthalmology and urology. The Lodi Outpatient Surgical Center was founded in 1984 by its current CEO Erick Albert, MD, along with Walt Reiss, MD; Norm King, MD; James McFarland, MD; and Jack Leary, MD. It currently has 17 physician owners. The Endoscopy Center of Lodi was launched as a for-profit business by LMH and partners two years ago to perform endoscopic procedures on an outpatient basis. Regent Surgical Health is a surgery-center management and development firm specializing in hospital/physician joint ventures. They manage and invest in surgery centers throughout the nation. Lodi Memorial Hospital and Regent Surgical Health will retain 51 percent of the for-profit corporation's shares, and the physicians will retain the remaining 49, (*Carol Farron, ext. 7535*).

## **Long-time volunteer will be missed**



Volunteer extraordinaire Margaret Corda recently passed away after a short illness. She was generous and had a way of telling it like it is. You always knew where things stood with Margaret. She spent 20 years volunteering at LMH. And during that time, she logged more volunteer hours than any volunteer in the hospital's 59-year history, with a whopping 25,000 hours. During her 20 years, Margaret helped recruit, screen and train volunteers. She even had her husband, Elmer, volunteer for several years and serve as the hospital's human shredder of confidential-health information. Margaret also led the gift-shop activities. She was the store's buyer, accountant and made sure the shop was staffed. There were few at the hospital who didn't know Margaret. And most of the staff knew she was a soft touch. If a nurse needed a stuffed animal for a sick child, she'd visit the gift shop, whisper something in Margaret's ear and walk out with a teddy bear. That was Margaret. In addition to serving as a hospital volunteer, Margaret raised funds for the hospital. She belonged to the LMH Emperor Auxiliary, one of many hospital branch auxiliaries that met monthly to play cards and donate the winnings to the hospital. Margaret also served as vice president of the LMH Main Auxiliary for 20 years. That body governed the activities of the branch auxiliaries and directed all funds raised to buy needed hospital equipment. At the auxiliary meetings, it was a treat when it was Margaret's turn to provide refreshments. There was always something freshly baked and delicious. In every way Margaret, a Lodi native, was generous, with a sometimes-gruff exterior, but an old softy underneath. We will miss her. Her family has asked those wishing to remember her with a donation to direct the donation to the LMH Foundation, (*Carol Farron, ext. 7535*).

## **Staff offered Thanksgiving feast**

Complimentary lunch or dinner will be offered to those staff who work the Thanksgiving holiday, Thurs., Nov. 24. A traditional Thanksgiving meal will be served during lunch and dinner, 11a-2p and 4-6p. The menu for the day includes turkey, cornbread stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, glazed carrots, dinner rolls, pumpkin or apple pie and a 12-ounce soda or coffee. Guests may also attend at \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 12 and under. Hours on Fri., Nov. 25 are 7a-2p, (*Becky Olvera, ext. 7597*).

### **Medical records receives walk ins**

LMH's medical-records department is once again receiving patients in their offices who wish to request copies of their medical records. Medical records is in the North Wing basement, so if folks look lost, please help them find the office. In the past several months, patients needing copies of their medical records were asked to complete forms at the main entrance and were then mailed their medical records. Prior to the South Wing opening, folks would venture into the basement looking for medical records. Now with the help of several escort volunteers and staff, those who walk into LMH seeking their medical records can request them directly from LMH's medical-records staff, *(Ron Kreutner, ext. 7898)*.

### **Employee crafters sell their wares**

On Tues., Nov. 22, from noon until 5p, get a jump on early holiday shopping when LMH employees who craft and/or have small gift businesses will have their holiday offerings for sale in Classroom F. Please stop by to say hello, check out the variety of gift items and support your fellow LMHers, *(Carol Farron, ext. 7535)*.

### **Yoga class offered**

LMH's "Live More Healthfully" program will host a Hatha yoga class on Wed., Nov. 30, from 5:30-6:30p, in Classrooms F and G. This class will be taught by LMH volunteer, Karla Franck, a certified YogaFit instructor who has been teaching yoga classes for 11 years. Hatha yoga combines gentle physical positions with breathing exercises to strengthen the body and improve relaxation and concentration. There is no cost to participate. Space is limited to 35 participants, so please RSVP to Kevin Vondergeest, ext. 3063. Remember to bring a mat and wear comfortable clothing, *(Kevin Vondergeest, ext. 3063)*.

### **Holiday breakfast gets a new twist**

Save the date for the annual LMH Employee Holiday Breakfast, Tues., Dec. 6. Due to limited space in Café A, this year's holiday breakfast will be a "grab and go" style breakfast. A boxed meal will include a breakfast burrito, a cranberry-orange muffin, a fresh fruit cup, orange juice and coffee. Meals will be available for pick-up between 6:30-9a in Café A. This breakfast is for LMH staff and volunteers only, *(Becky Olvera, ext. 7597)*.

### **ADC pays it forward**

The LMH Adult Day Care staff, participants and their families have donated items to create two Christmas boxes to send to US troops. These boxes come complete with a homemade Christmas ornament, candy canes and a card signed by all participants. The ADC program has many participants who previously served in the military and wanted to do something special for Christmas for those who have to be away from their families during the holidays while they protect and serve, *(Terri Whitmire, 369-4443)*.

### **Gift shop readies for Santa**



*Christmas elf Amelia Ernst displays an advent calendar while modeling a Santa hat. These and other holiday items, such as snowman and Santa plates (right), are available in the gift shop.*

The LMH gift shop opened on the night of Fri., Nov. 11, at 10:30p and welcomed the night staff through 2:30a so LMH's night owls could have first pick of the holiday offerings. Ornaments, stockings, dolls, plush toys, holiday plates and

holiday jewelry were a big hit, as were the many stocking-stuffer options, including 3-D bookmarks. Stop by and check it all out. Those purchasing more than \$20 of gifts will have their pick of a complimentary item from the shop's Christmas basket, *(Sarah Beasley, ext. 7616)*.

### **Weight Watchers offers new option**

Starting Dec. 6, the Weight Watchers At Work program at LMH will be going to the "Monthly Pass" system. LMH employees will have the flexibility to attend weekly At Work meetings as well as unlimited meetings in their local communities. In addition, participants have access to free eTools and Weight Watchers Mobile to help stay on track between meetings. All this is offered for one low monthly price of \$37.95, a five-percent discount from the cost of community meetings. Not only that, next year LMHers who are medically benefitted and enrolled in the "Live More Healthfully" employee-wellness program can reduce their health-care premiums up to 30 percent. The class meets on Tuesdays in Classrooms F and G, from 5-5:30p, with weigh-in starting at 4:30p. Sit in on a meeting for free anytime. For information on the class or earning rewards, call Kevin Vondergeest, ext. 3063, *(Kevin Vondergeest, ext. 3063)*.

### **Need a candy fix?**



Stop by the surgery waiting area on Wednesday or Thursday of this week and visit with LMH's most well-mannered and sweetest volunteer – literally. Les Sweet, who at 91 has been volunteering in that post for six years, is bringing in his remaining Halloween candy for patients family members and staff. As usual, Les couldn't be Sweeter, because he's just plain Sweet, Sweet, Sweet, *(Carol Farron, ext. 7535)*.

### **Check out electronic-bulletin board**

Those who haven't had a chance to visit LMH's employee electronic-bulletin board are encouraged to do so at [www.lmhemployees.org](http://www.lmhemployees.org). It's updated regularly. Submit items to [moderator@lodihealth.org](mailto:moderator@lodihealth.org).