

MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2010

pulse



www.lodihealth.org
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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

Robin wins DAISY Award



Robin Clay was recently honored as LMH's newest DAISY Award recipient. DAISY Award recipients are nominated by their peers. Robin's peers had the following to say about her: Robin has set aside her nominations due to the fact that she oversees the DAISY Award-selection process through the professional-

practice committee. She knows and practices the LMH Mission and Values by performing at a high level and by having high expectations of those around her. She is willing to teach and train peers to ensure everyone is able to successfully promote the mission of LMH. She views herself as an employee of the entire organization and demonstrates this through her efforts in the development and execution of clinical care for LMH patients. She wears many hats on LMH's behalf, constantly volunteering and taking active roles in community goodwill and employee-recognition events. She understands the challenge of delivering quality and timely care while showing sensitivity and concern for each individual. Robin has been an LMH employee since 1981. Though she has filled a variety of nursing roles over the years, her present position is hospital supervisor. Most recently, Robin, along with husband Darrell, also a long-time LMH employee, was chosen to receive the 2009 Ted Holmstrom Heart Award. Congratulations, Robin, (Debbe Moreno, ext. 7477).

UM director named



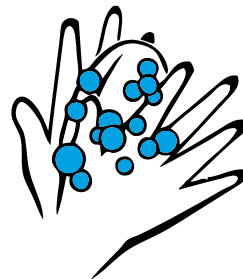
After several months doing a fantastic job as interim director of Utilization Management, Valerie Cronin has accepted the position permanently. Valerie has worked for LMH for nearly 11 years. She served as a social worker in PRU before moving to the east campus and then became the social-work

supervisor. Valerie received her master's degree from California State University, Fresno, and bachelor's degree from Pacific Christian College in medical-social work. Valerie and her husband, James, a sheriff's-department employee and Tokay High School's tennis coach, have three sons and a daughter, ages 26-17. Their oldest son is a law student at Notre Dame. Please join me in welcoming Valerie to the position, (Mark Sey, ext. 7439).

Auxiliary helps nursery

The LMH Main Auxiliary has purchased a small AccuDose medication-dispensing unit for the hospital's nursery. This tiny unit will fit nicely in the nursery and help improve the delivery of medications to the hospital's smallest patients. The Main Auxiliary is made up of representatives from the branch auxiliaries who since 1945 have been raising funds for LMH. Most recently, the Mission Branch Auxiliary, of Clements, held its annual Valentine's Day luncheon at St. Joaquim Church, in Lockeford, to raise funds with their homemade salads, a silent auction and raffles. Each year this branch raises about \$5,000 with its luncheon. The funds are then directed to the Main Auxiliary, which then decides which items from the LMH Capital Budget list it would like to fund. For those interested in becoming a member of an LMH auxiliary, or to obtain more information, contact the president of the main auxiliary, Helen Welch, 333-0426. Through the years, the auxiliaries have raised \$1.7 million to purchase equipment for LMH. They have also pledged \$50,000 to the hospital's South Wing capital campaign, (Carol Farron, ext. 7535).

H1N1 – is it over?



The story of H1N1 is still being written. LMH has not seen large numbers of infected patients and staff as initially predicted. Diligent compliance with hand hygiene and cough etiquette has certainly helped, and so has the number-one means of influenza prevention – vaccination. In fact, the vaccine is still available, and San Joaquin County Public Health is

encouraging those not yet vaccinated to do so. Normally by the end of March the flu season would be over, but there is nothing normal about this flu season. H1N1 started in April of 2009. Based on trends of previous pandemics, an 18-month course with a cycle of three waves is expected. We have gone through two waves (one more wave and seven months to go). This means the H1N1 pandemic could end just as our seasonal influenza arrives in October of 2010. There is good news: next year's seasonal-flu vaccine includes immunity against H1N1. Please get vaccinated, wash your hands often and practice respiratory/cough etiquette. Let's not let our guard down – H1N1 is still out there, (Wendy Long-Brandt, ext. 7521).

Volunteers reach 637,684 hours



Scofield



Goetz



Bartholomew



McGill



Corda

Since the hospital's first volunteers signed on in 1945, they have done just about everything, from ringing doorbells to asking their neighbors to join the LMH Association – the non-profit group that owns the hospital – to sewing circumcision sheets for surgery. Their hours through 2009 have totaled 637,684. Last year alone, 205 hospital volunteers worked a total of 17,208 hours. That's down slightly from 2008,

because later in 2009 LMH placed the junior-volunteer program on hiatus due to H1N1-visitor restrictions. At the volunteer-appreciation luncheon this year, on Sat., May 22, six volunteers will receive special milestone-service pins. Dolores Scofield, courtesy desk, receives her 3,000-hour pin; Helen Goetz, gift shop, receives her 4,500-hour pin; Esther Bartholomew, finance department, receives her 4,500-hour pin; Janice McGill, TCU-activities aide, receives her 7,500-hour pin; and Margaret Corda, gift shop, receives her 21,500-hour pin. The hospital is grateful to them and all volunteers for giving their time and talents, (Sarah Beasley, ext. 7616).

PTO cash-out time is now

Spring is upon us and so is the PTO cash out. This April, employees may cash out all Personal Time Off (PTO) in their banks, provided a minimum of 120 hours remains. The qualifications for this cash payout are that an employee must have at least 128 hours in his or her PTO bank. For example, if an employee has 180 hours of PTO, he or she may cash out up to 60 hours. If he or she has 300 hours in his or her PTO bank, he or she will be able to cash out up to 180 hours. The minimum payout is eight hours. A Personnel Action Form (PAF) must be completed and turned in to Human Resources indicating the number of hours to cash out. PAFs must be submitted to HR no later than Apr. 16, and they do not require management approval. The actual check for PTO cash out is Apr. 30. It will be a separate check and will not go into direct deposit. Normal taxes and 403(b) contributions will be deducted as well from this check. Those with questions should contact HR, (Judi Simon, ext. 7443).

See's sells holiday candy

See's Candies will be at LMH, in Classroom A, on Wed., Mar. 31, from 11a-2p, for discounted holiday-candy sales. Cash, checks and credit cards are accepted. Payroll deduction is also available, (Tina Vincelet, ext. 7386).

TCU celebrates Easter



Please join the TCU staff and residents for an outdoor Easter event on Wed., Mar. 31, from 3:30-5:30p. It will be held at the LMH West Campus outside patio. An Easter-egg hunt begins at 4p, and you will need to bring your own Easter basket. There will also be games to play and treats, (Cindy Dennis, ext. 3168).

LMH Annual Meeting tix on sale

Tickets for the LMH Association Annual Meeting and dinner are on sale in the LMH Community Development Department; \$35 for members and \$45 for non-members. The meeting will be held on Wed., Apr. 21, at Wine and Roses in Lodi. Tickets must be purchased by Fri., Apr. 9. The association is the non-profit membership group that owns LMH. Anyone can become a member for a one-time, lifetime fee of \$100. Employees may join by payroll deduction if they wish. Please contact Community Development for a membership form, or visit the LMH website, www.lodihealth.org, for more information, (Mary Hicks, ext. 5170).

Sign up for April 21 Denim Day



Hospital staff wishing to participate in and contribute to the San Joaquin County Women's Center sexual-violence-awareness initiative, Denim Day, will have their contributions matched by the hospital up to \$1,000. LMHers wishing to participate can wear denim to work on Wed., Apr. 21, the exception being employees in patient-care areas who can instead wear denim pins. The donation to participate is \$5, and employees should sign up beforehand. Sign-up sheets and more information are on the employee-bulletin board, www.lmhemployees.org, (Melinda Sparks, ext. 7401).

How to submit to/find "Pulse"

All medical staff, hospital staff and volunteers are welcomed to submit items for "Pulse." Items should be between 50-150 words and pertain to LMH news, milestones or events. Items should be directed via in-house mail to the Community Development Department or via email to Lori Horan or Carol Farron. "Pulse" is published every other Monday, and submissions should be received by 8a the preceding Friday. "Pulse" is available via the LMH network (L:\LMHNEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS\Internal\PULSE) or the LMH website, www.lodihealth.org. Those wishing to receive "Pulse" via e-mail should contact Lori Horan, ext. 7590, or e-mail lhoran@lodihealth.org, (Lori Horan, ext. 7590).

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. It's updated regularly. Submit items to moderator@lodihealth.org.