

MONDAY, JULY 12, 2010

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

Thanks for the feedback

The town-hall meetings last week relative to how to meet budget at LMH were well attended. Many excellent questions were asked, and lots of good ideas and feedback were provided. One issue discussed included the importance of using LMH programs and services, especially the community clinics like Millsbridge, Iris, Trinity and Vine, along with the hospital's lab and diagnostic-imaging department for testing. The first three clinics are primary-care clinics. Two are in Lodi, and Trinity is in north Stockton. Vine is a specialty clinic for endocrinology and neurology concerns. All of the clinics offer excellent physicians and staff. If employees' doctors' offices direct them to other locations for testing, employees can tell their physicians offices they will seek the services from LMH. A mailing with specific clinic information will be sent to all employees so that we can reach those who were unable to attend the town-hall meetings. Information is also available on the LMH employee-bulletin board (www.lmhemployees.org). As mentioned at the meeting, the 10-percent reduction of productive hours for the next four pay periods is expected to be a temporary fix while the hospital board and management team look at ways to increase revenues and decrease costs. Communications will be ongoing about LMH's efforts to reach budget. To date the hospital is \$5.6 million behind in its budget for the year due mostly to decreased census and decreased reimbursements and payments for care. Like other hospitals throughout the state and nation, LMH is impacted by the difficult economy. I'd like to thank all LMHers for the part each plays in providing excellent care and collaborating to meet budget. Regular communications will continue via bi-weekly emails to all employees, and more town-hall meetings will be added as requested. Additionally, any departments that would like to have me, Ron Kreutner, Mark Sey or Debbe Moreno attend their monthly department meetings are welcomed to invite us. Again, thanks for all you do, (Joe Harrington, ext. 7560).

New doc joins ED



Please welcome Xavier Salinas, MD, emergency medicine. He graduated from Ross University School of Medicine - Dominica, North Brunswick, NJ, and completed a residency in emergency medicine from the University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine in San Juan, (Linda Brown, ext. 7669).

Satisfaction surveys mailed

Up to 400 employees have been selected at random to participate in the LMH employee-satisfaction survey that has been conducted each of the last two years by the Best Companies Group. Employees will receive the surveys via the mail in their homes and will be asked to complete it and return it no later than July 28. The findings allow LMH to compare itself to many hospitals throughout the nation. The surveys also provide the hospital with excellent information about how to improve employee-satisfaction levels. The first year LMH participated in the survey, the hospital rated among the top 100 hospitals in which to work in the nation. Last year, given the downturn in the economy and the temporary furloughs and other reductions LMH had to introduce, the hospital didn't fare quite as well, but still ended up among the good-to-average hospitals in which to work. Some of the activities launched as a result of the survey findings include increasing regular communications from the CEO and rounding from the executive team. If you receive one of the surveys at home, I very much appreciate your completing and returning it by the cut-off date. Your answers are taken seriously and are invaluable tools in helping LMH make important decisions about how it responds to employee needs and concerns, (Joe Harrington, ext. 7560).

DAISY Award presented



Congratulations to Jim Burke, RN, who last week was honored as LMH's newest DAISY Award recipient. Jim's career at LMH began in 1986, where he began as an emergency-department nurse. Through the years he has worked in the ED, as an advice nurse, as a hospital supervisor, as an ICU nurse and, most recently, in the hospital's progressive-telemetry unit. DAISY Award winners are nominated and selected by their peers, and Jim's peers had the following to say: Jim keeps all around him calm; he has great patience with staff, patients and families, calming and informing them. Staff has great confidence in his competence level. He has taken on the PTU resource role with a passion, traveling to the floors, making sure nurses and CNAs understand telemetry issues. He has a very funny, dry sense of humor; keeps everyone laughing. He is very flexible with his schedule, doing whatever PTU or ICU needs. Patients and staff love him, (Debbe Moreno, ext. 7477).

Go to Galt for great care



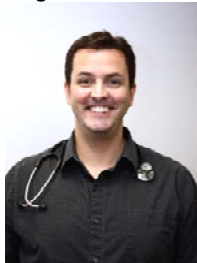
Galt Medical Services offers a full range of family-practice and obstetric care for patients in Galt and surrounding communities



Dr. Ocegüera



Magana



Myers

Lodi Memorial Hospital Galt Medical Services has been providing quality medical care to the residents of Galt since 1996. This family-practice medical facility features a competent, kindhearted staff and a board-certified physician fluent in Spanish. Jorge Ocegüera, MD, has been heading up the Galt Medical Services team since 2001 and truly enjoys family-practice medicine and caring for family members of all ages. Dr. Ocegüera has found Galt to be a very special community and feels fortunate to have the opportunity to provide health care to his fellow “Galtonians” and beyond. He is joined by James Myers, PA-C, and Teresa Magana, NP. LMH Galt Medical Services is located in Galt at 387 Civic Dr. and is open Monday-Friday, 8a-12n, and 1-5p. If you, or someone you care about, are in need of a family friendly physician in the City of Galt, please consider Lodi Memorial Hospital Galt Medical Services, and call 209-745-8080. LMH employees are gladly welcomed, and most insurances are accepted. In addition, Param Gill, MD, and her associates are now welcoming obstetrics patients at LMH Galt Medical Services (OB) in Galt. Please call 209-745-6105 for more information on Galt Medical Services’ OB care, (Melinda Sparks, ext. 7401).

Tee off in September

Save the date for the LMH Foundation’s annual Russell Steele Memorial Golf Tournament, Mon., Sept. 13, at Woodbridge Golf and Country Club. Registration is at 8a, tee off is at 10a. Cost is \$150 per player, and sponsorships are also available. For more information, call 339-7582 or visit www.lmhfoundation.org, (Donna Shaw, ext. 7582).

Use CaringBridge to communicate



CaringBridge is a free, easy-to-use, online service that helps patients share information about a health crisis or ongoing care with family and loved ones via individual,

private websites. CaringBridge websites help keep loved ones informed during difficult times by providing a central location for patients to post information. In return, family and friends give patient and caregiver support through guestbook messages. Please visit the LMH website, www.lodihealth.org, or the employee-bulletin board, www.lmhemployees.org, for links to CaringBridge, or go to www.caringbridge.org for more information, (Carol Farron, ext. 7535).

QMS welcomes staffers



McKelvey



Kosel

The LMH Quality Management Services Department welcomes two new employees to its team. Altino McKelvey, MSPH, epidemiology, is the new lead infection preventionist, and Tara Kosel, RN, is the new QMS RN. Altino comes to LMH with several years experience as a public-health officer. He also has experience in infection control and emergency preparedness. His extension is 7294. Tara joins LMH from the public-school system and has several years’ experience in pediatrics, NICU and maternal health areas. Her extension is 7028. Both will enhance LMH’s QMS department with their rich experience. Please welcome both Altino and Tara to the organization, (Donna Salvi, ext. 7815).

Long-awaited gift-shop items arrive



It’s in, it’s in! The “Embellish Your Story” line that everyone has been so patiently, or not so patiently, waiting for finally arrived in the gift shop last week. The display is full with all of the items from before and a few new ones. As always, the gift shop accepts cash, check, credit and payroll deduction, (Sarah Beasley, ext. 7616).

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 with information about LMH events, items for sale and more. Those who wish can submit items for the bulletin board to moderator@lodihealth.org.