

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 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

Room service starts next week

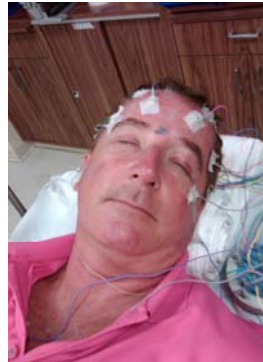
New menus offer patients a wider variety of fresh, healthy meal choices. Thirteen different patient menus accommodate a variety of specialized dietary needs.

On Oct. 4, LMH's new patient room service will kick off, allowing patients the opportunity to choose what they'd like to eat and when they'd like it to be served. Patients will be able to order room service from restaurant-style menus from 6:30a-7p, daily. Meals are delivered within 45 minutes of the patient's order, or patients may pre-order and indicate their preferred meal-delivery times. There are 13 different menus for patients with conditions requiring dietary adjustments, such as clear and full liquids, low-fiber, heart healthy and carbohydrate control. There's even a special kids' menu. Room-service "ambassadors" will be on hand to take orders and assist patients with meal choices and questions about their diets. This new service is designed to improve patient health and satisfaction by offering fresh, healthy choices, (Becky Olvera, ext. 7597).

Breathe better with Better Breathers

The LMH Respiratory Therapy Department has sponsored the "Better Breathers Club" for the past six years. This free, educational class focuses on individuals with breathing or lung-related illnesses. Better Breathers offers a great deal of information and guest speakers. Family and friends may also attend these helpful sessions. Classes are held the first Tuesday of each month at 10am in the South Wing Conference Room. Please remind family or patients about this helpful, informative resource. For more information, call LMH's cardiopulmonary department, 339-7821, (Jana Van Os, ext. 7821).

LMH offers EEGs



EKG technician Jim Wold lies still for an EEG.

Beginning this September, LMH's cardiopulmonary department began conducting EEGs on both inpatients and outpatients in the outpatient-service center. An EEG, or electroencephalogram, is a test that can help diagnose neurological problems such as epilepsy. During an EEG, electrical signals in the brain are recorded. This electrical activity is detected by electrodes placed on the patient's scalp and transmitted to a polygraph that records the activity. A core group

of seven LMH employees have been fully trained to perform EEGs, with more staff working on becoming proficient, (Jana Van Os, ext. 7821).

LMHer responds at air show



On Fri., Sept. 16, Dean Wheeler, one of LMH's nuclear-medicine technologists, was at the air races in Reno when tragedy struck, and a plane went down in front of the boxed-seating area, killing the pilot and 10 others and injuring many more spectators. Spectators with medical

experience were asked to help provide care to the injured. Dean responded and helped move patients to stretchers and ambulances, removed debris from victims, carried medical supplies to those in need and helped wherever he could. One news agency reported that the fans who responded to help were amazing, and Dean was one of those amazing fans that day. Way to go, Dean, (Angie Martin, ext. 7390).

Flu shots available soon

LMHers can get flu shots and TB tests beginning Oct. 3. Throughout October, Lynn McCarty, RN, will be at LMH East to administer shots and tests Mondays, 10a-2p; Wednesdays, 4-8p; Thursdays, 11a-3p; and Fridays, 8a-12n. Staff can also get shots and tests in employee health, Monday-Friday, from 8a-4p. TB testing must be completed by Nov. 1. LMH hopes to have at least 90 percent of staff vaccinated for influenza this year. Please consider getting a flu shot. Those looking for information on flu shot availability for family and friends should call the LMH flu-shot hotline, 339-7469, (Donna Bennett, ext. 7633).

New techs join cardiopulmonary



Allison



Arteaga



Rio



Averill

The LMH Cardiopulmonary Department welcomes four new employees. Lea Allison and Rebecca Arteaga have joined the respiratory-therapy team. They both completed their student internships at LMH and are learning the ropes as new respiratory-care practitioners. Justin Rio and Dana Averill are new EKG technicians. Justin is getting ready to

begin a paramedic externship and is excited to gain experience in hospital. Dana comes to LMH with a medical-assistant background. Please welcome them, (*Jana Van Os, ext. 7821*).

It's PTO cash out time

Employees may cash out up to 40 hours of Personal Time Off (PTO) in October. The minimum payout is eight hours, and the minimum amount that must be left in the PTO bank is now 80 hours. So, in order to qualify, employees must have at least 88 hours in their PTO banks. For example, if an employee has 140 hours of PTO, he or she may cash out up to 40 hours. If there are only 90 hours in the PTO bank, the employee can only cash out up to 10 hours. A Personnel Action Form (PAF) must be completed and turned in to human resources, indicating the number of hours to be cashed out. These PAFs must be submitted to HR no later than Fri., Oct. 14. The actual check for PTO cash out is Fri., Oct. 28. Please remember that the maximum amount that can be carried in employee PTO banks is 320 hours. Employees who have a balance of more than 320 hours of PTO and/or would like to cash out more than 40 hours should contact their direct reports and have them sign off on the PAFs. PTO-cash-out checks will be separate checks and will not go into direct deposit. Normal taxes and 403(b) contributions will be deducted as well from these checks. Those with questions should contact the HR department, (*Judi Simon, ext. 7443*).

Race for breast-cancer awareness

The Lodi Race for Awareness is set for Sat., Oct. 15, 8a, at Geweke Toyota/Scion. This 5k run/walk is a way to honor survivors and family members and friends affected by breast cancer. Pre-register for \$25 through Tues., Oct. 11. Race-day registration is \$30. Team registration is \$100 for up to eight people. The team entry fee does not include shirts; however, they can be purchased for \$10 each. All proceeds from Pink October events benefit the Geweke's Caring for Women Foundation. The Foundation helps local women who are struggling financially due to breast cancer by helping to pay their bills. Please visit www.pink-october.org for more information or to register, (*Lori Horan, ext. 7590*).

Embellish the holidays



The holidays are here at the LMH Gift Shop. The first shipment of holiday Embellish Your Story has arrived. Fall and Halloween magnets are out on display and are going fast. Customers who missed out on the pumpkin and vine magnets or the giant jack-o-lantern last year will be happy to know that they are back. Quantities are limited, so hurry in. Even though it still feels like summer, Christmas magnets are now also available. Due to limited floor space, Christmas magnets are on display behind the cash register, and volunteers are happy to assist customers looking to shop for Christmas early. The new Christmas magnets include large stars and snowflakes, sparkly words and new photo frames. Customers can also choose from an assortment of individual magnets. Last, but not least, those who are interested in the polka-dot ribbon that is used on some of the Embellish pieces can now purchase it by the yard, (*Sarah Beasley, ext. 7616*).

Sniff out this great deal



(*Sarah Beasley, ext. 7616*).

The dog pens are back in the LMH Gift Shop. The popular pens that once came in pink, orange, white and green are now available in four metallic colors. They will sell out quickly, so don't delay,

Fanmail from Facebook

A fan shared on LMH's Facebook wall: "You guys and gals are awesome! Just wanted to say 'thank you' to the ER staff at Lodi Memorial on Friday night. All of you are there to help people, not for your paychecks! I was in good hands. Thank you, all! Even once I was admitted, the nurses on the fourth floor were amazing. Shannon, and Joana, you guys made me feel so much more comfortable during my stay there. Thank you! I will never go to another hospital in Stockton again." Fans of social networking can follow LMH online at www.facebook.com/lodimemorial, www.twitter.com/lodimemorial and www.youtube.com/lodihealth.

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