

Messenger

A Newsletter for the staff of Sarasota Memorial Health Care System

May 9, 2005

Another EPIC success! Campaign raises more than \$52,000

Sarasota Memorial Healthcare Foundation Development Director Lisa Intagliata, front, thanked the members of the 2005 EPIC Committee at a recent Management Council meeting. From left are Michelle Perala of Employee Health; Kathy Harnick of Medical Services; Donna Norback and Marjorie Martini, both of Human Resources; Barry Chevalier of Facilities; Chief Administrative Officer Ed Carthew; Jaci Anson of Human Resources; Ken Alexander of the Bayside Center for Behavioral Health; Tara Gancitano of Rehab Services; and Diane Molinaro of Bayside. Not pictured: Committee co-chairs Miriam Lacher of Bayside and Mary Kay Capuano of Women's Services; Corporate Compliance Officer Lisa Totten, Holly Burcenski of Organizational Development & Education; Dana Wheeler of Human Resources and Jo Harray of Cancer Care Services.



Thanks to employees' generosity, the 2005 Employee Partners in Caring (EPIC) campaign recently ended on a high note, receiving 457 gifts (40 more than last year!) and raising more than \$52,000.

The campaign, a partnership between the Sarasota Memorial Healthcare Foundation, Inc. and Sarasota Memorial, kicked off in February. The ongoing effort encourages SMHCS employees to support their institution on an

annual basis with pledges and contributions. "I am continually gratified by the generosity and expressions of caring by the staff at Sarasota Memorial," said EPIC Committee Chairwoman Miriam Lacher of Bayside. "The 2005 EPIC campaign clearly reflects how important this hospital is to its employees and families."

Employees who contributed a minimum of \$50 are recognized on a donor kiosk outside

Windows Cafeteria.

The campaign concluded with a grand prize drawing for a Royal Caribbean cruise for two to the Bahamas. The lucky winner was Marie Barth, the former director of the Intensive Care Unit who now works in the Community Medical Clinic.

If you are interested in joining the EPIC Committee for next year, please contact the Healthcare Foundation at ext. 1286. ■

Staff, leadership wish Dr. Finlay all the best



Jay Rogers, a senior accountant with the Finance Division who also is a talented artist, created this masterful sketch of Dr. Finlay and the hospital using a graphite pencil.



The Sarasota Memorial family held several events to bid farewell to retiring CEO Duncan Finlay, MD. Above, Pam Ashby of Neuro/Urology and Carolyn Joslin of Surgical Acute presented him with a special edition of *Messenger*. Hospital Board Chairman Don Albertson, right, and board member Bob Strasser gave him a print by Clyde Butcher, one of the CEO's favorite artists. New CEO Gwen MacKenzie begins May 16.



Celebrate Nurses' Week!

Events salute SMHCS' special caregivers

The theme for this year's Nurses' Week is "Many Roles, One Profession," which truly reflects the diverse responsibilities of SMHCS' more than 1,500 nurses.

Next week, *Messenger* will list all of united-based and hospital-wide Nurses of Excellence, who were named at a special reception Monday.

Take a moment this week to thank our special caregivers for all they do!

Other Nurses' Week activities include:

- ▶ Tuesday, May 10 – Cookie trays and gifts for all nursing units
- ▶ Wednesday, May 11 – Massages in the Old Board Room, 2 to 7 p.m.
- ▶ Thursday, May 12 – Unit Celebrations
- ▶ Thursday, May 12 – Blessing of the Hands (on units), 9 p.m. to midnight

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SARASOTA
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A decision as important as *life* itself.



From left are the new Hospitality Services software coordinators Ami Taylor and Debbie Guarascio.

Coordinators to help cut delays for beds, transports

Hospitality Services recently introduced a new team who will help reduce wait times for beds and transports and improve patient satisfaction.

Two staff members in the division, Debbie Guarascio, and Ami Taylor, have been promoted to serve in the new role of software coordinator. Phil Wheeler, Hospitality Services manager, will oversee the team. The software coordinators monitor central transport and bed tracking systems, prioritizing and coordinating transport and room cleaning requests to prevent back-ups in key areas during peak times. They work from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. seven days a week (four shifts each) in the Hospitality Services office next to the C elevators on the fourth floor.

"Our job is to expedite bed cleaning and transports to help

patients get into their rooms as quickly as possible so they can rest and recover," said Guarascio.

The new service is part of a larger team effort in Hospitality Services to cross-train staff and improve patient flow. Several Hospitality Services employees from different departments have been trained as multi-skilled technicians, enabling them to leave their regular responsibilities and fill in wherever they're needed most. From cleaning rooms or transporting patients to delivering meals or working in linen services, the hospitality techs can move seamlessly around within the division to help out during peak hours. The software coordinators will work with Hospitality Services supervisors to determine where and when these versatile staff members should be deployed to prevent delays in service. ■

What's happening

Nurses: Apply now for Critical Care Internship

Applications for SMH's Critical Care Internship are now being accepted. The 12-week program begins June 13 and is followed by orientation on the shift and unit where the nurse was hired.

Eligibility requirements include:

- Current Florida nursing license, at least one year of experience in the acute care setting, current BLS, ACLS preferred
- Excellent communication, teamwork and critical-thinking skills

Transfer requests should be submitted to Donna Norback at ext. 2254. Questions? Call Rhonda Anderson at ext. 7515. ■

Saturday, May 14

Discipline for Children & Teens

9 - 10 a.m. (parents of children 5 - 12 years)
& 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. (parents of teens)

Brainstorm alternatives to punishment, discuss natural/logistical consequences, limit-setting. SMHCS staff receive 10 percent discount off \$20 class fee. Must pre-register, ext. 1700.

May 18 & 19

Auxiliary Jewelry Sale

7 a.m. - 5 p.m. May 18 & 7 a.m. - 4 p.m. May 19, Room 4 A & B (next to cafeteria)

Come browse a large selection including watches and gold jewelry. Cash, credit card and payroll deduction accepted.

Be sure to use the right ID number

Signing in for a class or training? Don't forget to use your employee ID number, NOT your Social Security number. Your employee number is listed on your pay voucher. Mandatory education/training is tracked via this number, which is assigned to every staff member by Human Resources.

**Nurses' Week
May 6th to 12th**

We are proud to celebrate Nurse's Week. It is only through our nurses' skill and dedication that Sarasota Memorial has twice been recognized as a "Magnet" hospital - the nation's highest honor for nursing excellence.

So, today, this week and every other day of the year, we thank you for all you do!

*a healer, a listener, a comfort,
a caregiver, a professional,
an advocate, a friend*

... a nurse at Sarasota Memorial.

They reassure a brand new mom, support and encourage a patient taking those first steps after surgery and anticipate a surgeon's every move with the right tools and assistance. For the more than 1,000 nurses at Sarasota Memorial, this is a very special week to pause, reflect and recommit to their time-honored profession. It is also an opportunity for our hospital and community to express gratitude for everything they do to keep us healthy and help us get back to those we love.

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The ad above appeared in the May 1 issue of the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune* in honor of Nurses' Week.

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Nurses' Week

In addition, nurses — and all employees — should be sure to visit special kudos boards containing notes of praise for caregivers.

The kudos boards are displayed on the first floor by the D elevators, on the third floor by the B elevators and outside Windows Cafeteria. ■



Auxiliary helps teens pursue health careers

The Sarasota Memorial Auxiliary recently awarded more than \$20,000 in scholarships to several outstanding high school seniors planning to pursue careers in health care fields including pre-med, pharmacy and nursing. From left are Auxiliary President Sue Kanaby, Aaron Allison, a North Port High School senior who will attend University of South Florida; Quang Bui, a Venice High School senior who will attend Manatee Community College (MCC); teen volunteer Christopher Little of Sarasota High, who plans to attend the University of Florida, teen volunteer Kristopher Alspach of Cardinal Mooney, who will go to Columbia University; and Ginny Rosenhaus, first chairwoman of the Auxiliary. Front row, from left, are Zhihui Wang, a Sarasota High senior who will attend MCC; Paola Bejarano, a Riverview High School senior and teen volunteer; Lyudmila Shumyak, a North Port High senior who plans to attend the University of South Florida; and Lauren Sledjeski, a senior at Cardinal Mooney who will attend MCC. Not pictured: Paula Suarez, a Booker High senior who will attend MCC. The Auxiliary paid tribute to retiring CEO Duncan Finlay, MD, by naming future scholarships in his honor.

Earn \$9 an hour as a runner when tube system is down in mid-June

The hospital's aging pneumatic tube system will undergo a complete upgrade in mid-June. The entire system will be out of service June 13 - 20. Departments should begin planning now for the upgrade. Non-clinical departments should plan to use interoffice mail or walk items to their destinations during that time period.

Clinical areas also will be asked to hand-

deliver items as much as possible, but Operation of Plant plans to have a small pool of runners available to help deliver critically needed patient care specimens, supplies and medications.

Critical Care Center departments will be asked to use the "dumb waiter" that runs to key areas on every floor in the building. Staff interested in serving as runners for four-hour

shifts during that week before or after their normal shifts or on their days off should contact Facilities Manager John Ready via e-mail. **Runners will be paid \$9 an hour with shift differential and overtime (more than 40 hours).**

The tube overhaul will be a major inconvenience, but it's critically needed, and everyone's teamwork will help make the week

without service go as smoothly as possible.

The outdated system has had 546 failures in the past three months. Staff will see much-improved, more reliable tube service once the upgrade is complete.

Operation of Plant has been meeting with the Lab, Pharmacy, Blood Bank and nursing directors, and will continue to keep everyone posted. ■