



Community Connection

Licking Memorial Health Systems

(740) 348-4000 (phone) • www.LMHealth.org



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July 2007

Measurably Different ... for Your Health!

LMHS Donates Lifesaving Equipment to Fire Company

Firefighters use thermal imaging cameras to pinpoint a fire in a wall and to search for a person lost in the woods or in still water. Most importantly, the cameras help firefighters spot people and pets trapped inside burning buildings. Licking Memorial Health Systems (LMHS) donated two Scott Eagle Imaging 160 Cameras to the Licking Township Fire Company.

“They’re one of the most valuable tools in the fire service,” said Eric Gross, a



LMHS President Rob Montagnese (second from left) stands with members of the Licking Township Fire Company and the thermal imaging equipment LMHS donated to the organization.

LMHS Donates Lifesaving Equipment to Fire Company (continued on page 2)

Pavilion Community Open House Slated for July 21



Construction of the Pavilion is nearly complete. Join us for a tour during the Community Open House on July 21.

for that person. “Studies show 30 percent of a nurse’s time is spent hunting and gathering supplies and equipment for their patients,” said Debbie Young, R.N., Vice President of Patient Care Services. “Placing as many resources and supplies as possible in the room allows doctors, nurses and other health care providers to spend more time with the patient.”

The rooms are large enough to accommodate the patient, their family and

Pavilion Open House Slated for July 21 (continued on page 2)

See Pages 10 to 13 for the Community Report Card Featuring Stroke Care.

New Technology Enhances Patient Safety



Heather Burkhart, R.N., demonstrates how to use Vocera, a voice-activated communications device used by staff.

Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) has implemented a new way to improve safety for patients and staff through a voice-activated wireless communication device called Vocera. The device, which is worn like a necklace, provides immediate person-to-person communication, allowing decisions to be made faster. It also eliminates the need to “page and wait,” reducing the time it takes to assist patients.

LMH is one of only a few health care organizations in central Ohio to use this technology.

New Technology Enhances Patient Safety (continued on page 3)

firefighter and emergency medical technician with the Licking Township Fire Company. “Without this donation, we couldn’t have gotten the cameras. We have to live within our budget.”

In recent years, LMHS has donated thermal imaging cameras to the fire departments in Newark, Newark Township, Johnstown and Alexandria. In 2006, volunteer firefighters in Madison Township, used a thermal imaging camera to search for and then rescue a woman trapped in a burning house.

“LMHS understands the value of the thermal cameras in saving lives,” LMHS President Rob Montagnese said. “We’re glad to have helped this fire company acquire two cameras. It’s all part of our mission of improving the health of the community.”

Like many small fire departments, the Licking Township Fire Company depends on grants and donations to supplement the \$211,000 raised by its local fire levy. In 2006, LMHS recognized the budget limits of many Licking County fire departments and donated Medtronic

Past LMHS Donations to Licking County Fire Departments

Alexandria: 1 thermal imaging camera

Licking Township: 2 thermal imaging cameras

Johnstown: 1 thermal imaging camera

Newark (city): 2 thermal imaging cameras

Newark Township: 1 thermal imaging camera

LIFEPAK 12-lead defibrillator/EKG monitors to numerous squads in Licking County. Paramedics use the defibrillator/EKG monitors to transmit vital information to the Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) Emergency Department while en route. At the same time, doctors in the Hospital assess and triage the patient before they even have arrived.

“Our community is growing. The demand for our services increases each year,” Licking Township Fire Chief Mike Wilson told Rob. “How you have stepped up to the plate is incredible.”

“Having the cameras on the truck is fantastic,” said Mike Briggs, captain of the Licking Township Fire Company. “I hope we never have to use them.”

The Licking Township Fire Company has three stations and covers 63 square miles, including portions of Franklin Township in Licking County. The company made 877 fire and squad runs in 2006.

Pavilion Open House Slated for July 21 (continued from front page)

the LMH staff. “We want patients’ relatives to be there to advocate for their care and to support them during an anxious time,” Debbie said. Every room is laid out exactly the same way – from the sink and supplies to monitors and computers, increasing the efficiency of health care providers. Crash carts are strategically located in the department. Multiple nursing stations allow nurses to work closer to patients.

At the same time, the schedule for the Emergency Department staff has been supplemented to better serve patients during the busiest times, said Penny Tylka-McCort, M.S.N., M.B.A., R.N., Director of Emergency Services. More than 50,000 patients are seen annually in the current Emergency Department, which was designed to serve about 35,000 people. The new Emergency Department in the Pavilion can accommodate 95,000 patients a year. The computer stations in each room will allow doctors, nurses and point of care technicians to enter information into the electronic medical record system in real time, increasing accuracy, Penny said.

Each health care provider also wears a voice-activated phone called Vocera that allows them to communicate with co-workers quickly. In hospitals without Vocera, nurses have to leave a patient to find other health care providers for help. At LMH, nurses can stay with the patient as they call for assistance from the patient’s bedside, Debbie said.

“The entire Pavilion has been designed with the comfort and safety of the patient foremost in mind,” said Rob Montagnese, President of Licking Memorial Health Systems. “The new technology in which we have invested and the thoughtful layout of the facility will only improve the quality of our highly personalized care.”

The 100,000-square-foot Pavilion is the largest single expansion of the Hospital since LMH moved its West Main Street location in 1966. The \$39 million project includes surgery suites with the latest technology and has been designed to promote healing, to improve staff performance, to maximize energy efficiency and to respect patient privacy and dignity.

Commission on Cancer Approves LMH Program

The Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) Cancer Program was given a three-year accreditation with commendation by the Commission on Cancer of the American College of Surgeons. “This accreditation means our patients are coming to a program that offers the same treatments as a large cancer treatment center,” said Patty Banks-Chester, manager of the LMH Oncology Department. “Being treated here allows patients to stay close to home, to family and to their support system.”



Jacqueline Jones, M.D., and Rose Kelly, R.N., of the Licking Memorial Hospital Oncology Department review a patient's record together.

The Commission on Cancer only approves programs that offer the full spectrum of cancer program activities – from prevention to rehabilitation and long-term follow-up. Approved programs must have high quality doctors and nurses who are trained to administer chemotherapy. The programs also must allow patients to participate in clinical trials. About 4 percent of LMH oncology patients participate in clinical trials.

The LMH Oncology Department administers nearly 3,700 doses of chemotherapy each year. Since the Cancer Program began in 1998, no chemotherapy medication errors have occurred because the staff follows a rigorous five-step safety procedure before each

medicine is administered.

“We are proud to be a good community oncology program,” said Dr. Jacqueline Jones, a physician with Licking Memorial Health Professionals. “A group of physicians and health care providers meets weekly to discuss the cases of patients and all levels of their care,” Dr. Jones said. “These weekly cancer conferences provide multidisciplinary consultations. They also educate physicians and other health care workers in cancer diagnosis and treatment.”

An estimated 80 percent of all new cancer cases each year are diagnosed and treated by cancer programs that have been accredited by the Commission on Cancer. Nationally, the commission has approved nearly 1,500 programs.

“I always hear the same things from patients – They are treated like family here,” Patty said. “That’s because we have a compassionate core team of doctors and nurses caring for them.” *For more information about the LMH Cancer Program, call (740) 348-4592.*

New Technology Enhances Patient Safety (continued from front page)

“In hospitals without Vocera, nurses may have to leave a patient to call other health care providers in for help,” said Debbie Young, R.N., LMH Vice President of Patient Care. “At LMH, the Vocera badge allows staff to stay with the patient as they call their co-workers to the patient’s bedside.” The clinical staff, such as nurses, point of care technicians and physicians, can broadcast their requests for help to an entire department by pressing one button.

If a nurse needs to speak with a physician about a patient’s condition, he or she simply instructs Vocera to page the physician. The system automatically sends the request with a special number to return the call. When the physician returns the page by phone, he or she will be directly connected to the nurse through the Vocera system, minimizing wait times for new orders.

“Vocera allows for direct communication with the people you need, shortening patient wait times,” said Steve Schlicher, Communications Manager. “It gives us better access to employees who are moving around the Hospital. For example, the patient care coordinators (PCC) are constantly on the move – assigning beds, responding to patient needs and staffing issues. Vocera provides employees with direct contact to the PCC, regardless of where they are, with their urgent concerns and requests saving valuable time.”

The hands-free devices are also being used in various other departments including Dietary, Pharmacy, Radiology, Laboratory, Environmental Services and Information Systems. With one touch of a button and simple voice commands, staff members are instantly connected with one another getting the help and services they need in a timely manner.

Considering Hospice or Palliative Care

As people near the end of their lives, conventional or lifesaving medical practices may become less appropriate, and the goal of care may focus more on relieving pain and suffering than on curing disease or prolonging life. Alternatively, there exists a group of patients with severe illnesses who may not be near the end of life, but who are suffering from severe symptoms.

For these patients and their families, hospice and palliative care may provide the most reasonable and humane alternative. Palliative care seeks to alleviate physical and emotional pain and symptoms through a holistic approach for individuals experiencing chronic, serious, or life-threatening illness. Palliative care addresses patient wishes, goals and expectations and coordinates care across multiple settings with the intent to enhance quality of life for these individuals.



Carl Waggoner,
M.D.

Palliative care incorporates many of the same principles as hospice care, but also has some differences. One of the main differences is that palliative care is not limited to the last six months of life and individuals may or may not still be seeking aggressive treatment. Like hospice, palliative care may be coordinated in many settings such as Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH). Consultative services are very important in palliative care. Just as hospice, the

primary goal of palliative care is to prevent and relieve the symptoms imposed by diseases and their treatments, according to Hospice of Central Ohio's Medical Director, Carl Waggoner, M.D. Dr. Waggoner also is a member of the LMH Medical Staff.

"Hospice is a team approach of treating the total person – physically, emotionally and spiritually – during the terminal stage of illness, after a cure has been deemed unlikely," he said. "Palliative care is also a team approach and aims to improve the quality of life by

providing pain and symptom management to patients with serious and life-threatening illness even if still pursuing curative treatments."



Peter Nock, D.O.

Licking Memorial Hospitalists are in a unique position to identify patients who might benefit from palliative or hospice care and to help those patients obtain these services. "We often care both for hospitalized patients who are nearing the end of their lives and those who have chronic, debilitating illnesses," said Peter Nock, D.O., Lead Hospitalist at LMH.

LMH leases rooms on the Hospital's sixth floor to Hospice of Central Ohio for the Selma Markowitz Care Center for patients needing a more acute level of care. Palliative care consults are currently available at LMH. The Palliative Care team is appropriate for any patient 18 years of age or older living with a chronic, progressive, or life-threatening illness at the request of the hospitalist or the attending physician. For more information about hospice care and palliative services, please contact Hospice of Central Ohio at (740) 344-0311.

Licking Memorial Hospitalists are internists who specialize in caring for acutely ill hospitalized patients. They partner with the physicians who make up the Licking Memorial Health Professionals to provide around-the-clock care for both adult and pediatric patients in Licking Memorial Hospital. To learn more, log on to www.LMHealth.org. Click on "Explore Licking Memorial Physician Practices" at the left of the screen, and select "Hospitalists." Or, call Licking Memorial Hospitalists at (740) 348-4219.



**Licking Memorial
Health Systems**

Employment Applications Now Completed Online!

If you are interested in joining the LMHS team, check out our Web site to see the latest opportunities. Visit www.LMHealth.org and click the "Careers" tab.

Dr. Walters Retires After Four Decades of Service

Forty-four years after opening his medical practice, Richard Walters, D.O., has retired. The former member of the Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) Medical Staff cared for multiple generations of Licking County residents in and around Hebron until May 1.

“I am enjoying retirement, but I do miss the patients,” Dr. Walters said. “I saw children grow into adulthood and have children of their own. I heard a lot about what was going on in their lives over the years.”

These days, Dr. Walters is catching up with his own family – especially his nine grandchildren. “One of our grandkids lives in Arizona, six live in Ohio and two in Texas,” he said. “I’m excited to have more time to be with them.” Richard’s wife, Rosie, worked with him for 43 years while raising their five children.

When he announced his retirement plans to his patients, Dr. Walters largely met with a bittersweet response. “They were happy for me, but sad to see me go,” he said.

Born in Newark and raised in Buckeye Lake, Dr. Walters attended Denison University in Granville, where he played football under legendary coach Woody Hayes. He taught health for one year at Wilson Middle School in Newark. He then served in the U.S. Navy before attending medical school in Kirksville, Missouri.

Upon earning his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine Degree, Dr. Walters began practicing in Johnstown. One year later, he built an office in Hebron. He also was the team physician for Lakewood Schools for 25 years and a founding member of the American Osteopathic College of Sports Medicine.



Richard Walters, D.O., and his wife, Rosie, stand near a display highlighting his four-plus decades as a physician – as well as other personal accomplishments.

The biggest challenge Dr. Walters said he faced as a physician was the amount of paperwork required – especially for insurance purposes. “There was just so much paperwork. I definitely don’t miss that,” he joked.

Now, instead of paperwork, Dr. Walters keeps busy fishing, golfing and doing yard work. He is also an active board member at Harbor Hills Golf Course.

A reception honoring Dr. Walters was held in April at LMH. Kathy Bradley, LMH Director of Medical Staff Services, estimated 130 individuals celebrated Dr. Walter’s career with him. “It was a nice opportunity for co-workers, colleagues, family and friends to thank Dr. Walters for his dedication and to wish him well in retirement,” Kathy said. “He served his patients well and earned their trust and respect. I know he is missed.”



Richard Walters, D.O., shared memories with family, friends and co-workers during a reception honoring him this past spring. Dr. Walters retired effective May 1.

Former LMH Emergency Department physician Thomas Hall, M.D., was in attendance. “You’ve had a long and successful career,” he said to his colleague. “It’s been a privilege to work with you.”

Licking Memorial Health Systems President Rob Montagnese said Dr. Walters’ decades-long commitment to caring for Licking County patients is commendable. “For more than 40 years, Dr. Walters has looked after Hebron area residents with steadfast

compassion. He has been an asset to the medical community as well as to the people he served.”

Board Spotlight: Kim Fleming



Kim Fleming

Kim Fleming, a certified public accountant and partner at Wilson, Shannon and Snow, Inc., was appointed to the Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) Board of Directors in April. She has served on the LMH Development Council since 2001.

“The Hospital is a great community asset,” Kim said. “Our physicians, nurses and staff care for everybody in the community regardless of their ability to pay. For some people, who unfortunately use the Emergency Department as their doctor’s office, it is a safety net.”

Kim said she is excited about the renovation of the Hospital’s patient rooms and the construction of the Pavilion. “Giving patients private rooms when possible and providing them with an improved menu and free wireless Internet access are just some of the services that make a patient’s hospital stay more comfortable,” she said.

Kim has had a life-long interest in health and fitness. She lifts weights and attends fitness classes five mornings a week. Kim is an avid golfer and the current club champion at Moundbuilders Country Club. She also has served on the Board of Directors for the Licking County Family YMCA.

“Youth sports and keeping kids busy are very important. They help boys and girls stay healthy and give them positive after-school activities,” she said. “The YMCA supports that mission by awarding scholarships to children who cannot afford the programs.”

Kim graduated from Lakewood High School. She earned a Bachelor’s degree at The Ohio State University and a Master’s of Taxation degree from Capital University, both in Columbus, Ohio. She and her husband, Steve Schaller, live in Newark. She has two adult daughters and two adult stepchildren – Morgan of New York City, New York; Kia of Austin, Texas; Kate of Singapore; and Quinn of Athens, Ohio.

LMH Sponsors Baseball Teams

Each year, Licking Memorial Health Systems (LMHS) sponsors eight local youth baseball and softball teams throughout Licking County. “Sponsoring teams, which keep kids active, is just one more way LMHS works to improve the health of the community,” said Rob Montagnese, President of LMHS. Rob threw out the first pitch on Opening Day for the LMH team’s game at North Newark Little League.

“We’re grateful to LMHS for their sponsorship and support of our team,” said Kevin Blaine, who coaches the



LMHS sponsors many little league baseball teams in Licking County including an LMH team at North Newark Little League. The team is coached by Kevin Blaine.



LMHS President Rob Montagnese talks with pitcher Nick Mercer before he throws out the opening day pitch.

LMHS team of North Newark Little League. “Other than the typical baseball skills, the biggest thing the boys take away from playing is the teamwork and learning the value of hard work,” Kevin said.

Members of the North Newark team include: Nick Mercer, Nick Blaine, Conor Keck, Ryan Pipes, Evan Brookbank, Brandon Paul, Garrett Hays, Mike Kimberlin, Jesse Carnal, Bobby Spring, Tanner Ernest and Aaron Jurden. Assistant coaches are Jay Brookbank, Chris Keck and Kip Mercer. The team will play 14 regular season games and in approximately three tournaments this season.

Continuing Medical Education Program Reaccredited



Craig Cairns,
M.D., M.P.H.,
LMH Vice
President of
Medical Affairs

The accreditation for Licking Memorial Hospital's (LMH) continuing education program for physicians was renewed for four years by the Ohio State Medical Association. The Hospital's continuing medical education program was originally certified in 1975, making it the first institution to be accredited in Ohio.

"Physicians need to have a way to keep abreast of their field and to refresh their existing knowledge," said Craig Cairns, M.D., M.P.H., Vice President of Medical

Affairs. "Our education program allows doctors to stay current with new technology, procedures and scientific findings on site."

Physicians are required to complete at least 100 hours of continuing medical education every two years in order to

renew their licenses. Forty hours must be certified as American Medical Association Physician Recognition Award Category 1 Credits™, which the Hospital offers. The Hospital's continuing medical education program includes lectures, cancer conferences to review the cases of oncology patients, a monthly neonatology conference, and a cardiovascular symposium. Nationally recognized speakers were brought to LMH as part of the program. Nearly 2,000 physicians and 600 other health care professionals participated in the program in 2006. "For a smaller institution, we offer quite a bit of continuing medical education," Dr. Cairns said.

The Hospital was commended for including doctors of osteopathic medicine (D.O.) in the planning process and as presenters, allowing LMH to offer credit to these physicians, Dr. Cairns said. Continuing medical education programs for doctors of osteopathic medicine are accredited by the American Osteopathic Association.

Project Linus Tops Previous Contributions

If Linda and Larry Schofield have created a local quilting frenzy through Project Linus, they surely don't seem to mind. The Schofields, owners of Bunny's Sew Fine Fabrics in Newark, recently sponsored their fourth annual quilting drive to benefit pediatric patients at Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH). In 2004, their customers donated 80 quilts for Project Linus. In 2005, that number jumped to 154 quilts. In 2006, after turning over 180 donated quilts, Linda said she hoped to expand that number to 200 the next time. The quilters plied their needles, and collectively made a total of 269 quilts and blankets.

"The quilts actually started coming in last fall," Linda explained. "We sent out a press release to let our customers know that we were collecting quilts for Project Linus again, and they just started pouring in – 15 or 20 at a time. There was even one woman who crocheted 40 afghans!"

Project Linus is a national organization that encourages "blanketeers" to provide handmade quilts and blankets to children who are ill or traumatized. Bunny's Sew Fine Fabrics is one of 397 chapters that together have donated approximately 2 million items.

"We like being involved with Project Linus because they let us keep all the quilts here locally for Licking Memorial," Larry said. "We think it's a good thing, and it keeps growing every year. It makes us feel really good to be able to help."

"It really does help a lot," LMH Vice President of Patient Services Debbie Young responded. "If a child is a little



Linda and Larry Schofield (right) give LMHS Vice President Debbie Young and LMH Patient Care Manager Barb Chapman the quilts their customers have made and donated to the Hospital.

teary-eyed or fearful, sometimes just having a colorful blanket to hold onto can bring a smile – and the parents just love it! I hope the quilters know how much we appreciate their kindness."

LMH Patient Care Manager Barb Chapman has witnessed children's transformations when they receive their blankets. "We go through at least 20 blankets every month," she said. "The children really find them to be a source of comfort – something warm and soft to hang onto. Some of them have cartoon characters or humorous designs, and that helps, too."

The Schofields credit their customers for the generous donations. "My customers are the angels as far as I'm

Project Linus Tops Previous Contributions (continued on page 8)

Beverly Crockford and Betty Meyer Share LMH Volunteer of the Year Award

Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) recently honored two volunteers with the Volunteer of the Year award. This is the first time in its five-year history that the award has resulted in a tie.

Beverly Crockford was nominated by the LMH Development Department. Beverly has volunteered at the Hospital since 1982, accumulating more than 6,000 hours. Hospital visitors will frequently see Beverly staffing the front reception desk in the Main Lobby.



LMHS President Rob Montagnese congratulates Betty Meyer (left) and Beverly Crockford (right), who both were named Volunteers of the Year.

and loving touch. She relates to staff and patients both. You can feel her heart in her smiling eyes and the touch of her hand she extends to comfort patients and staff. Betty also extends these values to the teens she trains and encourages them to continue volunteering. She is our 'light,' and a big part of the LMH Emergency Department." Betty, a Newark resident, also staffs the Licking Memorial Health Systems' booth at the Hartford Fair and coordinates the Silver Club at Zerger Hall.

The nomination from the Development Department read: "Beverly is an excellent role model – dedicated, loyal and dependable. She is willing to fill in for others and work extra shifts. Many times she has been called in with very short notice. She also trains the volunteers for the duties of the front desk, explaining each detail and training them on the computer. She is very professional and does an outstanding job."

Beverly also serves as corresponding secretary on the Volunteer Executive Board. She and her husband, Jack, reside in Newark.

Betty Meyer has volunteered more than 5,500 hours since 1978. The Emergency Department staff nominated her because of the uplifting effect she has on others.

"Betty is always pleasant and helpful to all," the nomination read. "She stands out because of her smile

Past recipients of the LMH Volunteer of the Year award have included Robert Norman, Donald Day, Marye Crispin and Noble Snow. From the roster of 133 LMH volunteers, 10 were nominated by the departments they serve. Other nominees for the Volunteer Award included:

- Vivian Sharpless of Shepherd Hill;
- Joan Omlor of the Gastroenterology Lab;
- Maxine Keith of Mail Services and front reception desk;
- Jane Morgan of Outpatient Surgery;
- Don Montell of Emergency Department;
- Eddie Cline of Mail Services;
- Janet Cook of Mail Services and Oncology; and
- Pat Brannon of Anesthesiology Department.

Project Linus Tops Previous Contributions (continued from page 7)

concerned," Linda insisted. However the store owners offered a sizeable contribution of their own.

In addition to devoting two or three rooms to quilt storage, they offered sewing supplies at a discount to those who donated, and they purchased a computerized

sewing machine which they awarded to Nellie Henry of Newark whose name was drawn at random from the blanketeers. Linda even helped a few donors with machine quilting. To learn more about Project Linus, contact Linda or Larry Schofield at Bunny's Sew Fine Fabrics at (740) 366-1433.

Volunteers Are Thanked for Their Dedication

Attired in pink or navy smocks, they guide visitors, deliver newspapers and flowers, transport patients, convey supplies, answer telephones, and completes just about any other odd job that will help the staff at Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) perform their duties more efficiently. They're the LMH Volunteer Staff, and they were the honorees at the annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner on April 19 in the Hospital Cafeteria.

"You give so much of your time and do so much to make this a great health care system," Licking Memorial Health Systems (LMHS) President Rob Montagnese told the volunteers. "All the support we have from the volunteers allows us to go the extra mile – such as buying the newest equipment. We couldn't be the Hospital we are without you, so let me sincerely thank you."

LMH Board Chairman Patrick Jeffries also stressed the volunteers' part in the Hospital's success. "Your shared time and talents played a significant role in our earning the 100 Top Hospital designation for the eighth time. Together, the 133 volunteers donated 43,564 hours in 2006 for an estimated labor value of three-quarters of a million dollars. But it's truly impossible to put an accurate value on all that you contribute to the Hospital. 'Thank you' seems too insignificant to express how much we value you. You're the best!"



LMHS employees crafted the squares for a quilt honoring the time and talents of the volunteers.

At the dinner, the annual Volunteer of the Year award was announced, and 11 volunteers were honored for their service milestones: five years – Janet Cook, Myrtle Kovach, John Yoak and Ralph Ottensmeier; 10 years – Robert Norman and Kati Sheets; 15 years – Shirley Cotton; 20 years – Noble Snow; 25 years – Beverly Crockford; 30 years – Florence Hinerman; and 45 years – Jeanne Jones. The 2007 LMH Volunteer Executive Board officers include: President Ann Wood, Vice President Betty Meyer, Recording Secretary Richard Stewart, and Corresponding Secretary Beverly Crockford.

Carol Barnes, LMH Director of Volunteers, TWIGS and Events, unveiled a wall-hanging quilt that was designed to honor the volunteer organization. Made of up of 42 squares, the quilt represents the departments that directly benefit from volunteer services. The creative blocks feature sentiments, such as "Volunteers Make a Difference" and "LMH Volunteers Are First Class." "We started working on this quilt in January," Carol explained. "The squares have been coming in, and we've had a difficult time keeping it a secret!" The quilt is being displayed in the Volunteer Office on the ground floor. To learn about volunteering opportunities at LMH, visit our Web site at www.LMHealth.org, or call (740) 348-4079.

Development Council Spotlight: Kimberly Lust



Kimberly Lust

"Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) has a terrific story to tell, and I would like to be a part of telling that story," said LMH Development Council member Kimberly "Kim" Lust. She joined the Council this past winter.

"As a lifelong resident of Licking County, I see the value in having a quality hospital to serve the needs of our community," Kim said. "By serving

on the Development Council, I hope to raise the community's awareness of what a fine medical facility we have right here in Newark."

During her first few months on Council, Kim has been busy learning more about Licking Memorial. She recommends the Hospital's Web site,

www.LMHealth.org, as an excellent source of information. "I would like to learn as much as I can about what Licking Memorial has to offer our community so that I can serve as an ambassador on behalf of the Hospital," she said.

The Newark resident graduated from Lakewood High School and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from Otterbein College in Westerville, Ohio. She has worked for State Farm Insurance for 13 years, including the past seven years in the public affairs arena.

She enjoys spending time with her family and friends, jogging, sports and "a good Sudoku puzzle." Kim is married to Randy Lust and has a 10-year-old son who will be in the sixth grade at Liberty Middle School in Newark this fall.

Development Council Spotlight: Kimberly Lust (continued on page 14)



Community Report Card

Licking Memorial Health Systems

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A Community Report on Stroke Care

Health Tips

Knowing the signs and symptoms of a stroke can aid in your recovery or that of a loved one. They may include:

- Sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg (usually on one side of the body).
- Sudden nausea, fever and vomiting.
- A hard time speaking or a problem understanding words or simple sentences.
- Sudden blurred vision or decreased vision in one or both eyes.
- Problems swallowing.
- Dizziness, loss of balance or loss of coordination.
- Brief loss of consciousness.
- Inability to move part of the body (paralysis).
- Sudden headache that is intense and not related to something else.

Quick Action Aids Stroke Patient

It was a beautiful day in mid-December 2006 when Melody Ridenbaugh had just wrapped Christmas presents and given food and water to her five dogs. Because of her autoimmune disorder, these tasks could be burdensome. “This time, I was feeling wonderful,” the Newark resident said. Suddenly, Melody’s right side went numb and she couldn’t speak clearly.

Forty-nine-year-old Melody was having a stroke. “I was in trouble that quickly,” she said. She immediately called her mother-in-law, who called 9-1-1.

Melody was taken by squad to Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH). “They treated me wonderfully in the LMH Emergency Department,” she said. She was admitted to the Hospital and received care from Licking Memorial Hospitalist Khanh Dang, M.D., along with a neurologist on staff at LMH.

After an overnight stay at LMH, feeling had returned to Melody’s right side, and her speech was back to normal.



Melody Ridenbaugh relaxes on a swing and pets Max, a German Shepard.

“I was very lucky,” she said. These days, Melody has less control of her right side – especially when she is tired. “The weakness is always there, but that’s OK. I’m just so thankful to be alive!” she said.

Melody’s recovery was greatly aided by the fact that she received medical attention quickly. “It’s a normal reaction to think, ‘This can’t be happening to me,’ and to ignore symptoms of stroke,” Dr. Dang said. “However, Melody knew that what she was experiencing warranted

emergency care. She helped save her own life by recognizing the need for treatment.”

Melody has received follow-up care from a neurologist and from her primary care physician, Katrina Timson, M.D., of Licking Memorial Family Practice – East. “My doctors have told me that I need to lose weight, stop smoking and take my medications for cholesterol and blood pressure if I want to reduce my risk for having another stroke,” Melody said. “It’s hard to make lifestyle changes, but having a stroke was a real wake-up call.”

Stroke Care – How Do We Compare?

At Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH), we take pride in the care we provide. To monitor the quality of that care, we track specific quality measures and compare them to benchmark measures. Then, we publish them so you can draw your own conclusions regarding your health care choices.

- 1** A person who has symptoms of a stroke needs to seek emergency medical care immediately. A thrombolytic (or “clot-busting”) drug must be given within three hours after the initial onset of symptoms. To determine if a patient is a candidate for a thrombolytic drug, it is vital that a CT scan be performed before the drug is given.

	LMH 2004	LMH 2005	LMH 2006	Goal(1)
Median time from door to doctor	18	28	38	less than 10 minutes
Median time from door to CT scan	60	81	65	less than 25 minutes
Median time from door to drug	66	81	34	less than 60 minutes

- 2** A stroke can affect a person’s ability to swallow. Stroke patients should receive a swallowing evaluation to make sure they can swallow well enough to eat or take oral medication.

	LMH 2004	LMH 2005	LMH 2006	Benchmark ⁽²⁾
% Stroke patients received a swallowing evaluation before eating	74%	83%	71%	73%

- 3** Beginning rehabilitation as soon as it can be done safely can help improve recovery for stroke patients. Rehabilitation may include physical therapy, occupational therapy and/or speech therapy.

	LMH 2004	LMH 2005	LMH 2006	Goal
% Received appropriate therapy	99%	88%	97%	100%

- 4** An elevated serum lipid level has been a well-documented risk factor for coronary artery disease. The reduction of LDL cholesterol, through lifestyle modification and during therapy, for the prevention of strokes and other vascular events, is recommended for patients with coronary artery disease.

	LMH 2005	LMH 2006	Benchmark ⁽²⁾
% Received lipid profile ⁽³⁾	77%	56%	72%

- 5** Evidence-based medicine supports giving a blood-thinning medication (such as aspirin) by the second day of hospitalization after a stroke and ordering the medication at discharge. Blood-thinning medication prevents clots from forming and improves blood flow.

	LMH 2004	LMH 2005	LMH 2006	Benchmark ⁽²⁾
% Eligible patients receiving blood-thinning medication	100%	97%	95%	96%
% with blood-thinning medication at discharge	96%	99%	99%	92%

- 6** It is often beneficial for a stroke patient to have a consultation with a neurologist to confirm the diagnosis because many other diseases can mimic a stroke. Neurologists have unique training and experience in neurological diseases and can offer stroke patients comprehensive care that is tailored to their specific needs.

	LMH 2004	LMH 2005	LMH 2006	Goal
% Stroke patients received a neurology consult	93%	91%	93%	greater than 90%

Decrease Your Risk Factors for Facing a Stroke

Although some risk factors for stroke cannot be changed, you can work with your primary care physician to try to control others and live a healthier life. A stroke is a type of cardiovascular disease that affects the brain. A stroke occurs when a clot blocks a blood vessel that carries oxygen and nutrients to the brain or when such a blood vessel bursts. As a result, part of the brain dies because it cannot get needed oxygen.

Strokes are more common in men than in women – until age 75, when women have more strokes than men do. Regardless, the risk for stroke increases with age. If a parent or sibling has had a stroke, your risk increases. And, African Americans and Hispanics have a higher risk for stroke than other races do. These are stroke risk factors that we cannot control. However, being aware of them can help you be proactive in your fight against stroke.

There are a number of controllable factors that can make your risk for stroke even greater. Talk to your primary care physician about what you can do to lower your risk for stroke. Need a primary care physician? Call the Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) Physician Referral Line at (740) 348-4014, or click on the “Find a Doctor” link on the Licking Memorial Health Systems (LMHS) Web site, located at www.LMHealth.org.

High Blood Pressure, Diabetes and Heart Disease

According to the American Heart Association, nearly one in three adults has high blood pressure. However, since there are no symptoms, only about one third of people with high blood pressure know they have it. Left uncontrolled, high blood pressure can lead to stroke, heart attack, heart failure or kidney failure. Do you know your blood pressure? If not, find out and then have it checked at least once every two years – or as often as your physician recommends. Normal blood pressure generally is lower than 120/80 mmHg. Managing your diabetes and/or heart disease – by taking your prescribed medication, exercising, watching your blood pressure and maintaining a healthy weight – can help you avoid an even higher risk for stroke.

Tobacco Use

If you smoke or use other tobacco products, quit. You'll reduce your risk for stroke, heart disease and cancer. And, you'll quickly benefit from your decision. Your heart rate and blood pressure will improve within 20 minutes of quitting, and the carbon monoxide level in



Getting regular exercise may help you lower your risk for stroke.

your blood will drop to normal within 12 hours, according to the American Cancer Society.

Alcohol Consumption

If you consume alcohol, do so in moderation. Men should drink an average of no more than one to two drinks per day, while women should consume an average of no more than one drink per day. According to the American Heart Association, a drink is one 12-ounce beer, 4 ounces of wine, 1.5 ounces of 80-proof spirits, or 1 ounce of 100-proof spirits. In addition to increasing your risk for stroke, drinking more alcohol increases the risk for alcoholism, high

blood pressure, obesity, breast cancer, suicide and accidents.

Overweight/Obesity

Are you overweight or obese? Weight and height are used to calculate body mass index (BMI). BMI generally correlates with the amount of body fat an individual has. A healthy BMI for an adult is 18.5 to 24.9. An adult with a BMI of 25.0 to 29.9 is considered overweight, while an individual with a BMI of 30 or higher is considered obese. If you are athletic, you may have a higher BMI even if you do not have excess body weight. Ask your physician what BMI is appropriate for you and what you can do to get there.

Physical Inactivity

Regardless of BMI, you need to get moving to improve your health. It is always a good idea to check with your physician before starting an exercise program. The American Heart Association recommends 30 minutes of physical activity most days of the week. This doesn't have to mean a trip to the gym. Instead, try some of the following:

- Ride an exercise bike, stretch or do jumping jacks while you watch TV.
- Take a short walk before breakfast, after dinner or any other time you have a few minutes. Invite a friend. You'll be surprised how far you walk while you talk.
- Walk or bike when running errands.
- Don't take the closest spot in the parking lot.
- Do some spring cleaning – regardless of the season.
- Take the stairs.
- During a break from work, walk around the building.
- Vacuum more often.
- Use a push mower.
- Plant a garden.

7 Licking Memorial Health Professionals (LMHP) office-based physicians use evidence-based measures in order to provide excellent, quality care to patients. The American Stroke Association and American Heart Association recommend the use of blood-thinning medication in order to prevent clots from forming and to improve blood flow. It is also recommended to have an annual LDL cholesterol test.

	LMHP 2004(4)	LMHP 2005(4)	LMHP 2006(5)	Goal
% LMHP coronary artery disease patients seen receiving blood-thinning medication	98%	98%	93%	greater than 80%
% LMHP coronary artery disease patients seen who have had an annual LDL test	97%	98%	91%	greater than 80%

(1) Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement. *Diagnosis and initial treatment of ischemic stroke*; 2003 Oct. 65p.

(2) Most recent benchmark from VHA Central Key Clinical Indicator Project.

(3) LMH began collecting this data element in 2005.

(4) LMHP average reported quarterly on patients with office visit .

(5) LMHP active patient population of three years.

Dr. Torchia Joins LMHP Anesthesiology



Mary J. Torchia,
M.D.

Licking Memorial Health Professionals is pleased to announce the addition of anesthesiologist Mary J. Torchia, M.D., to its practice. Dr. Torchia received her Medical degree at the Medical College of Ohio in Toledo, Ohio. She completed her internship in Internal Medicine and her residency in Anesthesiology at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry degree

at Muskingum College in New Concord, Ohio. Dr. Torchia is board certified in Anesthesiology and Pain Management. In addition to providing care in the Anesthesiology Department at Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH), Dr. Torchia sees patients in the LMH Pain Management Clinic on the sixth floor.

New Inpatient Pediatrician at LMH



Robert T. Seese,
M.D.

Licking Memorial Health Professionals is pleased to announce a new inpatient pediatrician, Robert T. Seese, M.D., has joined the practice. Dr. Seese received his Medical Degree at Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine in Rootstown, Ohio. He completed an internship and residency in pediatrics at Children’s Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, and also completed clinical training in pediatric infectious disease at the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio.

Dr. Seese earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Life Sciences at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio, graduating magna cum laude. He is board certified in pediatrics.

On a rotating basis, inpatient pediatricians at Licking Memorial Hospital are on call and work in the hospital 24 hours a day, seven days a week. As specialists working along with emergency room physicians, our inpatient pediatricians can coordinate inpatient care from admission to discharge.

LMH Welcomes Newest Schaffner Member

Newark resident Barbara Ransopher has become the newest member of the William Schaffner Society at Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH). The Schaffner Society is reserved for individuals who make a contribution commitment of \$10,000 to \$24,999 over 10 years.

Barbara and her late husband, Cyril, have a long history of public service in Licking County. Cyril was Director of Moundbuilders Guidance Center and Director of the Mental Health and Recovery Board for Licking and Knox counties. Barbara also served on the Mental Health Association Board and was chairman of LMH TWIGS 14. She is a member of Monday Talks, Progressive Club and Chapter DL of PEO Sisterhood. She is an elder at the Second Presbyterian



Barbara Ransopher

Church in Newark and has been a member of the choir there for 45 years. Barbara has a daughter, Elizabeth, who lives in Gahanna; and a son, David, who lives in Reynoldsburg with his wife and two children.

LMH's Schaffner Society was created in memory of William Schaffner who dedicated his life to assuring the availability of quality health care services to our community. He was the first chairman of the Licking County Hospital Commission. Contributions made through the Schaffner Society are used for new medical equipment and expanded services. To learn more about making charitable contributions to LMH, please call (740) 348-4101.

Development Council Spotlight: Kimberly Lust (continued from page 9)

Kim is a member of the Licking County Chamber of Commerce Education Committee and the chamber's Groundhog Breakfast Planning Committee, as well as the Ohio Hispanic Coalition's Advisory Board. She serves on the Education Committee of the Ohio Insurance Institute and supports Newark City Schools. Kim previously served on the boards of Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Licking County Aging Program.

Kim is proud to be serving on the Licking Memorial Hospital Development Council. "My family has utilized the services of LMH on several occasions – from childbirth to hospice – and we have always had tremendous care," she said.

Donors

COMMUNITY CORNERSTONE

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MEMORIAL

In memory of Fred Lutz
By: Sheila Wayland

In memory of Libby Walker
By: TWIGS 11

In memory of Barry Wood
By: Patricia and Robert McGaughy

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Rebecca Whitney
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Christina Priest
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Ronda Stegman

PRIDE CORNERSTONE GOLD

Mary Torchia, M.D.

THE KIDS' PLACE

Welcome Wagon Club of the Newark Area

Physician Spotlight: May-Lee Robertson, D.O.



May-Lee
Robertson, D.O.

In the rush and excitement of the Emergency Department, May-Lee Robertson, D.O., makes a quick difference when things are at their worst. “I like to be of service to the patients I care for,” said Dr. Robertson, the Vice Chief of Emergency Medicine at Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH).

Dr. Robertson’s passion for emergency medicine began when she was 13 years old and her family lived in a Christian section of Beirut, Lebanon. As the country’s civil war raged around her neighborhood, Dr. Robertson saw people’s injuries and wanted to help.

She also was inspired by her uncle, who is a physician in Rochester, New York, and her father, who never wanted anything to hold her back. But, her mother discouraged her dream. The conservative Christian woman wanted her daughter to take a more traditional role.

Dr. Robertson came to the United States from Lebanon in 1981 to attend college at Anderson University in Indiana where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in social work. There, she met and married her husband, Greg. Their first child, Eric, was born during her senior year of college.

Dr. Robertson intended to be a social worker in a

hospital, where she could still care for patients. But Greg noticed that one of the few things that excited her were articles about medicine. “I told him, I had always wanted to be a physician, but never had the chance to do it,” she said. At the urging of her husband, Dr. Robertson met a week later with a dean of Indiana University to find out what courses she needed to take to complete pre-med requirements.

“Greg is a great cheerleader,” Dr. Robertson said. “He always had a positive attitude. He saw my vision and supported me all the way.”

She received her Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from Midwestern University in Chicago, Illinois, and served her residency through the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine at Doctors Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. She began working in the Emergency Department of Licking Memorial Hospital in 1999. Dr. Robertson was selected by her peers at LMH as 2006 Physician of the Year.

Dr. Robertson lives in Blacklick, Ohio, with Greg, who writes and edits computer books. He also volunteers extensively with their church, Meadow Park Church of God, in Columbus. They have two children: Eric, who graduated from Wheaton College with a degree in music, and Maya, who is a biology and pre-med major at Anderson University.

Ask a Doc

Question: My neighbor was diagnosed with a TIA. What is this? Will he recover?

Answer (May-Lee Robertson, D.O.): TIA is short for transient ischemic attack. A person who has a TIA has stroke-like symptoms that last less than 24 hours. Depending on the area of the brain affected, a person suddenly could have slurred speech, a facial droop, dizziness, weakness or numbness on one side of the body. If a person has any of these symptoms, he or she should seek medical care immediately.

People recover from a TIA because the symptoms disappear within 24 hours and there is no permanent brain damage. However, a TIA is a “warning stroke.”

A person who has had a TIA should work with his/her physician to control their blood pressure, cholesterol, smoking and diabetes, which are all risk factors for stroke. Also, the doctor would order the necessary testing and procedures find the source of the problem to prevent a stroke. The person’s physician may prescribe medicine such as aspirin to help thin the blood.

New General Surgeon Joins LMHP



David M. Barbara,
M.D.

Licking Memorial Health Professionals is pleased to announce that general surgeon David M. Barbara, M.D., F.A.C.S., has joined Licking Memorial Surgical Services. Dr. Barbara received his Medical Degree at University of Kentucky College of Medicine in Lexington, Kentucky. He completed an internship in general surgery and a residency in general surgery at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He graduated summa cum

laude with a Bachelor of Science degree from Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio. He is board certified in general surgery.

He maintains many professional memberships, including the Christian Medical Association, Hitchcock Surgical Society, and American College of Surgeons (Ohio Chapter). Dr. Barbara has served as a volunteer to provide medical care in Nicaragua, Mexico, and Honduras. He enjoys outdoor sports such as whitewater rafting, backpacking and dogsledding. Dr. Barbara and his wife are the parents of three children.

C.N.P. Joins Licking Memorial Pediatrics



Emily Frazier
Cramer, C.N.P.

Licking Memorial Health Professionals is pleased to announce the addition of Certified Nurse Practitioner Emily Frazier Cramer to Licking Memorial Pediatrics – Newark. Emily received her Master of Science in Nursing degree at the University of Cincinnati College of Nursing and Health in Cincinnati, Ohio, with a specialty in parent/child health nursing and a minor in practitioner and educator roles. She completed a

fellowship in adolescent health care at Children’s Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing in Nashville, Tennessee, graduating magna cum laude.

She is providing patient care at Licking Memorial Pediatrics office at 1865 Tamarack Road, Building 4, in Newark. Emily and her husband, Steve, live in Granville and have two children.

C.N.P. Joins Licking Memorial Family Practice – Hebron



Amy S. Arthur,
C.N.P.

Licking Memorial Health Professionals is pleased to announce the addition of Certified Nurse Practitioner Amy S. Arthur to Licking Memorial Family Practice – Hebron. Amy completed the Post-Graduate Family Nurse Practitioner Program at Otterbein College in Westerville, Ohio. She earned a Master of Science degree in Nursing from The

Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the University of Cincinnati in Cincinnati, Ohio.

She formerly worked in the Licking Memorial Family Practice offices of Dr. Carl Waggoner and Dr. Keith Szekely. Amy is a member of the Ohio Association of Advanced Practice Nurses.

Volunteer Spotlight: Anna Mae Rhoads



Anna Mae Rhoads

For six years, Anna Mae Rhoads, of Utica, Ohio, has volunteered at Shepherd Hill, the Behavioral Health Department of Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH). She represents Shepherd Hill on the LMH Volunteer Executive Board. She has logged more than 800 hours as a volunteer since 2001.

Twice a month, Anna Mae helps the staff of Shepherd Hill during Family Day, a time for patients’ spouses, children and parents to visit. She keeps children entertained with toys and books, talks with family about Shepherd Hill’s mission, makes books for new patients and does anything else that needs to be done.

“Anna Mae is dedicated, energetic and helpful,” said Anna Rehl, Director of the Behavioral Health Department. “The staff enjoys having her as part of our team.”

Anna Mae recently returned to her volunteer work after being diagnosed and treated for cancer by Jacqueline Jones, M.D., a physician with Licking Memorial Health Professionals, and the Hospital’s Oncology Department.

“The nurses in the Oncology Department are wonderful,” Anna Mae said. “They anticipated my needs. And, they helped me celebrate my birthday when my daughter brought a cake into the Oncology Department. They have a ball!”

Anna Mae said she is happy, though, to get back to her work at Shepherd Hill. “It’s a good job and I like it,” she said. “I like that fact that I’m needed and I can do these jobs.”

In addition to volunteering at Shepherd Hill, Anna Mae serves on the board of LEADS Community Action Agency and sings in the choir of Church of the Nativity in Utica. She is married to David. They have four children, eight grandsons and one great-granddaughter.

The Hospital’s commitment to quality care is well known in the community and across the state. This recognition would be more difficult to achieve without the unwavering support and dedication of the outstanding volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering your time and talents at Licking Memorial Hospital, please call Carol Barnes, Director of Volunteers, TWIGS and Events at (740) 348-4079.

Retiree Spotlight: Kay Bailey



Kay Bailey

Kay Bailey keeps busy with gardening, making crafts and baby-sitting two of her seven grandchildren. She retired from Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) in 2005 after working here for 25 years.

Kay's LMH career began in November 1980 as a licensed practical nurse with the surgical unit. After nine years, she became a registered nurse. "I enjoyed

my duties as a staff nurse, charge nurse and nurse preceptor. I served on many committees including pain, perinatal loss and employee activities," she said.

Kay is enjoying retirement. "It is better than I ever imagined it would be!" she said. But, she does miss the day-to-day contact with fellow employees and with patients. "The best part of Licking Memorial was the people – the staff members were always wonderful," she said. "I loved my co-workers and the people we cared for. The patient contact is what I miss most of all." She gets together with former co-workers during LMH-

sponsored retiree luncheons and for Weight Watchers meetings at the Hospital.

During her employment, LMH conducted a community parish nurse program, and Kay implemented the program at her church, Christ Lutheran Church in Heath. "I'm happy to say that it is still strong after nearly 12 years of service," she said.

The Newark resident and her husband, Dick, are the parents of three and grandparents of seven. The couple also has a puppy as a special member of their family. "We have a little Shi-Poo puppy, Millie, whom we love almost as much as she loves us," Kay noted. Because the Baileys' grandkids are located in Columbus and McConnelsville, Ohio, as well as Florida, the couple has an excuse for travel. "We like to travel in general and try to get to the seashore often," Kay said.

In November 2005, the couple kicked off Kay's retirement with a cruise through the islands of Hawaii. "We learned the spirit of Aloha – the ability to slow down and enjoy the gift of life our God has given us," Kay said.

Employee Spotlight: Janet Curtis



Janet Curtis

Every sixth night, Janet Curtis leaves her home in Granville, Ohio, to take care of her neighbors as an emergency medical technician with the Granville Fire Department. Each time she is called on a run, she assesses patients, takes their vital signs and transports them to Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH), if necessary.

"It's a good way for me to volunteer in my community," said Janet, a point of care technician at Licking Memorial Family Practice – Granville. "My parents and my husband's parents have used the Granville squad."

Janet followed in the footsteps of her sons, joining the Granville Fire Department as an EMT after Chris, 32, and Casey, 29, signed on as volunteer firefighters. "At this age, I'm not cut out to be a firefighter," the Granville native explained.

However, Janet knew from the time she was in high school she wanted to work in the medical field. She completed a medical assisting course, and then in 1969, she began working in the LMH Laboratory. In 1975, she joined Dr. Lawrence Dils' practice in Granville as a medical technician. Dr. Dils' office is now part of

Licking Memorial Health Professionals. "I've always wanted to stay local, especially when my boys were small," Janet said. "I'm just a hometown girl."

As a point of care technician, Janet helps the teams of doctors and nurses by taking vital signs, drawing blood and conducting tests. She also works closely with the physician center manager and is learning the management side of the office. "After 30 years of being a medical technician, I'm enjoying learning about managing a physician office," Janet said. "It's still health care and patient care. That's where my heart is."

In 2006, Janet was named an MVP of Licking Memorial Health Systems. She was given the award for her consistent and outstanding demonstration of LMHS' values – communication, attitude, respect and excellence.

Janet is married to Don "Butch" Curtis. They enjoy motorcycling, boating, traveling and spending time with their four grandchildren. Casey works as a full-time paramedic and firefighter for the Liberty Township in Delaware County, Ohio, and still volunteers with the Granville Fire Department. Chris is a volunteer firefighter and an EMT with the Newark Township Fire Department. Janet's third son, Cameron, 18, is a senior at Granville High School.

Richard A. Manley Becomes LMH Manager of Health Information



Richard A. Manley, M.B.A.

Licking Memorial Hospital is pleased to announce the appointment of Richard A. Manley, M.B.A., to the position of Health Information Systems Manager. His responsibilities include coordination and oversight of the electronic medical record applications.

Richard is a native of Clarksburg, West Virginia. He attended West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon, West Virginia, and earned a Medical Technology degree at United Hospital Center in Clarksburg, West

Virginia. He then earned a Master of Business Administration degree at University of Phoenix in Columbus, Ohio. He is a member of Central and Southern Ohio Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS).

Richard lives in Thornville with his wife, Jennifer. He is a member of Thornville United Methodist Church, where he serves as a chairman and trustee.

Administrative Spotlight: Brian Thatcher



Brian Thatcher

Brian Thatcher was attracted to Licking Memorial Hospital (LMH) by its reputation in his area of expertise. "Quality management is a rather small community in health care, and LMH has a very strong reputation in that community," the LMH Quality Manager said. "When compared to other organizations, LMH has been ahead of the curve with ensuring best practices, delivering quality care and public

reporting. No other organization in Ohio has been named to Solucient's 100 Top Hospitals list more times than LMH."

Brian joined LMH in August 2005. "I've never had the privilege of working for another organization that invests so much into quality," he said. "It isn't a buzzword here, and that's why I have remained with the Hospital."

Brian has been involved in health care since 1987 when he joined the U.S. Army. During his eight years in the military, Brian completed nursing school and became a licensed practical nurse. After two years as a caregiver, Brian moved into a management role. "I cut my teeth as a nursing unit manager and spent time working in pharmacy operations, infection control, occupational health, project management, risk management and quality management," he said. "I've been focused on quality management for the past nine years."

Since joining Licking Memorial, Brian primarily has been focused on ongoing accreditation by The Joint Commission. "Successful compliance with all Joint Commission standards and requirements is a continuous goal," he said. Licking Memorial earned reaccreditation from The Joint Commission in October 2006. "The entire staff came together for the effort, and we did very well in an era where accreditation is more difficult than ever to maintain," Brian said. "The staff did a fantastic job in demonstrating to The Joint Commission the type of high-quality care that we deliver every day."

Brian is a member of LMH Providing Resources in Dedicated Employees (PRIDE) and participates in the Licking County United Way Day of Caring. He resides near Pataskala with his wife, Stacy, and two daughters, Emily and Grace. Brian enjoys spending time with his family, shopping, watching movies and track racing/autocrossing.

As a Licking Memorial employee, he is pleased to put daily focus on the Health Systems' mission to improve the health of the community. "I think the primary goal of anyone who works in health care quality improvement is to continuously monitor how we deliver care and work to improve that delivery to achieve better patient outcomes," Brian said. "We are constantly reviewing what we do and how well we do it in order to find opportunities to improve. If we can continuously and positively influence the health care that our patients receive, then I feel we've been successful in meeting our goal."

Official Entry Form

Licking Memorial Health Systems Licking County Family YMCA

"For Your Health" 5K Run and Fun Walk 2007



Where and When

Saturday, July 14, 2007 at Licking Memorial Hospital,
1320 West Main Street, Newark Ohio.
Run/Walk begins at 9:00 a.m.

Race Course

Measured 5-K (3.1 miles) Run/Walk.

Registration Time/Fee

Registration time on race day is 8:00-8:45 a.m.
\$15 for entries submitted on or before June 29, 2007.
All entries received after June 29 are \$20.



Race Number/T-shirt Pick-up

Pick up your race number and t-shirt
between 8:00-8:45 a.m. on race morning
at Licking Memorial Hospital.

Refreshments and Awards Ceremony

Refreshments will be available immediately following the race. Awards will be given to the top three overall male and female finishers, and for the first place male and female finishers for each age group:

- 14 Years Old and Under
 15-19 Years of Age
 20-29 Years of Age
 30-39 Years of Age
 40-49 Years of Age
 50-59 Years of Age
 60 Years Old and Over

School Competition: All Licking County schools are being invited to compete for cash prizes to be used for playground equipment or the school's athletic fund.

Elementary/Middle/High Schools: The top three winners will be based on the highest percentage of students participating from an individual school's total number of students. Students should pre-register and the entry fee will be waived.

Important: Please list the school you attend, not the school district.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Age: ____
 Male
 Female
 5K Run
 Fun Walk
 Adult T-Shirt Size: XL L M S
 Children T-Shirt Size: YL YM

Entry fee must accompany this form.

\$15.00 Early Registration (On or before June 29, 2007)
 \$20.00 (After June 29, 2007)

Make checks payable to: Licking Memorial Hospital School Name: _____
 Mail to: Licking Memorial Health Foundation
 Elementary
 Middle
 High
 "For Your Health" 5K Run and Fun Walk 2007
 1320 West Main Street Grade: _____
 Newark, OH 43055

Online Registration: Go to www.premierraces.com and click on "For Your Health" 2007 icon on the home page.
Online registration closes July 10, 2007.



**Licking Memorial
Health Systems**

Upcoming Dates

For more information about any LMHS event, please call (740) 348-1572, or visit www.LMHealth.org

First Impressions – Maternal Child Classes

Childbirth Education Classes

Two-Day Session Weekend. Friday, July 20, 6:00-9:00 p.m. and Saturday, July 21, 9:00 a.m.-12 noon. Cost is \$52.

Two-Day Session. Mondays, July 2 and 9, 6:00-9:00 p.m. Cost is \$52.

Stork Tour

Tuesday, July 31, 6:30 p.m. No Cost.

Parenting Class

Tuesday, August 14, 6:30-9:00 p.m. No cost.

Breast-feeding Class

Wednesday, July 18, 6:00-7:30 p.m. Cost is \$15.

Infant & Child CPR

Tuesday, July 24 6:30-8:30 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person.

Sibling Preparation Class

Saturday, August 4 10:00-11:30 a.m. Cost is \$10 per family.

For more information or to register for First Impressions/Maternal Child classes, call (740) 348-4346.



**Licking Memorial
Health Systems**

1320 West Main Street
Newark, OH 43055

Please take a few minutes to read this month's **Community Connection**.

You'll once again see why

Licking Memorial Health Systems is measurably different ... for your health!

Visit us at www.LMHealth.org

A publication of the LMHS Public Relations Department at (740) 348-1572. Please contact the Public Relations Department to receive future mailings.

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