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Prescribed Reading: February 2008

CentraCare Clinic

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February 2008

Employees of the Quarter Recognized

Congratulations to this quarter's winners **Debra Ismer**, River Campus; and **Colleen Pommier**, Long Prairie. The random drawing winner was **Luann Miller**, Women & Children.

Debra was nominated by the Rheumatology Department. The physicians wrote, "Deb is an exceptional employee. She is wonderful with patients and can handle any challenge. She's always helpful, optimistic, gracious and kind."

Debra's co-workers wrote, "Deb has all the traits of a great nurse, co-worker and all-around great person."

Colleen received three nominations. Colleen's co-workers wrote, "Colleen is always friendly and helpful and offers support and encouragement without being asked. She always smiles, comes in early, stays late, is confident and respectful, and she makes coming to work a joy! She does an excellent job with scheduling patients, and we appreciate her so much."

The following employees/departments also received nominations this quarter: **Nicole Sherman, Stacey Reisinger, Rebecca Andermann, Emily Stevens** and **Sue Malone**, Women & Children; **Patty Schmitz** and **HIM Department**, River Campus; **Julie Karls**, Heartland; **Judy Tomaso**, Long Prairie; and **Sharon Bollinger**, St. Joseph.

Recognition for Years of Service

15 Years

Lynn Stich, River Campus

10 Years

Michelle Hammerel, Plaza – Family Medicine

Welcome to these new employees

Alena Conlin, Clinic Services, Big Lake Clinic

Candice Erickson, Business Center

Kathryn Kallunki, Clinic Services, Big Lake Clinic

Susan Martin, Nursing, River Campus

Amanda Moen, Imaging, River Campus

Jillian Struzyk, Clinic Services, Plaza – Dermatology

Sarah Swensen, Business Center

Stories from the Heart, Feb. 11

At this special dinner presentation, a variety of women will share their personal encounters with heart disease. Learn how a woman's heart is unique and how to prevent heart disease from 6-8 p.m. Feb. 11 at the Radisson Suite Hotel in St. Cloud. Find the \$25 tickets at the St. Cloud Hospital Gift Gallery and Women & Family Specialty Center at CentraCare Health Plaza. Call (320) 229-5139 for more information. Sponsored by St. Cloud Hospital Women & Children's Center and Central Minnesota Heart Center.

The Cooking Cardiologist, Feb. 26

Sample the cuisine of Dr. Richard Collins and hear his message about the prevention and reversal of heart disease through changes in diet and lifestyle. His creativity in the kitchen is legendary, and his delicious, heart healthy recipes have established him as a popular chef on television and at cooking demonstrations coast to coast. This event is 7-8:30 p.m. Feb. 26 at CentraCare Health Plaza. The \$10 tickets are available at St. Cloud Hospital's Gift Gallery, Byerly's service desk, Cash Wise video and Sauk Rapids Coborn's Superstore service counter. Sponsored by Central Minnesota Heart Center.

Kudos!

Barbi Kaplan-Frenkel, D.O., Radiation Oncology, published an article about partial breast irradiation in the December issue of *Minnesota Physician* magazine.

Keith Leavell, M.D., River Campus, passed the American Board of Medical Specialties' Sleep Medicine board certification administered through the American Board of Internal Medicine.

Daniel Kraft, M.D., Gastroenterology, passed his Gastroenterology board certification through the American Board of Internal Medicine.

CentraCare Clinic - Long Prairie staff donated more than \$350 to the local food shelf for the holidays.

Congratulations to ...

Daniel Kraft, M.D., Gastroenterology, and his wife Heather, on the birth of their son Peter Thomas.

Kelly Zniewski, Business Center, and her husband Eric, on the birth of their daughter Emma Marcine.

Shelly Alexander, Business Center, and her husband Harold, on the birth of their daughter Keira Jonette.

Condolences to ...

Patty Simonsmeier, Gastroenterology Clinic, on the loss of her mother; **Sarah Swensen**, Business Center, on the loss of her father; **Gerard Bobeldyk, M.D.**, River Campus, on the loss of his mother.

Pay for Performance Recognition by BCBS

Submitted by the QI Department

Blue Cross and Blue Shield's Recognizing Excellence program recognizes superior outcomes in five specialties. CentraCare Clinic met the target goals in the following categories: **Family Medicine** and **Internal Medicine** - comprehensive diabetes care and hypertension management; **Pediatrics** - generic drug utilization and asthma management; **OB/Gyn** - generic drug utilization and cancer composite screening; **Cardiology** - heart failure management.

Congratulations and thank you for your continued team efforts to improve care for our patients!

Genetics Department has moved

The genetics team has moved to its new location (Ste. 2375) within the Women & Family Specialty Center at CentraCare Health Plaza. **David Tilstra, M.D.**, and **Joy Gustin, M.S.**, genetic counselor, provide services to prenatal, pediatric and adult (male and female) patients. For more information, call 654-3654.

Surgery Center receives Medicare certification

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services have certified the CentraCare Surgery Center. Patients covered by Medicare and Medicaid, self-pay and most insurances may have procedures performed at the Surgery Center. For more information, call 229-5107.

Cancer program receives three-year approval

The Commission on Cancer (CoC) of the American College of Surgeons (AcoS) has granted a three-year approval with Commendation to the Cancer Program at St. Cloud Hospital following the on-site evaluation.

"Clara's House" receives award

Clara's House provides individualized care for children and adolescents with behavioral health problems. The program received the 2007 Minnesota Hospital Association's Community Benefit Award.

New procedure at Central Minnesota Heart Center

David Benditt, M.D., an electrophysiologist from the University of Minnesota, was the first in the nation to implant an innovative cardiac monitoring device at the Central Minnesota Heart Center. The Medtronic Reveal® DX insertable cardiac monitor is for patients with fainting or abnormal heart rhythms. It offers continuous monitoring of the heart's electrical activity to help with diagnosis. Recently receiving FDA clearance, the first device was implanted in a 24-year-old woman Dec. 17.

CentraCare Kidney Program expands

The CentraCare Kidney Program in Monticello moved its dialysis services to the new Big Lake Clinic, operated by CentraCare Health System and Monticello-Big Lake Hospital. The Big Lake Dialysis Unit has nine stations. The Cambridge Dialysis unit should open in March with 15 dialysis stations. The Litchfield Dialysis unit is expected to open in April with nine dialysis stations. The outpatient dialysis program provides 43,000 treatments a year. With the addition of Big Lake, Cambridge and Litchfield, dialysis services will be provided to nine communities including: Alexandria, Staples, Little Falls, Brainerd, St. Cloud and Princeton. **Tom Leither, M.D.**, is the program's medical director. He and Dialysis Director Cathy Sindelir have been with the program since its inception in 1987. For more information, call 251-2700, ext. 24542.

Enhancing pediatric specialty care

St. Cloud Hospital and CentraCare Health System signed a collaboration agreement with the University of Minnesota Children's Hospital, Fairview and University of Minnesota Physicians Jan. 25. In addition to current referral relationships, this alliance will provide greater access to: the full continuum of care, including acute and specialty care; the strengths and expertise of the medical staff of St. Cloud Hospital and University of Minnesota Children's Hospital, Fairview; and high-quality care close to home so patients can remain near their families, friends and primary care physicians

St. Cloud Hospital achieves re-accreditation

St. Cloud Hospital has earned the Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval by demonstrating compliance with The Joint Commission's national standards for health care quality and safety. The hospital has been accredited since 1956. The Home Care and Behavioral Health programs also earned accreditation.

Prescribed Reading is a monthly publication for CentraCare Clinic employees. If you have any employee news or clinic-related information you would like to share, please e-mail it to pauld@centracare.com or send to Deb Paul, Communications department.