Prescribed Reading: June 2008

CentraCare Clinic

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June 2008

New clinic and site planned for St. Joseph

CentraCare Clinic is finalizing plans for the construction of a new, larger clinic located at the intersection of County Road 133 and 75 in St. Joseph.

The new clinic building, which tentatively is planned to be completed in late fall 2008, will be 12,000 square feet and designed to provide space for future growth.

When completed, the staff and physicians at the current clinic at 106 Second Ave. N.W. will move to the new clinic. New providers will be added as needed.

Kudos to...

- The Heartland Lab achieved a “perfect” lab inspection at the May 14 COLA inspection and will be considered for the COLA Laboratory Excellence Award.
- The St. Joseph Lab successfully passed its CLIA inspection April 18.
- Neurologist Lawrence Schut, M.D., River Campus, has published an article titled “Ataxia: A complex group of diseases” in the May 2008 issue of Minnesota Health Care News.
- George Schoephoerster, M.D., Health Plaza, Family Medicine Clinic, published an article in the May Minnesota Medicine about providing effective primary care by adopting the medical home model.

Several CentraCare Clinic doctors were honored in May for their service to St. Cloud Hospital. John Mahowald, M.D., Central Minnesota Heart Center; and Deborah McCarr, M.D., Women & Children, were honored for 25 years of service. John Lyons, Women & Children, was honored for his retirement.

Congratulations to...

- Jeremy Stockinger, Business Office, and his wife, Gloria, on the birth of their son.
- Caitlin Lien, Women & Children, and her husband, Keith Trettel, on their recent marriage.
- Virginia Evans, Long Prairie, on the birth of her first grandson.

Condolences to:

- Kathy Stearns, Business Office, on the loss of her sister; Jan Boeckers, Business Office, on the loss of her mother; Christy VanVickle, Business Office, on the loss of her brother; and Jen VanNorman, River Campus, on the loss of her uncle.

Welcome to these new employees

Jeri Andria, Business Center
Richard Hom, Business Center
Kandace Jaunich, Imaging, River Campus
Jodi Johnson, Imaging, River Campus
Stephanie Klein, Business Center
Laura Loomis, Nursing, Plaza – Family Medicine
Laurie Neddermeyer, Nursing, River Campus
Lorena Rojas, Nursing, Plaza – Family Medicine
Todd Snyder, Ultrasound, Women & Children
Arlene Troness, Nursing, Plaza – Internal Medicine
Lynn Zwiener, Clinic Services, Women & Children

Recognition for Years of Service

25 Years
John Mahowald, M.D., Central Minnesota Heart Center

20 Years
Judy Dirkes, River Campus

15 Years
Perry Severance, M.D., River Campus

10 Years
Bernard Erickson, M.D., Central Minnesota Heart Center
Mary Malachek, Business Center
Kathy Sorenson, Plaza – Gastroenterology

5 Years
Mary Daniel, Women & Children
Simon Milstein, M.D., Central Minnesota Heart Center
Tammy Rosenow, River Campus
Carolyn Zabloski, River Campus
Dorsher receives 2008 Caduceus Award

Gastroenterologist Paul Dorsher, M.D., recently received CentraCare Health Foundation’s 2008 Caduceus Award.

Dorsher received the award because of his exemplary service to those in need, providing excellent patient care and generosity. He gives of his time, talent and treasure in support of health care in the community and internationally. He volunteers at the Mid-Minnesota Family Medicine Center and participates in international medical mission trips.

The CentraCare Health Foundation Caduceus Award honors the outstanding work of Central Minnesota physicians who exhibit exceptional humanitarian medical efforts to improve health and health care in our region or around the world.

Cardiac surgery program receives top rating

The cardiac surgery program at the Central Minnesota Heart Center has been awarded a three-star (the highest) rating from the Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS) for the second consecutive year. The STS developed this comprehensive rating system to allow comparisons regarding the quality of cardiac surgery among hospitals across the country. Only 12 percent of hospitals in the nation received this award based on data from July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007. The STS is considered to be the most authoritative source in cardiac surgery. The Heart Center’s high ranking is the result of phenomenal teamwork by all who assist with the care of cardiac surgery patients.

Attorney joins health system

Paul Harris will join CentraCare Health System June 16 as vice president and general counsel. He is uniquely qualified for this position, having worked closely with CentraCare while practicing law with the local Hughes Mathews firm. Paul started with Hughes Mathews in 1991 and became a partner in the firm in 1998. He is a graduate of St. John’s University and Marquette University Law School. Paul will coordinate and oversee legal services for the health system and all of its entities. Bringing this function in-house is a financially sound move. It also will improve access to legal advice and improve compliance with our increasingly complex organization.

Pre-diabetes classes offered

Two-part pre-diabetes classes will be scheduled as needed at the CentraCare Diabetes Center. A registered dietitian will teach participants about carb counting, meal plans, glucose monitoring and testing. Please call 202-7759 for more information and to register.

Employee Campaign raises $362,268!

Thanks to your efforts and support, CentraCare Health System employees exceeded the Employee Campaign participation goal of 33 percent by reaching 33.9 percent! The generosity of 2,078 employees has resulted in $362,268 to help meet the health care needs of those we serve as well as provide grants to community health organizations throughout Central Minnesota.

Payroll deduction for this campaign begins July 4, 2008. Grand prize winners are listed on CentraNet.

Calling all bike riders!

People of all ages are invited to participate in an attempt to break the Guinness Book of World Record’s largest parade of bikes beginning at 2 p.m. June 28 at Whitney Park in St. Cloud. This two-mile, free event is sponsored by BLEND (Better Living: Exercise & Nutrition Daily). The first 2,500 people to register online at www.BLENDcentralMN.org will receive a free commemorative T-shirt and medallion. For more information or for volunteer opportunities, contact rohej@centracare.com.

Stroke & Blood Vessel Screenings

Three simple 15-minute screenings can determine your risk for stroke, peripheral vascular disease and abdominal aortic aneurysm. Cost is $35 for each screening. To schedule a weekday appointment, call Imaging Services at CentraCare Health Plaza, ext. 74986. To schedule a Saturday appointment, call Central Minnesota Heart Center, ext. 55706.

Sharing the gift of life

St. Cloud Hospital partners with LifeSource, a non-profit organization dedicated to saving lives through organ and tissue donation in the Upper Midwest.

In 2007, 18 grateful recipients received organs from seven generous organ donors at SCH. Organs donated include: two lungs; two hearts; four livers and 10 kidneys. In addition, there were 55 people that received corneas — and the gift of sight — from 35 eye donors. An estimated 1,200 people will benefit from the generous gifts of tissue given by 20 tissue donors at SCH. Please take the steps to donate life — check the box on your driver’s license and share your wishes with your loved ones. To learn how you can register to donate, visit www.life-source.org or www.centracare.com and click on the organ donation link.

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