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Prescribed Reading: April 2009

CentraCare Clinic

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April 2009

Welcome to these new providers

Iris Brossard, MD, joined the Neurology Department at River Campus. Brossard received her medical degree from Albany Medical College in New York. She completed her residency at the University of Colorado and an electroencephalography and epilepsy fellowship at the University of Massachusetts at Worcester Medical Center.

Tim Rowan, PA-C, is a certified physician assistant who joined the Surgery Department at River Campus. Rowan received his master’s degree and physician assistant certification from Shenandoah University in Winchester, Va.

Welcome to these new employees

Peggy Christensen, Nursing, River Campus; Kristin Becker, Nursing, Long Prairie; Beth Bechtold and Sarah Larson, Nursing, Women & Children.

Cardiologist appointed to Vice Presidency

Bernard Erickson, MD, has been appointed to a St. Cloud Hospital vice presidency for the Central Minnesota Heart Center. Erickson will continue to practice medicine. He replaces Mark Martone, MD, who returns to full-time patient care.

Recognition for Years of Service

50 years: Fran Martini, River Campus
15 years: Melanie Neubauer, St. Joseph
10 years: Ruth Thompson and Marlene Adkins, Business Center; James Gwost, Central Minnesota Heart Center; Patricia Simonsmeier, Gastroenterology; Susan Dewenter, Sandra Florek, Kathy Lau and Tracie Rudolph, River Campus
5 years: Shakeel Anjum, MD, River Campus

Condolences to . . .

Kristin Henderson, Business Center, on the loss of her grandmother and Jan Seguin, Business Center, on the loss of her aunt.

Fran Martini celebrates 50 years of service

Fran Martini, River Campus, began working for Everett Schmitz, MD, (the first board-certified surgeon in St. Cloud) in 1959 and continued to work for the surgery group until they joined CentraCare in 1996.

Fran currently works in Quality Improvement and has no plans of retiring at this time. Thank you, Fran, for your dedicated service during the past 50 years.

Fran is shown above with a plaque she received from the clinic board recognizing her years of exemplary service to the medical community.

Kudos to . . .

• Allen Horn, MD, who presented on health literacy at the Minnesota Rural Health Cooperative’s education conference in Granite Falls, Minn.
• The clinic front office staff and the business office staff who have been working diligently to improve on the front desk collections process. Your hard work is definitely paying off and is appreciated!
• Hospitalists Chris Aronson, MD, Eric McFarling, MD, Holly Peterson, MD, and Darin Willardson, MD, who have earned the Fellow in Hospital Medicine designation from the Society of Hospital Medicine.
• CentraCare Clinic - St. Joseph for planning to donate some of its old furniture and equipment to a clinic in Kenya, Africa.

Thank a doctor

Do you know a physician who deserves recognition? Go to www.centracare.com and click on the “Thank a Doctor” icon.
CentraCare Clinic scores show improvement
Submitted by Kate Nienaber, Quality Improvement

Do you remember when “Join the movement” posters decorated our lobbies and exam rooms? Can you identify the clinic employees in this photo? If so, submit your answer to Kate Nienaber, QI. All correct answers will receive a treat.

CentraCare Clinic was the top performer in colon cancer screening as published by MN Community Measurement, an independent, non-profit organization with a mission to improve health by publicly reporting health care information.

Since 1999, the following colon cancer screening improvements were made:
- Adopted a standard guideline for screening;
- Implemented a fecal occult blood testing follow-up process;
- Used database forms and preventive flow sheets in charts to provide visuals and reminders for needed services;
- Built and used health maintenance alerts in Epic for colon cancer screening.

See how CentraCare Clinic did in other areas by visiting www.mnhealthscores.org. Our continued improvement efforts ensure our patients are healthier and receiving the best care we can provide.

CentraCare Clinic – St. Joseph in new location

The providers and staff moved to their new clinic Saturday, April 4. Thank you to all who worked that day to make it happen. The public open house for the new clinic is from 5-8 p.m. May 21.

Congratulations to...
- Drs. Chad, Nephrology, and Sheri Haroldson, Hospitalist, on the birth of their son; Joy Shamla, Business Center, on the birth of her daughter; Rebecca Marquardt, Information Services, on the birth of her daughter; Sonja Thatcher and Dawn Graves, Long Prairie, on the birth of their grandsons; and Paula Peltz, Business Center, on the birth of her grandson.

Join the team and support the cause
- March of Dimes March for Babies, April 25, St. Cloud State University. Call Sara, ext. 73624, to join a team.
- Central Minnesota Heart Walk, May 2, at CentraCare Health Plaza. Call Ann, ext. 71391, to join a team.
- St. Cloud Arthritis Walk, May 9, CentraCare Health Plaza. Call (800) 333-1380 for more information.

Women’s Health 101 draws a crowd

More than 440 people participated in a variety of health screenings and presentations and visited more than 40 booths at Women’s Health 101 April 4 at CentraCare Health Plaza. Thank you to the following providers who volunteered to present on various topics: David Kroska, MD, OB/GYN; Troy Payne, MD, Sleep Medicine; Iris Brossard, MD, Neurology; Joy Gustin, MS, Genetics; Donna Harris, CNP, Endocrinology; and Jennifer Meyers, CNM, OB & Women’s Clinic.

Caring for Generations campaign runs April 1-30

As part of the employee campaign, employees are asked to consider pledging the amount of money they would earn in 30, 60 or 90 minutes each pay period for five years, to help ensure that the healing work of CentraCare Health System will continue for generations. Any gift, large or small is appreciated. Visit CentraNet for details, stories, games and your chance to win great prizes.

St. Cloud Hospital is in the 100 Top Hospitals

Thomson Reuters recognized SCH as a 100 Top Hospital for the seventh time. SCH also was honored with the new Everest Award for National Benchmarks. Everest Award winners have reached the highest level of accomplishment on the 100 Top Hospitals national balanced scorecard.

BLEND Kids Expo at the Earth Day Festival

Parents and children will learn how to make physical activity and healthy eating fun at this free expo from 1-7 p.m. Friday, April 17 at the St. Cloud State University Halenbeck Field House. Kids ages 12 and under also can participate in a 1k fun run at 6 p.m. Register at www.runearthday.com. For more information, call Jodi at ext. 71205.

Do you have coronary heart disease?

Central Minnesota Heart Center is looking for people who have been diagnosed with coronary heart disease to participate in a clinical research study. Only your doctor will know if you qualify. Study participants will receive study drug and related medical care at no cost. To find out more, contact Peggy Dahl, RN, ext. 52187.

Patient feedback from Press Ganey surveys

“I don’t know were I could go to get better care. Everyone is so cheerful that you forget what’s wrong with you.”

“They are very caring and show concern for my needs and condition, helping me feel more at ease when at times I am in great pain. They are fantastic!”

“The quality of service.. no matter what the financial situation or health status might be, you are still treated like everyone else - with respect and care.”