

THE VITAL LINK



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Maury Regional Health named a top health system in nation for fourth time

Maury Regional Health (MRH) is the only system in Tennessee to be named one of the nation's 15 Top U.S. Health Systems by Truven Health Analytics®. This is the fourth time Maury Regional Health has been recognized during the nine years this study has been conducted. The study evaluated data for Maury Regional Medical Center in Columbia, Marshall Medical Center in Lewisburg and Wayne Medical Center in Waynesboro.

"This award is a direct result of the outstanding performance of the employees, physicians and volunteers at Maury Regional Health who dedicate their lives to caring for our patients.

Truven Health Analytics | IBM Watson Health



Truven Health Analytics conducts independent research based on publicly reported data for key performance metrics to select

the top systems in the nation. Maury Regional Health was one of only five small health systems to achieve this performance threshold. I am immensely proud of the Maury Regional Health team," said MRH CEO Alan Watson.

This year's 15 Top Health Systems study evaluated 337 health systems and 2,924 member hospitals to identify the 15 U.S. health systems with the highest overall achievement on a balanced scorecard. The scorecard is based on the 100 Top Hospitals national balanced scorecard methodologies and focuses on five performance domains: inpatient outcomes, process of care, extended outcomes, efficiency and patient experience.

Based on the results of this year's study, winning health systems were able to achieve the following compared to non-winning peer systems:

- 17.5 percent shorter wait times in the emergency department.

- 13.4 percent fewer in-hospital deaths.
- 8.5 percent fewer complications.
- 10.2 percent shorter length of hospital stays.

"The study recognizes these 15 health systems that have proven it is possible to drive down expense while improving the quality of care," said Jean Chenoweth, senior vice president for performance improvement and the 100 Top Hospitals® program at Truven Health Analytics. "More importantly, the leaders of these health systems are demonstrating the power of aligning best practices across multiple hospitals to achieve greater levels of efficiency while delivering higher overall standards of care."

The winning hospitals were announced in the April 24th edition of *Modern Healthcare* magazine.

MRMC earns A in patient safety

MRMC has received an A rating in patient safety from the Leapfrog Group, a nonprofit organization committed to driving quality, safety and transparency in the U.S. health care system. The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grades assign A, B, C, D and F letter grades to hospitals nationwide.

MRMC was one of 823 hospitals to receive an "A" for its commitment to reducing errors, infections and accidents that can harm patients. This is the seventh consecutive reporting period for which MRMC has attained an A rating.

"Our organization diligently monitors our safety protocols to provide outstanding care for our patients. The commitment of the physicians, staff and volunteers to ensure patient safety is reflected in being recognized among the safest hospitals across the nation," said CEO Alan Watson.

The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade uses 30 measures of publicly available hospital safety data to assign safety grades to more than 2,600 U.S. hospitals twice per year. It is calculated by top patient safety experts, peer-reviewed, fully transparent and free to the public.

Learn more at HospitalSafetyGrade.org.

NEW EMPLOYEES

MAURY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

ACCOUNTING

Linda Kotlarsic

ADMITTING/REGISTRATION

Bridget Gray

CARDIAC DIAGNOSTICS

Cathy McKim

EMS

Caleb Moore

Nicole Perry

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Marc Blyden

Desmond Johnson

Selena Stevens

Ashley Wray

FOOD & NUTRITION

Debbie Wright

HOME SERVICES

Kyle Horton

LEWISBURG PEDIATRICS

Ashley Barber

NURSING

David Brown	Alexandra Novem
Thomas Emerson	Chelsea Peters
Shannon Francis	Karen Reed
Ashley Georges	Sheri Richardt
Miranda Goins	Joshua Sealey
Denene Goodyear	Bailey Simmons
Debbie Guinn	De Andra Sterling
Anna Howell	Shaina Sterling
Margretta King	Devan Sutphin
Britta Lanius	Ashley Wilson
Katie Logan	Janet Wood
Rose Mitchell	Andrea Wright

NURSING PROF. DEV.

Darlene Barker

(Continued on next page)

Hospital Week events to be held in May

Hospital Week will be celebrated in May with a number of activities planned at Maury Regional Health facilities to recognize employees and physicians.

At MRMC, the following activities are planned:

- Saturday, May 6, will be “Super Star Saturday,” with pancakes served in the cafeteria 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and 8-10 p.m. There will be prize drawings and a photo booth.
- Monday, May 8, is “Maury Appreciates You Monday” with an employee appreciation celebration in the cafeteria 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and 8-10 p.m. Pancakes will be served. There will be prize drawings and a photo booth.
- Tuesday, May 9, is “Take Care Tuesday” with an employee benefit and wellness fair in the Auxiliary Conference Room 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Benefit specialists and insurance representatives will answer questions and provide information about discounts and wellness initiatives.
- Wednesday, May 10, is “Food Truck Wednesday” with a variety of food trucks offering food for purchase on the MRMC campus 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Some trucks will provide special offers.
- Employees celebrating service milestones at MRMC will be honored during the annual Service Awards Banquet on Thursday, May 11, at Cool Springs Marriott. Lewis Health Center (LHC), Marshall Medical Center (MMC) and Wayne Medical Center (WMC) will all host special activities for employees as well.

LHC employees will be treated to lunch on Tuesday, May 9. Lunch for weekend employees will be served on Saturday, May 13.

MMC will hold its annual service awards banquet on Tuesday, May 9, at 6 p.m. at the Lewisburg Recreation Center. Special activities will be held throughout the week, including a cookout for employees on Friday, May 12, and free meals for weekend staff members on Saturday, May 13.

At WMC, Hospital Week will include a series of contests and events. Employees are invited to a cookout on Wednesday, May 17, and will be treated to ice cream and popcorn during the week. WMC will host its annual service awards banquet on Thursday, May 18, at Emerald’s in Waynesboro.

Maury Regional Medical Group employees and physicians are invited to attend an appreciation meal at the most convenient facility.

Nurses Week activities planned

Maury Regional Health will join health care organizations across the country in celebration of National Nurses Week.

At MRMC, the Image of Nursing Council will host a celebration called “Putting the Pieces Together.” Activities planned for Nurses Week at MRMC include:

- Friday, May 12: 2 p.m. – Nursing Awards
- Saturday, May 13: 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and 8-10 p.m. – A meal will be provided for weekend nursing staff.
- Monday, May 15: The annual nursing report and treats will be delivered to nursing units.
- Tuesday, May 16: Neck, back and hand massages will be offered to nurses.
- Thursday, May 18: 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and 8-10 p.m. – A meal will be provided for nursing staff.

All events will be held in the Auxiliary Conference Room. For more information, ask your nurse manager.



The theme for this year’s Nurses Week celebration was suggested by (l-r) Teresa Honaker, ED, and Rebecca Brady, Infusion Center.



MAURY REGIONAL HEALTH

The VitaLink is published monthly for Maury Regional Health through the Marketing Department. Distribution is to employees, retirees, members of the medical staff, board of trustees, advisory board, Maury County Commission and volunteers.



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For address corrections, please contact the Human Resources Department.

Editor: Rita Williams
Designer: Jesse Foreman
Writers: Michele Tankersley and Rita Williams
Proofreader: Jan Varnado

1224 Trotwood Avenue
Columbia, TN 38401

NEW EMPLOYEES

(Continued from previous page)

OUTCOMES MANAGEMENT

Yolanda Shelton

POPULATION HEALTH

Lesley Russo

PRE-SERVICE

Mandy Newton

PRIMECARE

Mercedes Kix

SECURITY

Justin Jones

STERILE PROCESSING

Shelby Hurst

SUPPLY CHAIN

Kelly Clark

Paul Nation

Thomas O'Donnell

SWITCHBOARD

Dolores Johnson

TRANSPORTATION

James Certain

Joshua Staggs

AFFILIATES

MAURY REGIONAL MEDICAL GROUP

Jamie Brewer

Amy Crawford

Michael Haddock

Betty Muenstermann

Terri Piascik

Debra Wilhoite

Kimberly Woody

LEWIS HEALTH CENTER

Kathy Bradford

MARSHALL MEDICAL CENTER

David Wright

WAYNE MEDICAL CENTER

Nancy Berry

Melody Victory

BIRTHS

Kimberly Barlow, Food & Nutrition, and her family welcomed Brian Hunter Barlow on April 10. He weighed 6 lb. and 15 oz.

Whitney Beard, Same Day Surgery, and her family welcomed Eden Charlotte Beard on April 5. She weighed 7 lb. and 11 oz.

Celeste Hilliard, Lactation, and her family welcomed William Carter Hilliard on March 24. He weighed 7 lb. and 10 oz.

Sara Staggs, Nursing, and her family welcomed Everett Case Staggs on April 14. She weighed 9 lb. and 3 oz.

ORGANIZATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS—

Kirschbaum named vice president of population health



KIRSCHBAUM

MARK KIRSCHBAUM, PhD, RN, has joined the senior leadership team of Maury Regional Health as vice president of population health.

Kirschbaum most recently served as the chief quality, safety and clinical information officer for the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. In that role, he was instrumental in developing and executing a strategy for population health.

He holds a PhD in nursing from the University of Minnesota, a master of science in nursing from the University of Illinois and a bachelor's degree in nursing from the College of St. Thomas. He has more than 30 years of health care experience in management, education and clinical positions.

"Health care systems must prepare for anticipated changes in reimbursement models based on the ability to control costs while continuing to deliver high quality outcomes and high satisfaction," Chief Operating Officer Paul Betz said. "Dr. Kirschbaum will work closely with physicians, community providers and our staff members to lead these efforts for our system."

Russo named telehealth manager



RUSSO

LESLEY RUSSO has joined Maury Regional Health as manager of telehealth, according to Chief Operating Officer Paul Betz.

Russo joins the organization from the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Memphis, where she served as the facility telehealth coordinator and health system specialist for approximately six years. In that role, she managed a telehealth project that expanded medical access for veterans in a three-state area.

Russo holds a master's in health administration from the University of Memphis and a bachelor's degree in health administration from the University of Phoenix. She is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives and the American Telemedicine Association.

"Lesley has a proven background in development and implementation of a telemedicine program during her tenure with the VA. We look forward to working with her to expand telehealth programs in our organization and throughout our region," Betz said.

Watson presented with THA award



Watson (left) receives the leadership award from THA President Craig Becker.

Maury Regional Health CEO Alan Watson was recently presented with the 2017 Small or Rural Hospital Leadership Award from the Tennessee Hospital Association (THA).

Each year, the award recognizes the hospital or health system CEO or executive who best exemplifies leadership, advocacy and commitment to small and rural hospitals in Tennessee. The award was presented by THA President and CEO Craig Becker.

“Alan Watson has been a strong supporter and advocate for rural hospitals and the unique challenges they deal with on a daily basis,” Becker said. “He also has been a major supporter of THA throughout his career in Tennessee, currently serving as THA chairman.”

Watson has 34 years of health care experience, including 15 years of clinical work as a nuclear medicine technologist. In addition to serving as CEO at Maury Regional Health since 2012, he has served as CEO at St. Mary’s Medical Center, Baptist Hospital West and at Bradley Memorial Hospital.

Maury County recognized for health efforts

Maury County has been designated by Governor Bill Haslam as a Healthier Tennessee Community. Nine communities earned the recognition in 2017 for taking a community-based approach to improve health.

The Governor’s Foundation for Health and Wellness

encourages Tennesseans to make healthier choices, including getting more physical activity, eating more fruits and vegetables and abstaining from tobacco use.

Several representatives of Maury Regional Health are involved with the Healthier Maury County initiative.



Governor Haslam (center) and State Senator Joey Hensley, M.D. (far left) are pictured with members of the Healthier Maury County committee. Pictured (l-r) are Tiffany Venere, Mid-Tennessee Bone and Joint; Katie Martin, Middle Tennessee YMCA; Laurie Stanton, Maury County Public

Schools; Starla Hardin, UT Extension; Maury Regional Business Development Director Patrick Harlan; Maury Regional Population Health Director Jill Gaddes and Maury County Commissioner Gary Stovall. Not pictured is Cindy Dugger, registered dietitian at MRMC.

Women's Center earns accreditation

MRMC has been granted three-year full accreditation by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC). This is the second consecutive three-year accreditation for the Women's Center.

"Our physicians, staff and volunteers provide outstanding care for women with breast disease across the full spectrum of the treatment process. It is their commitment to instituting best-practice treatment methods paired with outstanding support services that has resulted in this accreditation," said CEO Alan Watson.

Accreditation by the NAPBC is only given to centers that have voluntarily committed to provide the highest level of quality breast care and that undergo a rigorous evaluation process and review of their performance. During the survey

process, the center must demonstrate compliance with standards established by the NAPBC, including proficiency in the areas of center leadership, clinical management, research, community outreach, professional education and quality improvement.

MRMC provides an array of services to assist in the diagnosis and treatment of women's health conditions. Services include 3D digital mammography, breast ultrasound, breast MRI, breast biopsy, breast surgery, breast cancer treatment, lymphedema management and bone density studies. Other services include support groups and navigators who assist patients with clinical and financial expertise along the treatment journey.

Retirees Honored



GROOMS

DANNY GROOMS, a groundskeeper in Plant Operations, retired on March 31. He began work at MRMC in 2001, providing nearly 16 years of service.

"Danny served our patients, employees, visitors and volunteers with integrity and pride by showing that you can make a difference in a person's life day by day with things you do for them. We wish Danny all the very best for a

long and happy retirement," said Plant Operations Director Paul Corvin.



HOUSCH

DEBORAH HOUSCH retired on March 24. She was a supervisor with the MRMC Laboratory. She began her career with MRMC as a medical lab technician in 1970 and provided more than 46 years of service.

"It is an understatement to say that Dee was part of the foundation of the laboratory. Dee's loyalty and dedication to the laboratory and Maury Regional is something to be

celebrated. We appreciate all of her years of service and are excited that she can now enjoy more time with her children and grandchildren. We wish her the best," said Clinical Operations Director Alicia Tears.

WMC hosts health fair

Wayne Medical Center (WMC) hosted its annual health fair on April 22 in Collinwood.

WMC staff members offered free health screenings and wellness information. Representatives of the three Wayne County practices of Maury Regional Medical Group (formerly Family Health Group) participated in the fair along with a number of community organizations.

This is the tenth year that WMC has hosted a community health fair.

Blood sugar seminar offered by MRMC

A community seminar on controlling blood sugar was held on April 6 at MRMC. Michelle Kennedy, RN, a certified diabetes educator, led the program.

The seminar focused on the ways that diet, exercise and medication can be used to control blood sugar levels for those with diabetes and those who may be pre-diabetic. More than 85 million Americans age 20 and older have pre-diabetes and diabetes remains the seventh leading cause of death.

Kennedy also leads a Diabetes Education Group that meets each month at the medical center. For more information, call 931.540.4324 or visit MauryRegional.com.



Research fair held at MRMC

The Research Council held an evidence-based practice research fair on April 6 at MRMC. Amanda Loyd, RN, Emergency Department, is pictured with her first place poster titled “Improving Scanned Medication Rates.” Jackie Miles, RN, chairs the Research Council.

MAURY REGIONAL HEALTH CARE



FOUNDATION

News

MULE KICK SUPPORTS MOBILE HEALTH CLINIC

Nearly 600 runners and walkers participated in the 17th annual Mule Kick 5K and 1-Mile Trot at Columbia’s Riverwalk Park on April 1. The event was hosted by the Maury Regional Health Care Foundation and presented by Community First Bank and Trust.

Kolten Johnson logged the fastest time at 18:26, winning first place overall and in the men’s division. With a time of 19:38, Evan Kimes placed second overall and in the men’s division. Jamie Barnett completed the top three overall and male finishers with a time of 20:02.



Men’s first place winner Kolten Johnson with Maury the Mule.

In the women’s division, Claudia Craig posted a time of 22:09, placing first. With a time of 22:40, Kaitlin Johnson was the second female to cross the finish line. Kim Gray placed third in the female overall category with a time of 23:39.

The 1-mile event was full of youthful energy again this year. In the male category, Hawk Holcomb finished first, Ivan Holcomb second and Knox Holcomb finished third. In the female category, Kinley Garner placed first, Mary Jane Peterson second and Emalee McCord third.

For a complete list of 5K results, visit MuleKick5K.org. Photos are available on the *Mule Kick 5K and 1-Mile Trot* Facebook page.

Proceeds from the event totaled approximately \$27,000. In addition to a donation to the Wellness and Aquatic Center Endowment and the City of Columbia Parks and Recreation Department, race proceeds will support a new mobile health care unit to be offered by Maury Regional Health. Look for more details about the mobile health clinic in the Spring edition of *Health Matters* and in the May edition of *The VitaLink*.



Women’s first place winner Claudia Craig with Maury.



**EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT SURVEY
MAY 15-JUNE 6**

Maury Regional Health will conduct an employee engagement survey from May 15 until June 6.

Your participation in this survey is essential in allowing us to gain a better understanding

of your job satisfaction and the issues that are important to you. The best improvements require your participation.

The survey is completely confidential; only aggregated data will be presented. All employees hired on or before March 24, 2017 will be asked to take the survey.

The goal is to exceed 80% employee participation. Additional details regarding the survey process will be shared via email as the survey period nears.

There will be surprise reward opportunities for those that complete the Employee Engagement Survey.

You matter! Your opinion counts! Please be sure to take the survey.

MAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 2

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: 5:30 p.m., Chapel, call 540.4243

May 3

DIABETES EDUCATION GROUP: 11 a.m., Auxiliary Conf. Room, call 540.4324

May 4

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: Noon, Marshall Medical Center, call 540.4243

May 6

EXPECTANT PARENT CLASS – UNDERSTANDING BIRTH: 9 a.m.-3 p.m., call 490.7046

May 8

NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION: 8 a.m., Auxiliary Conf. Room, call 381.1111, ext. 2334

May 9

COPING WITH CANCER: 2 p.m., Cancer Center, call 490.7192

May 12

BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT GROUP: 1 p.m., Annex, call 490.7074

May 13

EXPECTANT PARENT CLASS – NEWBORN CARE: 9 a.m., call 490.7046

May 13

EXPECTANT PARENT CLASS – INFANT CPR: 12 p.m., call 490.7046

May 15

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP: 5:30 p.m., Women’s Center, call 540.4166

May 17

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK: 9:30 a.m., Columbia Senior Center, call 490.4600

May 18

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK: 9:30 a.m., Hohenwald Senior Center, call 490.4600

May 20

EXPECTANT PARENT CLASS – BREASTFEEDING: 9 a.m., call 490.7046

May 25

OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP: 10 a.m., First Floor Conf. Room, call 490.4600

May 25

STROKE SUPPORT GROUP: 6 p.m., Annex, call 840.4446

May 27

EXPECTANT PARENT CLASS – BOOT CAMP FOR NEW DADS: 9-11 a.m., call 490.7046

May 30

BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT GROUP: 6 p.m., Annex, call 490.7074

For a complete list of Hospital Week and Nurses Week activities, see page 2.

KUDOS FOR CAREGIVERS

Rachel Allred
Breanna Andrews
Kandra Barnes
Amy Baugus
Lori Bergland
Sarah Brewer
Dr. John Brown
Lisa Butler
Vickie Butler
Matthew Campbell
Dr. Amit Choksi
Crystal Clement
Dr. Mark Cobb
Kellie Coker
Leslie Cole

Vicky Cowley
Tonya Crain
Melissa Davidson
Cindy Davis
Dr. James Dean
Eric DeLaBruere
Cheryl Dudley
Nicky Edwards
Dr. Nicole Falls
Dr. Teresa Ferguson
Aaron Gignilliat
Emmalee Gobbell
Rehan Hasan
Edith Hill
Dr. Mark Hinson

Ashley Holt
Alex Hughes
Marc Jackson
Savanna Jenks
Chastity Johnson
Brandi Jones
Nicki Jones
Dr. Amit Keswani
Michele Kimbrough
Connie Lintz
Cheryl Lombardini
Lynn Lott
Deborah McCormack
Amanda Moore
Tracy Mosley

Dr. Chad Moss
Colleen Nickell
Tyler Owen
Dr. Davidson Oxley
Jeffrey Pannell
Art Peach
Dr. Michael Pelletier
Felicia Potts
Canaan Rains
Terri Redd
Dr. Yekolla Reddy
Pam Runions
Ashley Sanders
Jacob Scott
Chris Shepherd

Megan Smith
Mary Sneed
Dr. Julie Taggart
Julianne Thomason
Christi Thompson
Charina Tijing
Cassandra Turner
Tamara Turner
Dr. Harish Veeramachaneni
Stephanie Watt
Sabrina White
Leigh Ann Whitfield
Tracey Williams
Jessica Wilson
Terry Zimmer

THE VITALINK

Follow us on     



Maury Regional supports Mule Day

More than 40 staff members volunteered during Mule Day activities at Maury County Park, offering free blood pressure checks and hands-only CPR training. Pictured (l-r) are Amanda King, Carroll Marie Blackwood, Michelle Lyles, Kaysha Beavers, Ryan Mix, T.J. VanFleet, Phyllis Callaro and Esther Sanders. Maury Regional Emergency Medical Services provided on-site emergency response coverage throughout Mule Day events.

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