MRMC accepts 15 Top Health System award

Maury Regional Health Care System was presented with the 2015 Truven Health Analytics™ 15 Top Health System award at the 22nd annual 100 Top Hospitals Summit in Manalapan, Florida. This is the third time that Maury Regional has been recognized among the top health systems in the nation.

The study by Truven analyzed data from 341 health systems and 2,841 member hospitals to identify 15 U.S. health systems that achieved superior performance based on a composite score of nine measures of care quality, patient perception of care, episode-of-illness cost and operational efficiency.

Maury Regional Medical Center (MRMC) has been granted disease-specific certification from The Joint Commission in the areas of heart failure and sepsis.

Certification follows a thorough review in May for the areas of Cardiovascular Stepdown, Critical Care, Intensive Care Stepdown and the Emergency Department. The certification is valid for up to 24 months.

“Thanks to the many staff members and teams for their work in attaining these recognitions for outstanding clinical care. The processes that impact certifications touch so many areas of the medical center and the dedication of our frontline staff is to be commended,” said CEO Alan Watson.

MRMC also holds certification from The Joint Commission in joint replacement for hip and knee, as well as advanced certification for inpatient diabetes care.

CEO Alan Watson is pictured (right) accepting the award from Mike Boswood, Truven Health Analytics president and CEO.
MRMC staff members serve as TNCPE examiners

Three MRMC staff members will serve on the Tennessee Center for Performance Excellence (TNCPE) Board of Examiners for the coming year. Clinical Outcomes Director Brenda Hogan, Assistant Chief Nursing Officer Holly Kunz and Process and Systems Improvement Director Kristen Wayne have been appointed TNCPE examiners for 2015. This is the fifth year that Hogan has served as an examiner, the fourth year for Kunz and the third year for Wayne.

TNCPE examiners are responsible for reviewing and evaluating organizations that apply for recognition for excellence in business operations and results. Examiners complete extensive training in the Baldrige Criteria for Performance Excellence. MRMC is a two-time winner of the TNCPE’s highest award and has been recognized by the Baldrige organization for best practices in strategic planning and workforce development.

Sleep locations expand

Maury Regional Sleep Center recently added a fourth location for its services. MRMC offered sleep studies in Columbia, Lewisburg and Waynesboro and added a location in Lawrenceburg with the recent purchase of the assets of Sleep EZ, LLC, according to COO Paul Betz.

The Lawrenceburg center is located at 1407 N. Locust Avenue, Suite 102. Plans also include the addition of two beds to the sleep center at MRMC.

At Maury Regional’s sleep centers, studies are conducted for adults and children. Data is interpreted by a physician who is board-certified in sleep medicine. A physician’s order is required to have a sleep study and referrals may be made to the patient’s sleep center of choice. For more information, call 931.490.REST (7378).

Radiologist joins medical staff

Josh M. Heck, M.D., a specialist in radiology, has joined the medical staff. He is associated with Southern Radiology Associates.

Dr. Heck received his medical degree from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine in Nashville, Tennessee. He completed an internship in general surgery, a residency in diagnostic radiology and a fellowship in musculoskeletal radiology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.
**Childress named orthopedics nurse manager**

Cheri Childress has accepted the role of nurse manager for the Orthopedics Unit, according to Administrative Director Carey Albright. Childress will serve in this role in addition to her duties as manager on Fifth West.

Childress joined MRMC in 2006 when she served as the nurse manager for the Skilled Nursing Unit. She completed her BSN at Middle Tennessee State University in 2014 and holds a bachelor’s degree in management and human relations from Trevecca Nazarene University. She is a certified gerontology nurse.

“Since she accepted the responsibilities of managing Fifth West in January, Cheri has done an outstanding job. I look forward to her continued success on Sixth West,” said Albright.

**Edmonds promoted to home services director**

Rosemary Edmonds, RN, BSN, has been named director of Maury Regional Home Services following the retirement of Debbie Bratton, according to Chief Financial Officer Nick Swift.

Edmonds began her career with MRMC in 1985 as a case manager and has served as a clinical director for Home Services since 1994. She holds a bachelor’s degree in nursing from the University of Tennessee in Memphis and has more than 30 years of health care experience.

“Please join me in congratulating Rosemary on her promotion and this new opportunity,” said Swift.

**King joins Patient Access Department**

Gina King has joined MRMC as assistant director of Patient Access, according to Revenue Cycle Director Rodney Adams. In this role, King will be responsible for leading the operations of Pre-Service, Patient Access and Switchboard.

King holds a master’s in health administration and a bachelor’s degree in business management from the University of Phoenix. She has 20 years of experience in health care, including patient access, reimbursement and project management.

“I am very happy to have Gina join our revenue cycle team. I think her prior experience positions her well to lead our patient access areas and I look forward to working with her as we continue the pursuit of excellence in our revenue cycle,” said Adams.
Three are presenters at national conference

Three MRMC staff members were presenters at the Premier Annual Breakthroughs Conference in June.

Clinical Outcomes Director Brenda Hogan, Clinical Outcomes Manager Sandra Studebaker and Critical Care Nurse Manager Ginger Dickens presented during the conference held June 23-26 in National Harbor, Maryland.

Hogan led a seminar on the role of post-acute partnerships in decreasing readmission rates. Her presentation highlighted successes that MRMC has had in forming partnerships to improve care transitions, quality, cost and outcomes for patients discharged to skilled nursing facilities and home health.

Hogan and Dickens partnered to lead a session on development of a manual proning program. The technique is used for patients with certain medical conditions, such as adult respiratory distress syndrome. The session focused on the development of a multidisciplinary process as well as training and outcomes of this initiative to prevent complications.

Studebaker was part of a panel discussion addressing innovative programs for diabetes management. Studebaker highlighted successes of MRMC’s evidence-based diabetes program that resulted in advanced certification in inpatient diabetes care by The Joint Commission. Representatives of Johns Hopkins School of Medicine joined Studebaker on the panel.

EMS employees are honored

Maury Regional Emergency Medical Services (EMS) employees Danny Fleming and Amanda Schatz were recently recognized by the Tennessee Emergency Medical Services Education Association (TEMSEA).

Fleming, who serves as EMS training manager, was honored with TEMSEA’s Lifetime Achievement Award. The award is presented to an individual who has served EMS education for 20 years or more, maintained high academic achievement standards, utilized creative teaching methodology and exhibited community service. Fleming has been an instructor for more than 30 years and has worked for Maury Regional EMS since 1996.

Schatz, a paramedic, received the Excellence in Teaching Award from TEMSEA. The award is presented to an individual who is in his/her third year of adjunct teaching in Tennessee, maintains high academic achievement standards, creates a stimulating learning environment and demonstrates innovative classroom presentation skills. She has been employed at Maury Regional EMS for more than eight years.

Physical therapy hosts pediatric conference

MRMC Physical Therapy hosted a conference June 26-28, focused on neurodevelopmental treatment (NDT) for babies and young children.

The program was offered for pediatric therapists and provided education on how to assess and treat babies from birth to age 3 with known or suspected neuromotor impairments.

Assistant Director Allison Fortman and Physical Therapist Peggy Richardson coordinated the event.
PAULETTE BARBER, an imaging technologist at Lewis Health Center (LHC) retired on June 26. She had worked at LHC for more than 14 years.

“Paulette has been a dedicated employee, co-worker and friend to all of us at Lewis Health Center. She has been a valuable asset to the Imaging Department and will be missed greatly. We want to wish her all the best in her retirement,” said LHC Imaging Director Amber Bastin.

PATRICIA BARNETT, a registered nurse at the Maury Regional Surgery Center, retired on June 29. She provided more than 22 years of service to the medical center.

“Pat always put the patient first and made them feel like family. She is very conscientious to do the right thing, rather than what is easy. We will miss working with her, but we hope she visits often,” said Clinical Coordinator Dustin Dockins.

MIKE BERGMAN retired on June 24. He was a respiratory therapy technician in Respiratory Care and provided more than 35 years of service.

“Mike has been a great asset to our organization for over 35 years. He loved taking care of our patients and their families. Mike was always a great co-worker and friend,” said Respiratory Care Director Christy Wright.

DEBBIE BRATTON, home health administrator for Maury Regional Home Services, retired on June 30. She worked at MRMC for more than 34 years.

“Under Debbie’s leadership, Home Services has provided outstanding care to many patients and has been consistently ranked among the top agencies in the nation. We appreciate Debbie’s dedication and years of service to our organization and wish her much enjoyment during her retirement,” said CFO Nick Swift.

LESLIE BURNS, a manager in Surgery, retired on June 19. He had worked at MRMC for 44 years.

“Leslie was an integral part of the growth of surgical services here at Maury Regional. He witnessed the evolution of the way surgery is performed. He was dedicated to his profession and was respected by his peers and physicians alike. Surgical Services would like to thank Leslie for his contributions to the medical center’s success,” said Administrative Director of Surgical Services Scott Hayes.

TERRY COTHAM retired from MRMC on June 24. He was a cardiovascular technologist in the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory and was employed for more than 25 years.

“Terry has been a dedicated employee of this organization for many years and we thank him. He has served his patients and co-workers with the most outstanding care and will be greatly missed,” said Outpatient Cardiology Manager Misti Jackson.

VICKI KENNEY, a physical therapist in the Skilled Nursing Unit, retired on June 30. She had worked at MRMC for more than 38 years.

“Vicki was dedicated to her patients. During her years of service, she received many compliments from patients and their family members. We appreciate Vicki’s service and wish her an enjoyable retirement,” said Administrator Joan Stephens.

SHIRLEY LOFTON retired on June 26. She was a food service associate III in Food & Nutrition and had worked at MRMC for more than 22 years.

“Shirley is an outstanding person and we were very fortunate to have her as a lead cook and mentor to the staff. She set the standard for all to follow. Shirley will be missed, but we wish her the best,” said Food & Nutrition Director Mac Olivier.

ROSEMARY MARTIN, a social worker in Outcomes Management, retired on June 30. She was employed for more than 31 years.

“Rosemary always went the extra mile for our patients, her peers and this organization. We watched her help people overcome some of life’s most difficult challenges, help prevent crises and cope more effectively with the stresses of everyday life; thereby improving quality of life and well-being for those she served. She is a shining example within her profession of social work,” said Clinical Outcomes Director Brenda Hogan.

MELINDA SANDS retired on June 26 with more than 30 years of service to MRMC. She was a clinical data analyst in Outcomes Management.

“Melinda exemplified our vision of extraordinary people by providing sincere support to this organization within numerous roles, focused on our goals and meaningful actions toward achievement; many times challenging herself and pushing her own limits,” said Clinical Outcomes Director Brenda Hogan.

SALLYE TOTTY, a medical lab technologist in Laboratory, retired on June 26. She provided 19 years of service to the medical center.

“Throughout her years in the Lab, Sallye worked on every shift. She was a hard worker who lightened the load with her sense of humor. Sallye will be greatly missed by her friends and co-workers,” said Supervisor Mark Gongwer.

DEBRA VITRANO retired on June 25. She worked at MRMC for more than 17 years as a sterile processing specialist in Central Supply.

“Debra’s knowledge of instrument processing was a valuable asset to our department. We are very grateful to her for the many years of service to the department. The years of commitment and dedication will not be forgotten. Our entire team extends sincere thanks and well wishes to Debra as she begins one of the most exciting chapters in her life,” said Nurse Manager Debbie Webster.

WANDA WORKMAN, an analyst in Health Information Management (HIM), retired on June 30. She worked at MRMC for more than 20 years.

“Wanda was a very dedicated and dependable employee who worked well with her team members as well as other departments. She will be greatly missed by everyone,” said HIM Director Neal Coke.
Foundation golf tournament set for September 14

The Maury Regional Health Care Foundation will host its 16th annual Tony Starks Memorial Golf Tournament at King’s Creek Golf Club in Spring Hill on Monday, September 14. Proceeds from the event allow the Foundation to provide assistance in the form of community health initiatives, scholarships, transportation, medication assistance and more.

The tournament is a four-player scramble with up to 64 teams, divided into morning and afternoon tee times.

Morning tee-off is at 8 a.m. and the afternoon tee-off is at 1:30 p.m. Golfers will receive a gift card to purchase golf merchandise and will be eligible for prizes. Prizes will be given for first and second place in three flights, closest to the hole, longest drive and a putting contest. In addition, there will be a hole-in-one grand prize and a variety of door prizes.

Participation opportunities include team and hole sponsorships, as well as other levels of commitment. Contact Foundation Executive Director Joe Kilgore at 931.380.4075 to discuss sponsorship opportunities.

To register for the tournament, learn more about the foundation, or to make a donation, visit www.mauryregionalfoundation.com.

Nurses complete residency

Twenty-six nurses at MRMC recently completed clinical nurse residency training. The six-month program is offered to recent graduates who are beginning employment at the medical center. Participants pictured (in alphabetical order) are Lexie Bravo, Kristin Brown, Leslie Cole, David Couch, Melissa Cox, Kristina Franks, Tonya Ginez-Hernandez, Katie Grimaud, Cynthia Guerra, Carol Heath, Jared Johnston, Nadine Kemp, Parker Kincaid, Bailie Martin, Connie McLellan, Carly Mendes, Logan Pardon, Megan Smith, Sara Staggs, Emily Tew, David West, Jessica White and Rita Williams. Not pictured are Taylor Cashion, Marlena Matheny and Heather Moore. Also pictured (far left, I-r) are clinical educators Tina Read, Alissa Taylor and Jamie Casteel and Nursing Professional Development Director Sue MacArthur.

Nurse earns certification

Stephanie Marks, a registered nurse in Cardiovascular Stepdown, has been granted certification in progressive care nursing.

Marks earned the certification from the American Association of Critical Care Nurses. She has been employed at MRMC since 2014.

Blood donors save lives!

A blood drive held at MRMC on July 8 resulted in 53 units of blood collected. These donations have the potential of saving 159 lives. Blood Assurance representatives reported 23 first-time donors at the drive.

Blood Assurance has scheduled upcoming blood drives at MRMC for October 1 and December 15.
A timeline has been set for the Bravo Wellness screenings to be completed in 2015 for benefit year 2016.

**August 1 through August 31**

Employees may register, schedule a wellness screening and complete their health risk assessment online as indicated in email communications. Screenings may be scheduled to be completed at MRMC or any affiliate screening site.

**September 15 through October 2**

Wellness screenings will occur. The deadline to appeal wellness screening results will occur in late October.

**November 9 through November 20**

Open enrollment occurs for benefits effective January 1, 2016. Additional specific information will be forthcoming via email.

The Bravo Wellness program is voluntary, though non-participants pay a significantly higher insurance premium. The above dates are firm. Employees who fail to schedule a screening appointment and/or fail to complete the wellness screening according to the dates above will be considered a non-participant. In addition, all benefit changes/enrollments must be completed during the open enrollment period and no later than November 20 for changes effective January 1, 2016.

If you have a qualifying event (birth, marriage, divorce, loss or gain of other coverage, change in dependent status or change in your benefit eligible status) and want to make changes to your coverage, you must notify a benefits specialist in Human Resources within 31 days of the event.

If you have questions regarding the Bravo Wellness Incentive Program, contact a benefits specialist at extension 1096.

**AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**August 1**
EXCEPTANT PARENT CLASS – UNDERSTANDING BIRTH: 9 a.m.-3 p.m., call 490.7046

**August 3**
NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION: 8 a.m., Auxiliary Conf. Room, call 380.4017

**August 7**
RELAY FOR LIFE OF WAYNE COUNTY: 6 p.m., Waynesboro Sportsplex

**August 8**
EXCEPTANT PARENT CLASS – BREASTFEEDING: 9-11 a.m., call 490.7046

**August 8**
MOM & BABY FAIR: 10 a.m.-noon, Memorial Building, call 560.1163

**August 11**
COPING WITH CANCER: 5:30 p.m., Cancer Center at Columbia Mall, call 490.7192

**August 12**
HEALTHY HEARTS: 10 a.m., Columbia Senior Center, call 381.1111, ext. 1601

**August 13**
TOWN HALL MEETINGS: 7:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., Auxiliary Conf. Room

**August 15**
FREE SAFE SITTER CLASS: 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., call 490.7046

**August 19**
FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK: 9:30 a.m., Columbia Senior Center, call 490.4600

**August 20**
FREE BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK: 9:30 a.m., Hohenwald Senior Center, call 490.4600

**August 20**
OPEN HOUSE: 5-7 p.m., Cancer Center at Columbia Mall, call 840.4446

**August 22**
EXCEPTANT PARENT CLASS – BOOT CAMP FOR NEW DADS: 9-11 a.m., call 490.7046

**August 27**
OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP: 10 a.m., First Floor Conf. Room, call 698.7438
MRMC HONORS CANCER SURVIVORS AT AREA EVENTS

MRMC honored cancer survivors throughout the service area by hosting Survivor Celebrations at Relay For Life® events for the American Cancer Society. MRMC participated in Relay events in Spring Station, Columbia, Lawrenceburg and Pulaski in May and June.

Lewis Health Center and Marshall Medical Center participated in their community Relay events in May and June respectively. Wayne Medical Center will participate in the area’s final Relay on August 7 at Waynesboro Sportsplex.

“We are always pleased to have opportunities to reconnect with our survivors and their families to show our continued support for them,” said Women’s Imaging and Infusion Director Dana Salters.