

# THE VITAL LINK



October 2016

Vol. XXXV, Issue 10

## New \$12 million Critical Care floor to open at MRMC in November

A new 28,000 square foot Critical Care Department with enhanced equipment and amenities for families and visitors will open at Maury Regional Medical Center (MRMC) in November.

Eleven months ago, MRMC began reconstruction of the fifth floor of the patient tower to establish a floor dedicated to the care of critically ill patients.

The \$12 million project combines units on the first and second floors and increases the number of critical care rooms from 24 to 26. Processes were used in the design to maximize function and efficiency. Enhanced features of the new critical care area include:

- Booms that enable equipment to be powered from a central ceiling arm
- Patient lifts in every room that assist in mobilizing patients
- Larger rooms that include an alcove with a sleeper sofa for visitors and private bathroom for the patient

- A family/friends common area that includes a sleep room, large kitchenette and shower facilities
- Family consult room that enables physicians to privately discuss care with family members

“To relocate the services located on the fifth floor and to completely renovate was a major feat. I want



Critical Care Nurse Manager Ginger Dickens, Administrative Director Cathy Malone and Vice President of Support Services John Collier are pictured (l-r) in the new department's reception area.

See “Critical Care” on page 4

## Watson installed as THA chairman

Maury Regional Health CEO Alan Watson was installed as chairman of the Tennessee Hospital Association (THA) on October 20 at the Association's annual meeting in Nashville.

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, he has served as CEO at St. Mary's Medical Centers of Campbell and Scott counties and Baptist Hospital West in the Knoxville area, and CEO at Bradley Memorial Hospital, Cleveland. He joined the senior leadership team at Maury Regional in 2010 and has served as CEO since 2012.



WATSON

Watson is a fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives and immediate past chair of the Hospital Alliance of Tennessee.

He received a bachelor's degree in nuclear medicine technology at the University of Alabama-Birmingham and a master's degree in community health administration at California College for Health Sciences.

The Tennessee Hospital Association was founded in 1938 and serves as an advocate for hospitals, health systems and other health care organizations across the state. The initiatives of THA support the efforts of Tennessee's hospitals to ensure high quality care for the patients and communities they serve.

**NEW EMPLOYEES**

**MAURY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER**

**EMS**

Stephen Byrd

**FOOD & NUTRITION**

Christina Poarch

**NURSING**

Tiffany Adams  
 Kochandra Bailey  
 Kathy Beckett  
 Angela Bunt  
 Mica Cail  
 Amanda Cowdrey  
 Amber Craig  
 Sandra Demastus  
 Alyssa Hargrove  
 Emily Hunter  
 Caitlin Ingram  
 Nathalie Jernigan  
 Amy Nave  
 Kristin Roberts  
 Cortney Rubert  
 Patricia Walker

**PRE-SERVICE**

Jenny Greene

*(Continued on next page)*

**MRMC Laboratory earns CAP accreditation**

The College of American Pathologists (CAP) has awarded accreditation to the laboratory at MRMC, according to Laboratory Director Van Hendrickson. The accreditation is based on results of a recent on-site inspection as part of the CAP’s accreditation programs. The CAP accreditation process is designed to ensure the highest standard of care for all laboratory patients. During a survey, inspectors examine the laboratory’s records and quality control of procedures for the preceding two years. CAP inspectors also examine laboratory staff qualifications, equipment, facilities, safety program and record, and overall management.

**Certificate of need filed for inpatient behavioral health facility**

On October 14, MRMC and TriStar Health filed a Certificate of Need (CON) application with the Tennessee Health Services and Development Agency (HSDA) for a freestanding inpatient behavioral health services facility to be located on North James Campbell Boulevard near the intersection of Old Williamsport Pike in Columbia. “Maury Regional Health serves an area with more than 200,000 residents in southern Middle Tennessee. Our emergency departments, like hundreds of others across the nation, are experiencing greater numbers of patients who need specialized behavioral health services, which are limited in our region,” said CEO Alan Watson. “TriStar Health possesses 45 years’ experience in the behavioral health care arena in Tennessee, making them an ideal organization with whom to collaborate to provide these services to our patients.” The proposed facility is estimated to be a \$24.4 million investment that would add 60 behavioral health beds for adult and adolescent patients. “Maury Regional and TriStar Health are committed to finding the right solution to meet the behavioral health needs of patients and providers in the area,” said Tim Scarvey, senior vice president of strategy and development for TriStar Health. “We are confident that working together to combine resources and expertise will help fill a tremendous need for local access to inpatient behavioral health services.” The HSDA will review the application in the coming months.

**Physician joins medical staff**

James K. Hall Jr., M.D., a specialist in internal medicine, has joined the medical staff at MRMC. Dr. Hall is associated with Family Health Group Hospital Medicine. Dr. Hall received his medical degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio, Texas. He completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston, Texas. Dr. Hall is board certified in internal medicine.



DR. HALL



**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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## NEW EMPLOYEES

(Continued from previous page)

### SWITCHBOARD

Tamara Realini

### SURGICAL SERVICES

Jessica Arnold  
Michelle Flores  
Michelle Hollister  
Christopher Street

### TRANSPORTATION

Richard Martin

## AFFILIATES

### FAMILY HEALTH GROUP

Dr. James Hall  
Andrea Madden  
Paige Morris  
Cristen Richardson  
Dr. Rebecca Smith

### LEWIS HEALTH CENTER

Eric Talley

### MARSHALL MEDICAL CENTER

Cheryl Hewitt  
Emily Whitaker

## BIRTHS

Hannah Currington, Nursing, and her family welcomed Henry Harrison Currington V on September 22. He weighed 6 lb. and 10 oz.

Sarah Curtis, Pre-Admission Testing, and her family welcomed Wyatt Oliver Curtis on October 3. He weighed 7 lb. and 6 oz.

## ORGANIZATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS—

### Beckett named ED administrative director

Kathy Beckett has joined the management team as administrative director of the Emergency Department at MRMC, according to CNO Deborah Lumpkins. Beckett succeeds Holly Kunz, who has moved into a full-time role as assistant CNO. Beckett will administer, direct and coordinate activities of patient care for the Emergency Department, First Stop Urgent Care and Maury County Jail.

“Kathy has a strong background in emergency nursing and management, which will be valuable as she oversees our emergency and urgent care services. We are pleased to welcome her to the organization,” said Lumpkins.

Beckett comes to MRMC from Tennova Healthcare in Tullahoma, where she served as the director of emergency services. Additional emergency nursing experience includes Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota and Valley Hospital Medical Center in Las Vegas, Nevada. She received her bachelor of nursing degree from Grand Canyon University in Arizona and her MSN from Jacksonville University in Florida.



BECKETT

### Smith named hospital medicine director

Steven Smith, M.D., has been named the new director for the hospital medicine group at MRMC. He succeeds Dr. Martin Chaney who recently relocated.

Dr. Smith joined the medical staff in 2009 and currently serves as secretary of the medical staff officers. Prior to serving as secretary, he served as a medicine representative on the Executive Committee. He is also a member of the Credentials Committee, Infection Control Committee, Medicine Committee and Medicine Department. Dr. Smith was chosen as Physician of the Year by members of the medical staff in 2011.

Dr. Smith attended Louisiana State University in New Orleans, Louisiana where he received his medical degree and completed an internal medicine/pediatrics residency. He is board certified in internal medicine and pediatrics.



DR. SMITH

## Swift and Adams are presenters



Pictured are (l-r) Swift and Adams.

MRMC CFO Nick Swift and Revenue Cycle Director Rodney Adams were presenters during a meeting of the Tennessee chapter of the Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA) in Gatlinburg in October.

Swift and Adams shared the best practices in patient financial communications that led to MRMC being the first provider in Tennessee recognized with HFMA's Patient Financial Communications Best Practices Adopter Recognition in 2016.

# Support United Way in November

The annual campaign at MRMC to support the United Way of Maury County will be held during the month of November. The campaign assists the United Way in supporting local agencies that address issues such as hunger, struggling families, the homeless and the aging population.

Sleep Center Manager Ted Bradshaw and Rehabilitation Services Director Cindy Kington will serve as campaign managers. This year's goal is \$35,000. The campaign theme is "Making it a Brighter Day."



Pledge forms will be distributed to each department and should be returned to Human Resources by November 30. Donors will be eligible for weekly prizes, including gift cards and Powered by People points and the grand prize of an iPad Mini.

For more information about the campaign, contact Bradshaw at extension 7378 or Kington at extension 1312.

## Excellence Through Leadership

Sixteen employees completed the Excellence Through Leadership program in October. Pictured (l-r) with instructor Joan Stephens (standing, far left) are (seated) Lacy Estes, Stacy Smith, Marion Williams, Tabitha Hunter, Tina Harney; (standing) Dana Jackson, Kate Boshers, Hannah Hogan, Meagan Potts, Stephanie Powers, Janean Jones, Amber Bastin, Annette Phillips, Chassie Harris, Tanya King, Rebecca Skillern.



## Critical Care *Continued from page one*

to commend the staff and physicians who worked diligently to design and construct a state-of-the-art facility that is patient- and family-centered," said CEO Alan Watson.

The floor will begin serving patients and families in November. A ribbon cutting and open house was held on October 24, allowing employees, physicians, volunteers and members of the public an opportunity to see the new patient care area before it opens.

## Gugkaeva honored by Lipscomb

Zina Gugkaeva, PharmD, an infectious disease pharmacist in the MRMC Pharmacy, was



GUGKAEVA

recently honored for her work in teaching pharmacy students.

Gugkaeva was chosen as Preceptor of the Year by the Lipscomb

University College of Pharmacy. Lipscomb student pharmacists vote for the award, which is presented during graduation events.

Gugkaeva joined the Pharmacy Department at MRMC in 2014.

# NICU celebrates tenth anniversary

The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at MRMC celebrated its 10th anniversary with a reunion for NICU graduates and their families on October 1 at Whitthorne Middle School in Columbia.

Children who have graduated from the NICU enjoyed games, snacks and other activities while reconnecting with staff members and physicians who provided care during their stay.

Maury Regional's NICU, in collaboration with Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, began serving families in October of 2006. The eight-bed neonatal intensive care unit is staffed with neonatal physicians, neonatal nurse practitioners, registered nurses and respiratory therapists specially trained to provide a more acute level of newborn care.

Since opening ten years ago, the NICU has served approximately 1,700 patients and their families.



*NICU graduate Brody Mankins is pictured with Aimee Pilapil, RN, at the NICU reunion.*

## Fox and Short present at national conference

Volunteer Services Director Cindy Fox and Assistant Director Cindy Short were presenters at a national conference for volunteer professionals in October.



*Pictured (l-r) are Fox and Short.*

Fox and Short provided an overview of the Maury Academy for Students in Health (MASH) program during the Association for Healthcare Volunteer Resource Professionals conference in Atlanta, Georgia. The conference was held October 8-11.

MASH is a two-week program held each summer at MRMC for high school students interested in learning more about careers in health care.

## Medicare education and counseling offered

MRMC hosted "Medicare in 2017," a free seminar about changes Medicare participants can expect in the coming year, on October 7.

Sherri Craig with the State Health Insurance Assistance Program provided information on what changes to expect in the Part D and Medicare Advantage plans in 2017. The seminar also addressed the importance of performing an annual plan comparison and how the Medicare website can be used to compare plans. Approximately 45 people attended the seminar.

The Medicare Part D Annual Enrollment Period continues until December 7. As in past years, volunteers are available at MRMC to provide individual assessment and counseling for Medicare Part D prescription drug plans. Worksheets are available in Volunteer Services and should be completed and returned to the office. Volunteers will use the information to perform a drug plan comparison and will contact the participant to review the results by appointment.

## Kilgore named to TN Arts Commission

Joe Kilgore, executive director of the Maury Regional Health Care Foundation, has been appointed by Governor Bill Haslam to the TN Arts Commission Board. Kilgore will serve for a five-year term.



KILGORE

The TN Arts Commission's mission is to stimulate and encourage the presentation of the visual, literary, music and performing arts and to encourage public interest in the cultural heritage of Tennessee.

Kilgore, who will represent the state's fourth congressional district, was instrumental in forming the Columbia Arts Council and served a three-year term as member and chairman of that board. He has been actively involved in Columbia Main Street, the Columbia Historic Zoning Commission, the Maury County Historical Society, First Presbyterian Church of Columbia and other local nonprofit organizations. Prior to his work with the Foundation, he owned a home furnishings and interiors business in downtown Columbia for eight years.

## Scrub sale benefits Foundation



Jeremy Britt, owner of The Scrub Shop, (left) is pictured with Foundation Executive Director Joe Kilgore.

A scrub sale held at MRMC October 13 and 14 benefited the Maury Regional Health Care Foundation. The Scrub Shop provided ten percent of the sale's proceeds to the Foundation. This is the ninth year the business has hosted scrub sales at MRMC and supported the Foundation with a percentage of the proceeds. Sales are also conducted at Lewis Health Center, Marshall Medical Center and Wayne Medical Center.



Jerry Coulter, assistant director of Food & Nutrition, and intern Angel Billingsley (left) accept the food pantry donation from (l-r) Lydia Benefield, Pam Rummage, Kim Dickinson, Jane Collier, Joyce Chandler, Donna Thompson and Davida Hutchens.

## Staff members support food pantry

Staff members in Admitting, Emergency Department Registration and Switchboard recently fulfilled a goal to collect donations for the food pantry offered by the Maury Regional Health Care Foundation.

According to Manager Lydia Benefield, staff members and Patient Access Assistant Director Gina King worked with fellow employees to collect and donate food items to the pantry, which provides food to patients in need upon discharge from the medical center.

"These staff members did not want to wait for the traditional holiday time to collect food items as there is a need throughout the year. The amount of items collected was far beyond their goal. I am so proud of the hard work that went into being able to give back to our patients and their families," said Benefield.



## 2017 OPEN ENROLLMENT

Open enrollment for 2017 benefits will be held November 10-21.

**Different than previous open enrollment periods, benefit eligible employees will not be required to meet with a benefit counselor to enroll in 2017 benefits.** However, we recommend that you meet with a benefit counselor during the open enrollment period to review your benefits and update information such as covered dependents, life insurance coverage and beneficiaries.

If you do not meet with a benefit counselor, your 2017 elections will remain as they are 2016 for the following benefits: health, dental/vision, supplemental/dependent life, buy-up or voluntary disability, critical illness and accident benefits.

**You must make an appointment to meet with a benefits counselor to enroll in either of the flexible spending accounts.**

Please use the links on the HR page of the intranet to schedule an appointment with a benefits counselor.

## HOLIDAY EVENT SCHEDULE

- November 14-21 – Holiday Hugs selection of names via intranet
- November 24 – Thanksgiving meals for employees scheduled to work
- December 2 – Weekday Employee Christmas Parties (6-8 a.m., 2-4 p.m. or 9-11 p.m.)
- December 3 – Children’s Christmas Party (9-11 a.m.)
- December 3 – Weekend Employee Christmas Party (5:30-8 p.m.)
- December 12 – Holiday Hugs return (7 a.m.-5 p.m.)
- December 13 – Holiday Hugs return (7 a.m.-noon)
- December 25 – Christmas meals for employees scheduled to work

# NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### November 1

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

### November 2

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

### November 5

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

### November 7

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

### November 7

HEALTHY HEARTS: 10:30 a.m., Columbia Senior Center call 490.7283

### November 8

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

### November 10

FREE SEMINAR – KNEE REPLACEMENT: 6 p.m., Auxiliary Conf. Room, call 840.4446

### November 10

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

### November 10

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: 5 p.m., Wayne Medical Center, call 540.4243

### November 11

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

### November 12

EXPECTANT PARENT CLASS – NEWBORN CARE: 9-11 a.m., call 490.7046

### November 12

EXPECTANT PARENT CLASS – INFANT CPR: 12-2 p.m., call 490.7046

### November 12

COPD SEMINAR & SCREENING: Annex, 10 a.m., call 381.1111, ext. 1347

### November 14

EXPECTANT PARENT CLASS – BREASTFEEDING: 7 p.m., call 490.7046

### November 15

NURSE HIRING EVENT: 4-7 p.m., Auxiliary Conf. Room, call 840.4477

### November 15

MISSION WELLNESS: 6:30 p.m., Annex, call 490.7282

### November 16

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

### November 17

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

### November 19

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

### November 21

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

### November 23

BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT GROUP: 11 a.m., Annex, call 490.7074

### November 28-30

AUXILIARY JEWELRY SALE: Auxiliary Conf. Room, call 380.4047

# KUDOS FOR CAREGIVERS

Amber Anderson	Sharla Deschaine	Alex Hughes	Karen Miller	Brandon Taylor
Kim Boyd	Dr. Jon Freels	Nicki Jones	Melissa Patterson	Tasha Thompson
Vicki Butler	Aaron Gignilliat	Elizabeth Joyce	Felicia Potts	Tamara Turner
Matthew Campbell	Dr. Omar Hamada	Dr. Jawaid Kamal	Terri Redd	John David Waller
Alison Carlisle	Julianne Hambacher	Michele Kimbrough	Samantha Reese	Regina Walters
Dr. Amit Choksi	Chandler Harlan	Kim King	Flamonte Roberts	Kim Wanasek
Kacey Clemons	Mike Hensley	Trent Lewis	Judith Schwartz	Spencer Warren
Elizabeth Davenport	Jackie Hill	Lynn Lott	Jacob Scott	Betty Wells
Dr. Karen Davis	Ashley Holt	Randi McElhaney	Alissa Smith	Leigh Anne Whitfield
Eric DeLaBruere	Ada Howe	Lori McGee		

THE VITALINK

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## Patient-Centered Care Celebration November 11

MRMC will host a Patient-Centered Care Celebration on November 11. Activities will be held from 7 until 10 a.m., and from 1 until 3 p.m., in People Development on the medical center's first floor.

Activities will include Blessing of the Hands, pet therapy visits, essential oils,



refreshments and a workshop on journaling. Caregivers will also have a chance to share their own stories of patient-centered care.

Those attending are encouraged to help care for the community by bringing items for the food pantry at MRMC. Suggested items include peanut butter, squeezable jelly, pasta sauce and canned fruits.

*Return Service Requested*

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