



Hospital Happenings



Norfolk
GENERAL HOSPITAL

2009 Issue 5 – June



“An Inspiration to Us All”



How does Linda Vancso stay so young? Well, she let us in on a little secret during her retirement speech May 28. The key to staying young is to surround yourself with

Ruth Driedger, Lisa Daulby, Carol Chesney & Shelagh Driedger give Linda Vancso a retirement hug during her last day on the job.

youthful, energetic, enthusiastic people with ambitious goals. The key to longevity is enjoying what you do and for Linda, *she loved her job*. A packed Vittoria Community centre joined Linda for a night of celebration. Her 46-year career at NGH began with an appointment as head nurse at the age of 23, by 27, Linda was in charge of a brand new 34 bed, surgical Unit, Surgical E, and the rest, was history. “I was an ordinary nurse who was offered extraordinary opportunities,” said Vancso. Linda’s retirement celebration was a trip down memory lane, revisiting old friends, mentors and the many wonderful experiences shared.

Digital Arrives!



Mammography Technologists-Patricia Freeman, Kim Egan, Karen Bushell & Wanda Wilson view images from the new digital mammography machine

The new Digital Mammography Machine has arrived at NGH. Our team of Mammography Technologists have undergone several on and offsite training programs to prepare for the shift from film to digital imaging. During the transition process, an on site physicist reviews all applications in fine detail affirming all standards have been met. Additionally, a team from the manufacture (Hologic) work hand in hand with the technologists to better equip them with extensive operating knowledge. It is hoped that the \$600,000 machine will be in full operation this July. Currently \$560,000 has been raised through “The Sooner, The Better”, Campaign.

Suggestions - Feedback - Submissions

Editor: Jason Harnett

jharnett@ngh.on.ca

519-426-0130 Ext. 6977

OFFICE: First Floor, across from elevator



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Public Relations Committee



Staff BBQ

August 14

1130-1300 on the patio

Our mission is to assist those we serve to achieve the best possible health outcomes

Parking Curb Upgrade

In an effort to control parking restrictions and maintain safety control measures, Norfolk General has revamped emergency parking spaces on the south side of the West Street entrance. This alternative is



the best option to provide safety of pedestrians and control lane-way congestion. Emergency parking is to be used for emergencies only; these spaces

were intended for short-term parking and emergency drop off and pick up of patients.

To All The Girls...



HR Coordinator, Brent Richardson was showered with best wishes from staff during a pre-wedding lunch in honour of his up-

coming vows Saturday, May 30. During a lunch, complete with a beautifully decorated cake and multi coloured layered Jell-O, colleagues presented Brent with a gift, cards of congratulations and offered words of advice. The lunch was made complete with the hand-washing dance led by Stefanie Ralph.

Cycle of Care

Norma Arthurs of London Linen Service Inc. points out some of NGH-NHNNH linen associated costs. We currently spend over \$500,000 dollars in linen costs each year.



London Hospital Linen Service Inc. held a Linen Fair on May 27. The event emphasized the costs associated with cleaning hospital linens, the importance of proper use/conservation and the environmental enhancements that have contributed to cost efficiencies in the industry. Staff were encouraged to use linens wisely as the proper use saves money and contributes to a decrease in energy consumption and a reduction of water. Please consider this.

Quick Facts: LHLS ships 12 Million KG of linen per year to over 60 customers. www.lhls.ca



Volunteer Annual Plant & Used Books Sale

Another Success.

All plants sold!



A New Face in Patient Care



NGH welcomes Michele Bulin as the new Administrative Assistant to the Patient Care Portfolio. Michele looks forward to working with the different integrated teams at NGH.

Michele has many years of experience as an Executive Administrative Assistant, Administrative Specialist, a Manager for the City of Kitchener and most recently a private business owner. Welcome Michele!

If you would like to have a chance to win the 50/50 draw and benefit from the events that the Employee P.R. Committee sponsors, call Liz in Payroll at ext. 4200.



\$237.00 Bill Lewis





NGH on The Big Screens

On Friday May 15 SKG Film crews took over an area of 4E to shoot scenes for an upcoming feature film called **“48 Hours In Purgatory”** which is due to be released October 31. Lead by Director, Jason Armstrong and executive producer Scott Williams of Waterford, the scene that was filmed at NGH involved a female accident victim in a hospital bed, shortly after being taken off life support. Her mother is in the hallway listening to a disturbing message left on a cell phone while a doctor approaches her to inform her that her daughter is beginning to respond.

RN Lora Lynn Tryrell makes a movie debut in 48 Hours In Purgatory

The crew was very appreciative of the Hospital cooperation and medical direction from Dr. Gord Hitchcock. Hanna Fisher and Lora Lynn Tyrrell were movie extras working behind the desks at the Nursing Station.

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Eileen Morden Bids Farewell



Dave, Eileen and son Brad Morden

A full cafeteria of family, friends and colleges paid tribute to Eileen Morden and her dedicated service to NGH. Eileen retires after 35 years in the House Keeping Department. Not only did Eileen receive many kind words and a gift from fellow colleagues, but a wonderful surprise having her son join the presentation after travelling home from Ottawa.

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Around the hospital...



CPR Training—Chris Keba & Mary Westover



ACLS— Dr. Jarrell, Mary Westover, Deb Cronkwright, Ellie Peters, Helen Heinrichs and Dr. OSullivan

NGH-NHNH Service Awards - Employee Recognition



Staff and guests enjoy a lighter moment at the 2009 Staff Service Awards by giving their neighbor a friendly hello with a chicken elbow bump: 70 staff members received recognition.

Rural Skills Day



Well baby exams with Dr. Robin Martin-Godelie

On June 6, 10 Medical students from McMaster University took part in the Rural Skills Day at NGH. Students were exposed to scrubbing in the OR, Code Blue Training, Diagnostic Imaging and Suturing.

Thank You to all the generous Doctors and staff who shared their knowledge and time.



Hockey Fan & CEO Bill Lewis got a friendly reminder of the Pittsburgh Penguins Stanley Cup Victory over his Detroit Red Wings left on the administration entrance, reading “Not this year Bill”, “Pens clip the wings 2-1” and “Hossa a No Showssa!”





Board Members Honoured

The Norfolk General Hospital Foundation held its Annual General Meeting June 9. Board members bid farewell to two retiring members including Pat Hall

NGH C.E.O. Bill Lewis, Betty Goode, Fnd Board Chair Karen Oakes– Absent, Pat Hall

and Betty Goode. Betty has served a remarkable 20 years out of the 22 years of the Foundation’s existence. Thank you to both Pat and Betty for your dedicated time and efforts.

Health Headlines



- **Pandemic Level 6**– The World Health Organization declares the first 21st century flu pandemic-June 11/09
- The World’s leading **isotopes** supplier in Chalk River, Ontario is shut down causing a worldwide shortage. A leak of radioactive water was detected inside the reactor May 15. Isotopes help in the diagnosis of cancers and heart disease.
- **Ehealth** is highly scrutinized for untendered contracts totaling over 5.5 million. President Sarah Kramer is relieved of her duties while Chairman Dr. Alan Hudson resigns.

Ask us how you can register!

NGH Foundation 20th Anniversary Golf Classic
 July 28-29 Norfolk Golf & Country Club
 In Support of Digital Mammography
 www.ngh.on.ca 519-426-0130 Ext 2456



Dorothy with Kafer

Furry Friends Bring Smiles to Fourth Floor

St. John’s Ambulance Pet Therapy Dogs Kafer(8 year old Spaniel Mix) & Charlie(4 year old Cockapoo) dropped by to visit an eager group of fourth floor residents on June 17th. These highly trained dogs love the attention and the residents enjoy their company. Not only is this program therapeutic, but it’s an opportunity for the residents to reminisce about family pets they once had.



David, pets Charlie with volunteer Debby

Health Sciences Program– A Unique Opportunity



Health Sciences Class 2009

Deciding ones career path at an early age can be a daunting experience, but for those students who have an inkling for health care, NGH continues to provide a unique glimpse into the many future possibilities. For some it’s reinforcement, for others, a wake up call. “There are so many opportunities that students don’t expect,” said Teacher Chris Harvey, adding Health Sciences is a perspective course, and NGH is definitely giving them an interesting perspective.” Through a video presentation, Simcoe Composite students described their future aspirations; almost all hope to be involved in health care at some capacity. A nurse, a social worker, optometrist, speech pathologist and physiotherapist; just some of the career interests expressed during a

round table course finale. Sometimes, students come to a quick realization that what they perceived would be a good match, is not the best fit after all, such as an aspiring hematologist who discovered she wasn’t very fond of blood!

Nineteen students have registered to enter the SCS Health Perspectives course next year, with a similar course on a lesser scale being offered at Holy Trinity Catholic School. In addition, the program will move to a 4-day case study, which will reduce down time and access even more opportunities for the students. Teachers, Chris Harvey and Brian Snow also revealed to the group that the program would now be recognized by Universities and Colleges in the New Year. This will mean greater expectations from students and a higher level of critique from instructors.

Have A Great Summer!