

Hospital Happenings

Norfolk
GENERAL HOSPITAL

Caring for Our Community for 85 Years - The Tradition Continues

2010 Issue 2 – February

Norfolk County Mayor Joins NGH Board



Bill Lewis, NGH President & CEO welcomes Mayor Dennis Travale to the NGH Board Feb.3

He may be a new face in our boardroom but he's well known to everyone. Mayor Dennis Travale attended his first board meeting on Feb.3 and was welcomed by those in attendance.

In his third year as Mayor, Travale brings over 40 years of community service. That,

along with his local political experience, will be a benefit to him in his new role. "I have always been interested in serving the community. As Mayor, I quickly recognized that NGH is a major part of the county's infrastructure," stated Travale. "I have a strategic understanding of where Norfolk County is and where it's going."

Mayor Travale is a welcome addition and he looks forward to his term on the Norfolk General Hospital Board.

Teamwork is the Secret Recipe



NGH Foodservices Department are responsible for feeding a lot of people each day and they do it as a team! Typically, 600-700 meals are prepared daily for patients, residents, staff and visitors at Norfolk General Hospital and The Norfolk Hospital Nursing Home. An additional 20-25 meals are prepared daily for the local meals on wheels program. It's a tall task, but this team of nearly 50 full-time and part-time staff is well equipped and well trained. February 22-26 marks Foodservice Worker Appreciation/Awareness Week. It's an opportunity to say thank you and reflect on a job well done.

Suggestions - Feedback - Submissions

Editor: Jason Harnett

jharnett@ngh.on.ca

519-426-0130 Ext. 6977

OFFICE: First Floor, across from elevator



Inside This Issue

- Foodservices Appreciation
- Continence Care
- Brian Kennedy
- Clinical Nurse Educator

48 Hours in Purgatory

The film made last spring & shot at NGH will premiere March 4th in Burlington, @ Silver City/Cineplex at 9PM.

<http://www.48hoursinpurgatory.com>



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



PR Committee Celebrates Valentines

NGH and NHHH staff continually provide excellent patient care and that's why the Employee PR Committee like to show their appreciation, this time with Valentine's cupcakes served February 12th in the cafeteria.



Paul & Barb

Paul Bennett, Accounting Clerk and Barb Stoeperker, Senior Finance Clerk were on hand to represent the PR Committee and hand out the goodies. "We like to do different things like this," said Bennett. For just \$2.00 per pay, employees can join the 50/50 fund. "We also have barbecues, host fun activities, provide transportation and plan group outings throughout the

year such as the Flamborough races or Stage West. Our Blue Jay game road trip is always a popular day and we enjoy seeing everyone out at the annual Christmas dinner and dance." stated Bennett.

The PR Committee is always looking for new and exciting ideas that staff might enjoy. Attached to 50/50 club members February's pay stub was a survey providing an opportunity to suggest new ideas and seek new members. All surveys filled out were entered for a chance to win one of two \$50 gift certificates for the Barrel Restaurant. The lucky winners were Jayne Knott and Annette Vroom. Congratulations!



Continance Care Program- Making Headway in Our Community

In October 2009, Norfolk General Hospital became home to a new Continance Care Clinic for area seniors experiencing bladder and bowel problems. This project was made possible through funding from the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network. The Clinic is an expansion of the continence program directed by Dr. Jennifer Skelly of St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton.

In the clinic's first quarter of operation, 14 new clients were seen in 5 clinic days. In January of this year, already the clinic has seen 16 new clients and is operating every week. Lori Ramey, the Nurse Continance Advisor working in the clinic and a Scotland resident herself, had this to say about the clinic's success, "I have been so encouraged by the positive response from the community. Clients are very relieved to get their incontinence under control. And having the clinic here in Simcoe has meant men and women who may not have been able to travel to Hamilton are able to get the help they need locally."

Know someone who may need this service? **Seniors can book their own free appointment by calling (905) 573-4821** or be referred by a family doctor, specialist or other health care provider.



Lori Ramey, Nurse Continance Care Advisor with Bettyann DeRonde, Vice President, Patient Care NGH



What Are You Reading?



Kim Stanley, Payroll, says "I'm taking an accounting course so I'm reading a lot of boring accounting books. The last real book I read was *Memoirs of a Shopaholic*".



Sophie Tarcza, PSW at NHHH, enjoys author Mary Balogh and recently finished one of her latest novels, *Simply Perfect*. She has just started reading *Riverside Drive* by Laura Van Wormer.



Tamra Smith, Westervelt College student, loves a good mystery and recently read James Patterson's *The Sixth Target*, another in the Women's Murder Club series. "I have a 4 1/2 year old granddaughter so I do a lot of Dr. Seuss reading to her, too".



J.J. Knott, Director of Plant Operations, chuckled when he stated that his most recent book was *The Curse of the Labrador Duck*. "I heard about it on a CBC program...It's really quite funny". And yes, there is such a thing as a Labrador Duck !



Teresa Ferris, Volunteer

"Don't Sweat the Small Stuff"

Good advice Teresa!

Promote Your Department/Program in the Coffee Kiosk Display Case Window— Volunteer Assistance is available. Contact Jason for more information.

**New Addition to Maintenance
Brian Kennedy –**



Plant Operations welcomes Brian Kennedy to NGH. Brian comes to NGH as a 3rd Class Stationary Engineer with over 30 years experience as a stationary engineer previously with US Steel. His main responsibilities will focus on monitoring the hospital boiler room, minor maintenance, and first floor and emergency room areas. "It's bigger than I thought," admits Brian, a Simcoe native, who is used to working within a large-scale operation. "The maintenance staff is a good bunch of guys; overall staff have been very welcoming." To help Brian become better acquainted with the facility he has been working very closely with the soon to be retired and helpful Gary Smith. As Plant Operations moves through new staffing transitions congratulations to those who have recently retired and please welcome Brian to his new position.

**Another Step Forward
in Electronic Makeover for NHHH**



A meeting was held February 10th, 2010, at NHHH to celebrate and acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the staff during the implementation of RAI MDS (Resident Assessment Instrument Minimum Data Set). To date MDS assessments have now been completed on all of the historical residents.

The staff at NHHH will now be working hard towards the next phase of implementation, which includes care planning, and Resident Assessment Protocols (RAPs).

Thank you to everyone for their contributions during the RAI MDS implementation.

2010 New Years Baby Returns to Visit 3B



The little wonder, Baby Marissa returned to NGH to visit with staff and claim her New Years Day Baby Silver Cup on January 28. Although she had only gained a half pound since her birth (4 pound 6 1/2 ounces), she is a very healthy baby girl. Mom, who is also doing very well explained that Marissa has already learned that crying is a great way to get the attention of her two older sisters, "They enjoy playing mom too." Dad, feeling a little outnumbered, is visibly very happy with his family and latest edition. Greg plans on building a hope chest for all the girls baby memories including a spot for the coveted Silver Cup.

Front: Greg (Dad), Angela (Mom) Baby Marissa

Back: Sheryl Snively, 3B Nurse, Jayn Szapkowski, 3B Manager, Bill Lewis, NGH President, Pat Phillips, 3B Nurse



LATEST WINNERS



Lisa Gurman
Vicki Norman

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.

Building Knowledge to Improve Practice

“Rapid changes in health care and the increased acuity of our patients put enormous pressure on clinicians to keep current so the introduction of the clinical nurse educator to Norfolk General Hospital was very important in order to provide support for clinical practice.” Bettyann DeRonde VP Patient Care “ further states that the leadership position of the Clinical Nurse Educator is primarily focused on education development of nursing staff but also includes the other components of clinical practice and consultation”.



Sherry Chambers, clinical Nurse Educator works with individuals, groups, teams and other healthcare disciplines while participating in organization wide, unit based nursing or individual initiatives to promote quality patient care. All nurses starting at Norfolk General Hospital first meet Sherry Chambers, at our Nursing Orientation located in the Clinical Resource room on the first floor.

Sherry explains that projects that she is currently working on include the development and implementation of policies and training for portacaths, utilization of the RPN to full scope of practice and the standardization of wound care in the treatment of pressure ulcers according to the best practice guidelines.



“I invite you to visit our classroom and to discuss thoughts or ideas for improving nursing practice or even to discuss a review of your practice or technique, or even if you wish to learn something new. Life long learning is the essence of the health care provider.

Introducing Students to Health Care Health Sciences Program Begins 11th Year Partnership with NGH

A fresh new group of Simcoe Composite Students were welcomed to the Health Sciences program by a well represented contingent of hospital staff on February 18. Seventeen grade 12 students will be working towards earning two credits while studying at NGH. This is the first year that these credits will be recognized by Universities. During the course students will have a chance to be involved in a variety of aspects of the day to day activities of the hospital.

SCS Teachers, Brian Snow and Chris Harvey, have been involved with this successful program for 11 years. “ NGH is 10 years ahead of the Provincial curve with this program. It’s problem-based learning,” stated



Snow. Explaining that students will work in small groups, get a case study, research and return in a few weeks time to explain their findings.

Chris Harvey is pleased to see that the numbers of students interested in the program has risen this year. “This program will put them miles ahead of fellow university students. It’s considered a “cool” opportunity to get into it. About 85 to 90 % of the students involved will go into the health care or education field.”

During a round table introduction, students expressed interest in a number of health care professions such as being a paramedic, a nurse, nurse practitioner, sports medicine and diabetes education. Other students showed interest in hospital administration and biomedical engineering.

“This course transforms our students as individuals. They grow as people and gain confidence in themselves. Young people bring vigor into the work place,” said Snow, who was impressed by the turnout and support of hospital administration. “NGH is quite a dynamic place to take time out of a busy schedule for this program.”



Have You Submitted Your Accessibility Standards Quiz?

March 19-2010 Deadline

There are plenty of ways you can take the test. Ask your Manager/Director For More Details



GO CANADA!

