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extra

news for Owensboro Medical Health System employees

“There are now more choices for employees with better values for their award levels.”

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Lisa Knott

on employee service award changes

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OMHS acquires second da Vinci system



Pictured above is one of the operating rooms at OMHS outfitted with the da Vinci surgical system. You can see the console on the right-hand side of the picture. Several practices use the da Vinci including cardiac, thoracic, obstetrics, gynecology and others.

Robotic surgeries at the hospital exceed 500

After a little more than one year, physicians at Owensboro Medical Health System have performed over 500 minimally invasive surgeries utilizing advanced robotics with the da Vinci® Si surgical system. OMHS purchased its first da Vinci in July 2009 and added a second, identical system last month—making it the only single hospital in Kentucky with two da Vinci® Si systems and a dual console.

Dr. Elizabeth Ottman, an obstetrician and gynecologist, performed the 500th surgery on Denise Griffin, who left the hospital less than 24 hours after her hysterectomy.

“The da Vinci has allowed patients to recover faster, experience less post-operative pain and return to work more quickly,” Ottman says. “Patients undergoing complex cancer surgeries have not required critical care following their procedures.”

Common da Vinci surgeries include hysterectomies and other gynecological procedures, as well as treatment for lung and prostate cancer. Heart surgeons have begun using the da Vinci® Si to bypass blocked arteries; about 10 percent of bypass surgery patients are candidates for da Vinci surgery. OMHS is the only hospital in the state utilizing the da Vinci to perform multi-vessel bypass surgeries, and the only hospital with cardiothoracic surgeons performing both heart and lung surgeries.

The da Vinci provides patients with additional options in minimally invasive, state-of-the-art procedures with faster recovery time and less scarring. Surgeons operate through one-centimeter incisions while seated at a console viewing a 3D image of the surgical field (in 10x magnification in high definition). The surgeon’s fingers grasp controls below the console display, with hands and wrists naturally positioned relative to his or her eyes. The system seamlessly translates the surgeon’s hand, wrist

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**Owensboro
Medical Health System**

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Upcoming Events at OMHS

September 28th

Recipe Contest Deadline

Do you have a recipe you think everyone will love? Enter your recipe into the 'Your Favorite Recipe Contest'. The contest will be judged by Dr. Barber, Greg Strahan, John Hackbarth and Chef Adam. The winning recipe will be featured at the Spice Event station in the Cafe' and the winner will receive a trophy and \$50 Visa Gift Card from Morrison. To enter your recipe, drop it in the box on the table in the cafeteria.

October 5th-7th

7 Habits of Highly Effective People

This 3-day workshop will help you learn the foundation to strengthen the human side of performance at the personal, managerial, and organizational levels. This course equips employees with the tools and skills to work at their highest level of effectiveness.

Do you have an OMHS related event you'd like to share in Extra? Send it to speck@omhs.org and we'll include it in the 'Upcoming Events' section!

'Ticket to Ride' program set to rollout at OMHS

Program will standardize communication during the transportation of patients

With just a few clicks of the mouse or pen strokes, staff at OMHS will soon have a new way of communicating information with other departments when a patient is transported.

"It's very exciting," said Nicole Duncan, one of the leaders of the 'Ticket to Ride' program. "I didn't start this alone."

In fact two units, 4-4 and 3-5, as well as several of the hospital's receiving departments were involved in the testing of the project. Duncan says it has taken about a year to get from the idea stage to where the hospital is now, ready to implement the new system. She says while the program will keep patients even safer during their stay at the hospital, it will also create an added level of service.

"If they [the patient] ask for something as simple as a cup of water an employee will know if they can give them a cup of water just by looking at their Ticket to Ride," Duncan said.

The Ticket to Ride system is also a requirement by Joint Commission. Here's how it works: A unit will complete a Ticket to Ride form before a patient is transported to another unit or department. The form includes basic patient information such as age, weight, and a physical assessment. The form also includes the destination for that patient. It is attached to the top of the patient's medical records and given to the Ambassador transporting the patient. When a patient is received, the staff will have all the needed information about that patient.

"We've been able to look at multiple methods to educate staff," according to Duncan.

The education piece of the program will likely begin in October with a 'go live' date sometime in November. Employees should start watching for more information in the next few weeks.

Employee Service Award changes

New changes will offer employees more options for their service.

There will be changes to the Service Award Program currently available for OMHS employees according to Employee Relations. Some changes will be seamless to employees, while others will have a tremendous benefit for long term employees.

OMHS has changed to Pat Geary & Associates, a point-based system where employees will be able to shop for the gift(s). It is Internet based, and Pat Geary & Associates have associates to assist employees who are not accustomed to shopping on the Internet. Lisa Knott will also be available to assist any employee who needs help with the new system.

"We are very excited about the changes," said Knott, an employee relations specialist with OMHS. "There are now more choices for the employees with better values for their award levels."

The 1-year and 3-year gifts will remain the same, and OMHS will still have the same presentation acrylic frames for the 5-year increments of service. These changes will take effect with employees having anniversaries in July 2010.

If you have any questions about the Service Award program, Pat Geary and Associates or you did not receive your service recognition reward through the old program you can contact Knott in Human Resources at 685-7713.

OMHS participates in community disaster drill



Greg Strahan, Chief Operating Officer for OMHS, John Aufdengarten, Director of Emergency Services and Liz Belt, Director of Critical and Progressive Care Services start gathering information in the incident command center during the drill. The hospital called a code yellow and activated the command center when word was received about the mock plane crash.



Staff in the Emergency Department get instructions as patients start rolling in during Tuesday's disaster drill. The scenario was a plane crash at the Owensboro Daviess County Regional airport with 150 people on board and dozens of people injured. Many of the victims that participated in the drill were taken to OMHS for treatment.

HIP 3rd quarter has ended - 4th quarter starts next week

4th quarter: Oct. 1st – Dec.17th

The 3rd quarter of HIP has ended. Below is a list of classes available during the fourth quarter. You'll need to know your employee ID number when attending. For a complete list of classes, log onto the intranet and go to the Health Improvement Plan section at the bottom of the right hand column.

September 28th – 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Staying in Range
HealthPark classroom B

October 6th – 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
How can I relax?
Conference Room D

October 11th – 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Handling shift work successfully
HealthPark Classroom B

October 12th – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Burning more calories in a very busy day
Conference Room D

Location change: Classes will no longer be held in the New Life Education Center. All classes scheduled to be held in that room have been moved to an alternate location.

- Cardiac Surgery Excellence Award™ for the second year in row
- Pulmonary Care Excellence Award™ for the sixth year in a row
- Gastrointestinal Care Excellence Award™ for the sixth year in a row
- Gastrointestinal Surgery Award™ for the third year in a row

Ask Extra!

Q. Will the new hospital include retail space for vendors like Friends First Federal Credit Union?

A. Yes. The credit union will open a satellite location at the new hospital campus.

Dr. Randall Thomas joins MMCC



Dr. Randall Thomas

The Mitchell Memorial Cancer Center has a new Medical Oncologist on staff. Dr. Randall Thomas joined the center in September after spending 10 years in Gainesville, Georgia. Thomas brings over 20 years of experience in Medical Oncology

with him to OMHS. Before practicing in Gainesville, he spent five years practicing in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

Thomas graduated from the University of Tennessee College of Medicine and did his residency at the UT College of Medicine. He spent three and a half years on the staff of the University of Tennessee College of Medicine before leaving for Oak Ridge.

From front: da Vinci

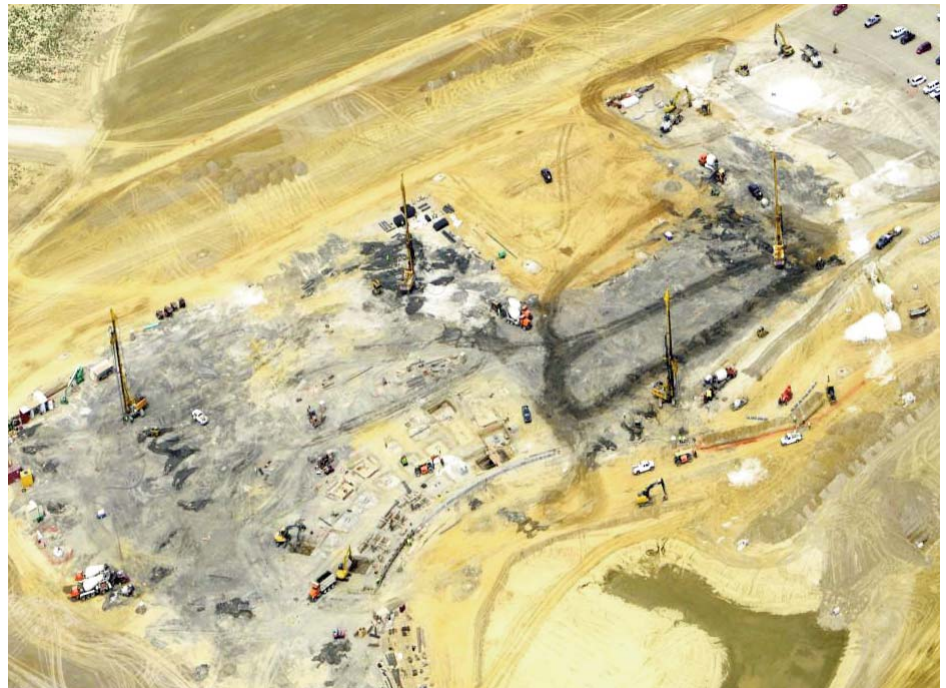
and finger movements into precise, real-time movements of surgical instruments inside the patient. The da Vinci provides surgeons with the same look and feel of traditional, open surgery while enabling patients to benefit from minimally invasive techniques.

United closing down campaign



Auction items fill Conference Room D at the hospital ready to be bid on. The auction wrapped up last week with the end of the OMHS United Way campaign. Watch future editions of Extra for more information about how much was raised in this year's campaign.

New hospital update



An aerial shot of the new hospital construction site shows a footprint forming. So far over 61,000 man hours have been put into construction.