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news for Owensboro Medical Health System employees

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“This is a great opportunity for citizens to come and hear what’s happening at the hospital and ask questions.”

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Steve Johnson

on Report to the Community

OMHS Report to the Community Thursday, Dec. 9th

Dr. Barber will update attendees on OMHS’ accomplishments in the five strategic goal areas



Dr. Jeff Barber

With the holidays upon us and as we get closer to a new year, it’s time to stop and reflect on 2010. That’s exactly what OMHS President & CEO Dr. Jeff Barber plans to do at this year’s ‘Report to the Community’. The presentation will be held Thursday December 9th at the HealthPark from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The event is open to everyone in the community.

“This is a great opportunity for citizens to come and hear what’s happening at the hospital and ask questions,” said Steve Johnson, executive director of community, governmental, and legislative affairs for OMHS. “We know that there are questions and we want to address them.”

There will also be fun nutrition tips for eating and cooking during the holidays. Guests will also get a chance to hear Christmas carols from the Sutton Elementary Chorus and an update on the construction of the new hospital by Project Manager, Merrill Bowers.

The hospital has done an event similar to this for the past several years. Last year’s ‘Report to the Community’ was held at the RiverPark Center in the evening. This year OMHS is hoping to reach a different audience.

“The hope is we’ll be able to get those people that are part of the ‘day time’ crowd,” said Barber. “We may even see a larger turnout than in past years because of the different time.”

With hospital construction underway and steel going up at the site, it’s easy to see how OMHS is accomplishing the growth goal. This year’s ‘Report to the Community’ will have new information about the construction and contracts that have been awarded to various companies for work on the hospital.

Attendees will also get a chance to hear information on past financial performance and projections for the future.

There will also be presentations on the Community Benefit Grant program and testimonials from different organizations who have received grants from OMHS.

“The hospital stays very involved in the community and that’s apparent from our Community Benefit Grant program and from events like the ‘Report to the Community’, said Johnson. “We hope many will come.”



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**Do you have a story for Extra?
Send an email to stuart.peck@omhs.org.**



Upcoming Events at OMHS

Now – December 12th

Registration for the Get Movin' 2011 community challenge

Get your team together and register for the Get Movin' 2011 challenge! The challenge begins in January and prizes will be awarded to the first and second places in each category.

December 9th

OMHS 'Report to the Community'

This is a chance for employees and the public to hear the latest information about OMHS and get a comprehensive update on the new hospital project. This year's 'Report to the Community' is being held at the HealthPark on December 9th from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

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

Harpist serenades patients and staff



Mary Sublett plays her 'Healing Harp' in the hallways of 3-5 recently. She says her harp music is soothing for patients and actually has healing capabilities.

Mary Sublett says music has the power to heal the body and soothe the soul

For 56 years now Mary Sublett has been playing the harp. She's played in front of audiences of hundreds while in the Owensboro Symphony Orchestra but now her audiences may be as few as one at a time. Sublett now plays for patients on different units at OMHS every Tuesday.

"Harp music is very healing," said Sublett. "Spiritually this creates a bond. Harps remind people of heaven."

Her harp program is known as the 'Healing Harp' and according to Sublett research shows that sound waves are actually good for healing the body.

"Sound waves pass through the body and help release oxygen in the body," she said. "What's one of the first things that happen when a patient comes to the hospital? Often times they're put on oxygen."

Sometimes Sublett will set up her 118 year old harp in the hallways of the units at OMHS and just start playing. She says the atmosphere becomes more calm and peaceful when she starts to play. At other times patients will request for Sublett to come into their rooms and give a personal recital. She's more than happy to oblige at the patient's request.

"The harp is an inspiring thing, it has spiritual reference, angelic reference," Sublett said.

The Volunteer Auxiliary raised \$1,000 for Sublett to come play the harp at the hospital. The money goes toward the maintenance and transportation of the harp.

Sublett's 'Healing Harp' is available for patients on any unit. To request the 'Healing Harp' you should call Volunteer Services at 688-2134 or email Kelly Armour at kelly.armour@omhs.org.



Going on in government



President and CEO of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce Dave Adkisson addresses the audience during the 2011 Kentucky Chamber Legislative Agenda held in the OMHS Conference Center.

OMHS hosts the 2011 Kentucky Chamber Legislative Agenda presentation

Recently the hospital sponsored and hosted the 2011 Kentucky Chamber Legislative Agenda presentation. The event was held at the conference center and was open to local business and community leaders. Dave Adkisson, the president and CEO of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce was the speaker. He talked about the chamber's 2011 agenda which includes promoting programs that encourage Kentuckians to live healthier lifestyles.

"Unhealthy living is affecting our tax dollars in big ways," said Adkisson during his presentation.

According to Steve Johnson, OMHS' executive director of community, governmental and legislative affairs, this



Steve Johnson

agenda has an impact on OMHS in more ways than just healthcare. Johnson says often times the community looks at the hospital as a healthcare provider but forgets that it is an employer and an economic generator for the region.

"Every issue Kentucky's chamber is focused on can have a significant impact on OMHS," said Johnson. "We're the largest employer west of Louisville and the 32nd largest employer in the entire state."

Johnson says it's important to build relationships with the local and state chambers of commerce. In addition, construction of the new hospital is bringing in significant dollars to the local economy.



4th quarter ends a week from Friday!

4th quarter: Oct. 1st – Dec.17th

If you have questions regarding your Healthy Merits account you may call 1-877-348-4533 or visit www.mybenny.com

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.

December 9th – 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Got Attitude?
HealthPark Classroom B

December 14th – 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
What is a Brain Attack?
Conference Room D

If you complete your screening during January, your name will go into a drawing for a great prize. One prize will be drawn each day of a screening. Go to Lawson and register for your screening date and time to reserve your spot. Please reserve only one date and time so everyone has a chance to enter. If you have questions you can contact Nancy Velotta at 688-4881.

HIP screening locations coming soon.

Employee Opinion Survey underway

This survey is part of the People Goal for Success Sharing 2011.

- Participation in Employee Opinion Survey
Baseline – 87% Goal – 80%
- Leadership reports results of EOS to department; identify categories of issues and submit report to HRD
Baseline – 100% Goal – 100%
- Establishment of Employee Action Teams

One session remains on Thursday, December 9th on the Parrish Campus from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The survey is available online at www.omhs.org/2010eesurvey through Sunday, December 12th.

*Employees can also take the Patient Safety Culture survey online. A prompt will appear once you have completed the Employee Opinion survey.

New OMHS board members appointed

Three additional representatives have been appointed to the Owensboro Medical Health System board of directors: Mayor Ron Payne, appointed by the Owensboro City Commission; Deborah Nunley, appointed by Daviess County Fiscal Court; and Charles Bea, MD, appointed by the OMHS medical staff. Each will serve a three-year term. Ted Smith was reappointed as a community representative for two terms. The appointments became effective Nov. 1.

The OMHS board consists of 14 volunteer members, including four appointees from the community, selected by nominations from local organizations. Additional representation is provided by three physicians—nominated by the hospital's medical staff—along with seven directors appointed by city and county government, one of whom is also a physician.



Santa greets students from Owensboro Catholic's 4th – 6th grade 'Singing Aces' choir. The choir performed as part of the annual Lights for Life tree lighting ceremony held in the lobby of the Parrish Avenue entrance to OMHS. The lights on the tree are dedicated to different individuals and help support the Foundation For Health's 'Care Bears for Kids' and 'Baby Boxes for Infants in Need' programs.

Welcome new employees! November 10th



Cara Hayden- Oncology; Stephanie Rasberry- Professional Billing; Brandy Ulmer-PACU; Jennifer Greenwell- Labor & Delivery; Angela Cross- Labor & Delivery; Jessica Witherspoon- Labor & Delivery; Lana Wathen- TCC; Darla Newton- Ortho; Jessica Scott- IV/Infusion; Hillary Harrington- Case Management; Brian Payne- Information Systems; Matthew Knight- Information Systems; Misty Myers- Lab; Ashley Jones- Lab; Daylan Crowder- Emergency Department; Aaron Peter- Respiratory; Penny Boyken- Admitting; Angela Howard- Admitting; Amanda Trogden- Admitting; Sara Stevens-Polster- Admitting; Nikki Clark- Therapies; William Mills- Materials Management; Lynn Merritt- Secretary/Coder; Kathie Sheets- Billing Specialist; Lauren Miller- HealthPark