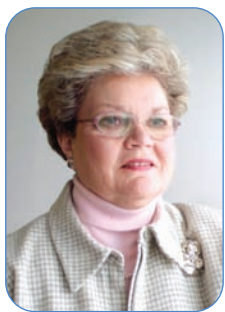


New outpatient cancer facility opens



Ground was broken in September 2008 for the \$31-million, 57,000-square-foot adult outpatient cancer center, which features a 146-space parking deck and a circular driveway for convenient drop-off and pick-up.

The MCGHealth Cancer Center recently opened to rave reviews by patients. “And why



Nettie Engels

wouldn't it. MCGHealth and its contractors listened to us. We asked for a warm, nurturing environment and that's what we got,” said patient advisor Nettie Engels. “All too often cancer clinics are alienating spaces. So, we wanted to include healing elements such as natural light, outdoor views, artwork, native plants and soothing colors to remind patients that there is life after cancer.”

The spacious two-story structure features plush furnishings, eclectic fixtures, abundant windows, elegant artwork and other modern amenities, including a café, library, meditation retreat and ground-level and rooftop gardens.

“The center represents a new era in cancer care, treating the mind, body and spirit,” said Sandra I.

McVicker, Interim President and CEO at MCGHealth. “The moment you walk in, you can see a difference. From the inspirational artwork to the therapeutic gardens, we're providing a revolutionary healing environment that complements MCGHealth's unique approach to care.”

That approach involves a team of key cancer specialists

who practice holistic care using the most advanced treatments in the region. Medical oncologists, surgical oncologists, radiation oncologists, pathologists, psychologists and other caregivers provide quick and easy access for patients all under one roof. In addition, designated patient navigators answer questions and provide guidance to cancer patients.

Medical amenities in the new facility include a clinical lab, on-site pharmacy, 30 exam rooms, 30 chemotherapy infusion stations, six private treatment rooms and a bench-to bedside clinical trials unit.

In every instance, MCGHealth implemented our suggestions, even when they added to the costs,” said Engels. “That was a smart move that will pay dividends in favorable word of mouth and highly satisfied patients.”

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Come see for yourself

You are invited to a ribbon cutting and open house, Friday, Feb. 5, 2010, from 4 to 6 p.m. The program will begin at 4:15 p.m. The MCGHealth Cancer Center is located on the corner of Laney-Walker Boulevard and R. A. Dent Street. ♦

Cancer facility opens continued from page 1



The atrium is the architectural focal point of the new state-of-the-art Cancer Center. Visitors are awestruck by the spiraling blue “Ribbons of Hope” sculpture that hangs in the atrium. This piece was created by sculptor, welder and instructor Thomas Lyles of Martinez, one of the 11 Southern artists who created artwork for the building.



The second-floor waiting area, also known as “The Commons,” has intimate seating arrangements for patient privacy. The area is spacious, yet warm. Ample sunlight floods the area through floor-to-ceiling windows on the building’s north side.



On the second-floor terrace outside the patient infusion room, clusters of native trees, plants, flowers and climbing vines are thriving in the 4,000-square-foot rooftop garden. Tables and benches made of natural teakwood provide ample outdoor seating in this convergence of nurture and nature.



More than 50 windows in about 31 different sizes and styles are in the Cancer Center. A large bank of those windows provides a panoramic view of the unique rooftop garden just outside this second-floor infusion area.

At a glance

MCGHealth’s \$31-million 57,000-square-foot adult outpatient cancer center features:

- A 146-space parking deck.
- A circular driveway for convenient drop-off and pick-up.
- A spacious retreat with soft colors, gardens and natural light.
- A chapel with an adjoining meditation garden.
- Patient navigators to guide patients.
- Multidisciplinary care at one time under one roof.
- The largest, most specialized group of cancer clinicians in the area.
- 30 chemotherapy infusion stations that overlook a rooftop garden.
- Phase I trial cancer treatments not offered anywhere else in the area.
- A café, resource library, boutique and additional support needs. ♦

Enter naming contest to win cash prizes

The equipment that will transform MCGHealth into the CSRA's first "no lift" organization has arrived, and many nurses, patient care technicians, transporters and physical therapists have been trained. Now, the program needs a name.

MCGHealth employees are invited to submit a name for the safe patient handling program by e-mailing your entry to PublicRelations@mcg.edu by February 16. Please put "Naming Contest" in the subject line. If your name is among the top

three selected, you could win \$100, \$50 or \$25. The top three names will be selected by members of the nursing staff's newly formed Special Projects Governing Council, patient advisors and representatives of the Public Relations and Marketing Departments. Once the top three are identified, staff will go online to select the winning name.

The safe patient handling program began in December when approximately 60 pieces of patient lift equipment were delivered to MCGHealth.

Shortly thereafter, training began. "Our goal is to prevent injury, both to our patients and to our staff. We now have available some of



Frankie Parks

the most advanced ergonomic equipment to help us safely handle patients up to 1,000

pounds," said Frankie Parks, RN, Chair of the Special Projects Governing Council and Perinatal/OB Charge Nurse. ♦

Hokrein is February parking winner

June Hokrein, Senior Administrative Specialist in Quality Management, will



have the month-long pleasure of occupying a reserved parking

spot in the 15th Street Deck. Hokrein's name was drawn from among those who contributed to the Employee Giving Campaign last May. One winner per month will be announced until July 2010. ♦

Anticoagulation Clinic for monitoring patients on blood thinning drugs opens

MCGHealth has opened a clinic to monitor and manage adult patients who are on anticoagulation (blood thinning medications) therapy. The clinic is located on the first floor just inside of the South Entrance of the Medical Center and is staffed by clinical pharmacists who work in conjunction with a physician and an LPN.

"Blood thinning medications can be dangerous if not closely monitored and that is why we've set up this special clinic," said Randy Murphy,

Assistant Vice President of Ambulatory Care Nursing.

"During each visit, clinic staff will provide education to the patient/family related to anticoagulation management. At least once a month, we will monitor the time it takes a patient's blood to clot. However, when a patient first starts to use these medications, more frequent visits will be required."

Appointments for the clinic are by physician referral and can be made by calling 706-721-4329. ♦

Nearly 100 honored

Ninety-eight employees were recently honored at a luncheon celebrating their combined 780 years of service. The awardees are:

Five Years

Linda Adkins, *Utilization Management*
Karen Andrews, *ACC Float Pool*
Mary Barger, *9 North Child Psychiatry*
Ashley Bonner, *Respiratory Care*
Ashley Boynton, *Eye Clinic*
Toy Brown, *Specimen Procurement & Receiving*
Betty Burnett, *Healthy Start*
Theresa Burnette, *Recovery Room*
Daydra Cain, *Speech Pathology/Audiology*
Gerald Cate, *Surgical ICU*
Adam Clark, *Purchasing*
Melinda Clark, *Emergency Medicine*
Terry Conner, *Client Services*
Sheryl Conover, *Neonatal ICU*
Melissa Criscillis, *Pediatric Transport*
Deftie Daniel, *Patient Accounts*
Charles Dillard, *Operative Services*
Nancy Dunkle, *Pediatric OR*
Paula English, *Medical ICU*
Amanda Fouch, *Operating Room*
Laura Grier, *Emergency Medicine*
Tonya Harris, *Operating Room*
Vonetta Harts, *Desk Operations*
Kenneth Hollimon, *3 South Adult Psychiatry*
Eva Hui, *Hematology*
Tiffany Jackson, *Desk Operations*
LaToya Jones, *HIMS*
Phyllis Kitchens, *Cardiology*
Shannon Kitts, *Neonatal ICU*
Mallory Langston, *Emergency Medicine*
Rhonda Banks Leek, *Emergency Medicine*

Kathy Leopard, *Women's Health*
Catherine Lewis, *Medical Staff Office*
Kesha Littles, *Eye Clinic*
Sharon Lumpkin, *Operating Room*
Brian Moore, *Finance*
Brian Morris, *Operating Room*
Bertha Mota, *Utilization Management*
Catherine Oglesby, *4 CMC Pediatric Medicine*
Lily Pacheco, *Greeter Services*
Lisa Parker, *Environmental Services*
Mary Parkman, *7 West Obstetrics*
Rhonda Prescott, *OR Administration*
Thanna Rabun, *Radiology Transcription*
Valarie Robinson, *Emergency Medicine*
Susan Sanders, *Emergency Medicine*
Teyaka Scott, *Patient Access Services*
Kay Simon, *Kidney Transplant*
Gail Smith, *Desk Operations*
Wanda Smith, *Epilepsy Monitoring Unit*
Jimmy Taylor, *Facilities Operations - Electrical*
Heather Tucker, *Neonatal ICU*
Cynthia White, *Psychiatry Administration*
Renee White, *Respiratory Care*
Gwendolyn Williams, *Pain Management*
Pamela Wilson, *Specimen Procurement & Receiving*
Laronce Wimberly, *Pediatric OR*
Krystal Young, *7 West Obstetrics*

Ten Years

Kathleen Boone, *IV Therapy Team*
Rebecca Cantrell, *Gamma Knife*
Lisa Cummins, *Sports Medicine*
Deborah Daniels, *Electrophysiology Lab*
Wanda Hatfield, *Pediatric Respiratory Care*
Thomas Hooper, *Client Services*
Amanda Loper, *Cancer Clinic*

Ann Marsh, *Finance*
Teresa Mills, *Magnetic Resonance Imaging*
Mechele Morales, *Kidney Transplant*
Kathleen Paine, *HIMS*
Dorothea Pickett, *Pediatric Respiratory Care*
Roxanne Rowe, *Patient Accounts*
Tabitha Scott, *General Radiology*
Richardine Scruggs, *4 CMC Medicine*
Sherry Shirley, *Radiology CT*
Julie Tanner, *Centralized Scheduling*
Crystal Wang, *7 West Obstetrics*
Troy Warren, *Environmental Services*
Angela Williams, *7 West Obstetrics*
Sandra Wilson, *Neonatal ICU*
Elizabeth Zwanziger, *7 West Obstetrics*

Fifteen Years

Vonda Beck, *Operating Room*
Senia Mae Bell, *8 West Perioperative*
Sandy Bowdre, *Patient Accounts*
Levon Bowman, *Environmental Services*
Issac Brown, *Pediatric OR*
Lou Ann Burnett, *Quality Assurance*
Jimmie Dyson, *HIMS*
Willie Flowers, *Operating Room*
Nancy Hannan, *Ambulatory & Network Services*
Cardall Hilton, *Facilities Operations - Building Maintenance*
Marieta Hobbs, *Application Installation & Support*
Marcia Jiminez, *Centralized Scheduling*
Dennis Steed, *Environmental Services*
Maria Stephens, *4 CMC Epilepsy*
Chimene Suer, *Sports Medicine*
Traci Talman, *Adolescent Clinic*
Elizabeth Tucker, *Radiology Fluoroscopy*
Dina Wright, *Safety & Security* ♦

Wells named Emergency Management Specialist



Kevin Wells has been named Emergency Management Specialist in Safety and

Security at MCGHealth. He will chair the medical center's emergency management committee to prepare the hospital for potential emergencies, as well as assist in managing MCGHealth's role as the area's regional coordinating hospital.

Before joining MCGHealth, Wells was the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the Northeast Health District in Athens. Wells has more than

15 years of experience, including service as a flight and combat medic with the Army National Guard and as a paramedic with Athens Regional Emergency Medical Services.

Wells received an associate's degree from Truett-McConnell College in Watkinsville, and a bachelor's degree in Health Care Management from American Intercontinental University, an Internet-based campus. He is trained in many areas of the National Incident Management System, including Core Disaster Life Support and Emergency Operations Center Management. ♦

Journal publishes an article by Gillen



Sarah Gillen, BA, RN, CAPA, CNIV, recently authored an article

published in the December issue of the *Journal of Peri-anesthesia Nursing*. "What's All the Fuss About? Day-of-Surgery Cancellations and the Role of Perianesthesia Nurses in Prevention" explores how perianesthesia nurses play a role in preventing cancellations or delays on the day of surgery. The article also looks at ways to reduce waste and the impact of various cost containment issues such as process flow and staffing.

Contributors Karen Catchings, BSN, RN, CAPA, CNIV, Same Day Surgery Charge Nurse; Leslie Edney, BSN, RN, CAPA, CNIV, Post Anesthesia Care Unit Charge Nurse; Rhonda Prescott, BBA, Data Coordinator for Perioperative Services; and Susan Andrews, BAN, MA, RN, CAPA, Manager of Perioperative Services, assisted the Pre-Op Evaluation Charge Nurse in conducting research for the article. ♦

Gomez named to executive group of national pharmacy organization



Tad Gomez, R.Ph., Director of Pharmacy at MCGHealth, was recently named to the

16-member Pharmacy Council Executive Committee of the University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC).

During his one-year term, Gomez will be a part of the leadership group that pro-

vides to UHC-affiliated organizations the oversight and direction, tools and resources and best practices in pharmacy operations and services that improve quality of care, patient safety and overall medication use.

Gomez is the former Director of Inpatient Pharmacy Services for Ben Taub General Hospital, Lyndon B. Johnson General Hospital and Quentin

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Gomez named *continued from page 5*

Mease Community Hospital in Houston, Texas. He holds a B.S. degree from the University of Kansas School of Pharmacy and an M.S. degree in Hospital Pharmacy Administration from The Ohio State University. He completed a residency in Pharmacy Practice Management at Ohio State Medical Center.

He is a member of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists.

The UHC, formed in 1984, is an alliance of 103 academic medical centers and 191 of their affiliated hospitals representing approximately 90 percent of the nation's nonprofit academic medical centers. ♦

New service helps employees cut through the red tape

What was already good access to in-network physicians just got better with the addition of the Employee Concierge Service Line. In the event that going through normal channels fails, employees and their dependents can call 706-721-9522 to get help with issues ranging from scheduling a doctor's appointment to getting lab results. The phone line is staffed Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

"We have highly skilled service people standing by to help you with many types of issues, both large and small.

This team will be advocates, problem solvers and intermediaries. They will work to quickly resolve your access issues," said Sara Gorrell, Team Lead, Centralized Scheduling.

Approximately 25 community physician practices consisting of well over 100 physicians are now a part of the FlexChoice network, joining the cadre of Medical College of Georgia faculty physicians in the FlexChoice network. To find the latest list of in-network physicians, go to hi.mcg.edu/HR/pdf/Physician-Directory100709.pdf. ♦

Welcome new team members

Niyosha Aldonza, 7 West Obstetrics

Tracy Avery, Recovery Room

Leigh Bergren, 5 North Oncology

Lucia Bradham, 5 North Oncology

Michael Brown, Patient Transport Services

Danette Butler, Patient Care Technician

Stacy Carrigan, 5 North Oncology

Hailey Casto, 5 North Oncology

Lisa Count, Emergency Medicine

Yolanda Cunningham, Desk Operations

Jane Daniel, 5 North Oncology

Vicki Dickerson, Financial Quality

Aarron Doman, 8 West Perioperative

Hugo Goddard, 4 South Surgery

Courtney Gustin, Utilization Management

Shannon Hill, 5 North Oncology

Matthew Hooker, Centralized Scheduling

Haley Jannenga, 5 North Oncology

Rebecca Kershner, 5 North Oncology

Guy Lancaster, Central Distribution

Jennifer Lorgren, Abdominal Imaging

Phillip McKenzie, Environmental Services

Tim McLane, Sports Medicine

Crystal Moody, Diagnostic Radiology

Tara Norland, Blood Donation Program

Shannon Odum, GRTC Administration

Sandra Phillips, Social Services

Dulce Rivera-Gonzalez, Patient Transport Services

Jae Rouse, 5 West Medicine

Leah Sanders, Emergency Medicine

Naundria Smith, Utilization Management

Tiffany Smith, 5 North Oncology

Tamithia Swisstack, 5 North Oncology

Efren Thomas, Dietary

Allison Tihey, Adult Hemodynamic Lab

Ashley Ziobrowski, Emergency Medicine ♦