Wildey Named Administrative Director

Linda Wildey, RN, MSN, has been named Administrative Director of Women's Health. She will be responsible for the daily operations and development of the Women's Health Center of Excellence.

Previously, Wildey was Administrative Director of Women's and Children's Services at SwedishAmerican Health System in northern Illinois. She has nearly 30 years' experience in health care and health administration, with a decade focused on multidisciplinary women's health services. Wildey has extensive experience in program planning and development for both inpatient and outpatient women's health services.

Wildey holds a Master of Science degree in Nursing in Maternal and Child Health from the University of Cincinnati as well as certification as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. She completed post-graduate studies in Health Services Administration at the University of St. Francis in Elgin, Ill.

She is a member of the American Organization of Nurse Executives, the American College of Health Executives and the Association of Women's Health, Obstetrics and Neonatal Nurses.

Authors Answer the Question, “Is It Hot in Here? Or Is It Me?”

Jennie Montgomery, News Anchor at WJBF-TV/News Channel 6, served as mistress of ceremonies for the event.

MCG Health System recently hosted a luncheon at the Augusta Marriott Hotel & Suites for more than 400 women during which two award-winning Newsweek journalists and authors gave a humorous and informative presentation on menopause. The talk was based on the new book “Is It Hot in Here? Or Is It Me? The Complete Guide to Menopause.” Authors Barbara Kantrowitz and Pat Wingert combined solid reporting, thorough research and a good dose of humor to help women understand the wide range of normal experiences brought about by this challenging life transition.

See “Is It Hot in Here?” on page 5
Patient Satisfaction Results Show Improvement

Overall, we saw significant improvements in our August Press Ganey patient satisfaction scores. Our overall score for the month was 87.6 points, which exceeded both the current year-to-date score of 87.3 points and last fiscal year's total score of 86.9 points.

Congratulations! Five surveys were above the 60th percentile, which is our desired threshold. They are the CMC Inpatient and Outpatient, Psychiatry Inpatient and Outpatient and Ambulatory Surgery surveys. Extra kudos to those employees who are responsible for the CMC Inpatient and Psychiatry Outpatient survey results. They exceeded the 90th percentile, which is our high performance measure. Also noteworthy are the employees who are responsible for the Ambulatory Surgery survey, which exceeded target at the 75th percentile.

Increasing our patient satisfaction scores by a significant amount is not easy, but it is a worthy goal. Keep learning what pleases our patients and families. Keep working to improve our services. Keep letting the pride you feel in doing a good job drive you to reach greater and greater heights. And, if you keep at it, we’ll see our scores not only increase, but remain at elevated levels. Thank you for putting forth your best effort every day.

Sincerely,

Don Snell
President and CEO

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Time to Light the Night

Walkers and donors are being sought for the Leukemia Lymphoma Society’s Light the Night Walk. The walk will be held October 6 at the Augusta Commons. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. and the walk begins at 7:30 p.m.

The Society is the largest voluntary health organization dedicated to funding blood cancer research, education and patient services. Light The Night is held annually to raise funds for cures. It’s the nation’s night to pay tribute, and bring hope to thousands of patients and their families.

If you are interested in helping the MCG Health System team reach its goal of $2,000, go to lighththenight.org/ga to register. For more information, call Kettely Darden at 706-721-2752 or Patricia Wheeler at 706-721-0248.
Nurses Advance on the Clinical Ladder

Twelve registered nurses recently ascended the clinical ladder to CN III and two became CN IV. They are:

**CN III**
- Linda Bailey, CMC OR
- Lillian Beard, 8 West Perioperative
- Kimberly Jaeger, 4 CMC
- Melinda Lively, ER Observation
- Jennifer McClintock, NICU
- Melinda Lively, ER Observation
- Brenda Pitt, Emergency Department
- Donna Smith, 8 West Perioperative

**CN IV**
- Kris Stegall, Emergency Department
- Kimberly Whitfield, Emergency Department
- Darlene Williams, NICU
- Karen Wilson, 4 CMC

Nurses may apply for clinical ladder levels twice a year. They are required to write exemplars that reflect certain aspects of their clinical experiences in caring for patients. In addition, each nurse must demonstrate involvement in leadership activities.

“The nurses have achieved these levels by meeting stringent guidelines. These advanced levels attest to their continuing professionalism and I congratulate them,” said Sharon Vincent, Director of Professional Nursing Practice.

Reap Rewards for Becoming a Talent Scout

Since the STAR or Start Thinking About Recruitment bonus was implemented in 2003, MCG Health, Inc. has awarded nearly $100,000 in placement bonuses to staff members who successfully referred qualified candidates. In fact, one health system employee received $15,000 in referral bonuses for referring more than five new employees.

The Information Systems Department is growing and looking to fill 25 new information technology positions, so a new program – SmartFit or Staffing Methods And Recruitment Team for Information Technology – has been initiated.

If you know qualified candidates, refer them to MCGHealth.org/Careers, where they will find the education and experience requirements. The applicable vacancies are designated by an asterisk. Relocation support for out-of-state candidates will apply to some positions.

Candidates must apply online and state on their applications the MCGHI employee most responsible for referring them. Candidates should give your name and phone number in their online cover letters or in bold at the top of their resumes. If a candidate is hired, you will receive $1,000 after taxes when the candidate starts work and another $1,000 once the candidate successfully completes 12 months of employment in Information Services. MCGHI will pay the taxes so that your referral bonus will be net of taxes. Bonuses cannot be split among several people.

Don’t wait; there is a deadline for filling the positions. If you have questions, call the Human Resources recruiter assigned to your department.
Downtown Augusta Becomes Pretty in Pink

To mark the close of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (October), MCG Health System and Mayor Deke Copenhaver will dye 19 of the city’s municipal fountains pink the morning of Thursday, November 1.

“We are partnering to raise awareness of the importance of breast cancer prevention and treatment. Unfortunately, screening rates for annual mammograms are decreasing,” said surgical oncologist Dr. Scott Lind. “The best weapon for early detection — and therefore early treatment — is an annual mammogram combined with monthly self-exams. By joining forces with the city of Augusta, we hope to deliver this message to women throughout the CSRA.”

November 1 is also the day on which the annual fundraiser will be held to benefit the MCG Cancer Center, particularly breast cancer services. “Puttin’ on the Pink” is at 7 p.m. at the Marbury Center in downtown Augusta. This second annual pink party raises awareness, and celebrates survivors and the team of professionals who care for them.

Each event ticket entitles the holder to enter a raffle for a luxury spa vacation for two. The winner must be present to win the spa vacation.

Employee tickets are $45; $50 for non-employees. For more information or to order tickets, call 706-721-3957.

Don’t be surprised if you notice the Pink Prowler roving around the hospitals and clinics. The Pink Prowler will hide one pink suitcase each week until November 1. If you find a pink suitcase, you become eligible for a prize drawing of a deluxe Club Car golf vehicle or a complimentary ticket to “Puttin’ on the Pink.” The winner of the golf vehicle need not be present to claim the prize.

Invite A Friend to the RN Interview Experience

The third annual “RN Interview Experience” will be held October 10, 2007, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Terrace Dining. Hiring managers will interview nursing graduates and experienced RNs for current and future job openings. Refreshments will be provided.

Pre-registration at MCGHealth.org/Careers is mandatory. This website also is where interested RNs can submit their resumes online as well as select an appointment time with a hiring manager. Those without Internet access may call 706-721-1523 for assistance.

MCGHI 2007 Holiday Schedule

Thanksgiving
November 22 and 23, 2007

Christmas
December 24 and 25, 2007

New Year’s Day
January 1, 2007
“Is It Hot in Here?”
continued from page 1

Rhonda Graybeal, a member of the MCG Health, Inc. Board of Directors and owner of Hang-Ups Custom Framing and Art Gallery, is joined by Cheryl Cheek, Financial Advisor at Merrill Lynch.

More than 400 women of all ages and walks of life attended the humorous and informative luncheon seminar.

Although the seminar was primarily for women, it was also attended by “the men who love them.” Dudley Harrington (left), MCGHI Vice President for Managed Care and Revenue Cycle, and Bob McVicker, MCGHI Vice President of Financial Reporting and Decision Support, were among the men present.

Several MCG faculty physicians also attended the luncheon. Pictured (front row) are Dr. Sean Francis, Dr. Nicole Yost, Dr. David Lind and Dr. Thomas Samuel (rear).

Horse Show Slated

The amateur English/Western Open Horse Show benefiting the MCG Children’s Medical Center will be held on October 13, 2007. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the opening ceremony begins at 9 a.m. at the Hippodrome Horse Complex in North Augusta. The event features 40 different classes and championships.

Entry fees are $5 for general classes, $10 for Championship classes and $2 for Exhibition classes. Spectator admission is free.

For more information or to volunteer, call 706-721-4004 or visit MCGHealth.org/kids.

CLAS Offers Sign Language for Children

Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services will present the “ABC-123’s of American Sign Language for Children” for ages 6 to 12 on October 6, 13, and 20, 2007, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in BT 1809. The cost is $20 and is limited to 20 students. For further information, call 706-721-6929.
We Are Pleased to Welcome Our Newest Team Members

Lindsey Adams, Cardiology Practice Site
Niyosha Aldonza, Patient Transport
David Berry, Radiology
Cervantes Boddy, Safety and Security
RaShonda Chinn, HIMS
Audrey Doyle, GRTC Administration
Lee Ealey, Emergency Medicine
Felicia Golden, 5 West Medicine
Rebecca Jennings, Financial Quality
Benjamin Jones, Client Services
Jeff Jones, Dietary
Leon Ledwell, Patient Transport
Angela Lewis-McGruder, ER Observation
Paul McCarty, Occupational Development
Jenni Mobley, Pediatric Hem/Onc Clinic
Justin O’Tyson, Safety and Security
Kim Patterson, Float Pool
Jacqueline Riley, Respiratory Care
Kaye Strader, Financial Quality
Shawn Stribel, Telemetry
Ana Virella, OB-GYN/Ultrasound
Christina Wells, SICU

Mark Your Calendars
Radiation oncologist Dr. Catherine Chang will speak at the October 2, 2007, meeting of Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness on the role radiation technology plays in the fight against breast cancer. A cash bar reception will start at 6 p.m. and dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. The event will be held at the Doubletree Hotel & Convention Center (formerly the Sheraton). The cost is $25, payable at the door.

For reservations, e-mail cnta@bellsouth.net or call 803-649-3456.

Spend Analytics Presented at AHRMM

Left to right: Andy Anderson, Sue Touchtone and Ricki Wilson, Program Director of the UHC’s Spend Analytics Tool Master Certification Program.

Sue Touchtone, Director of Supply Chain Management, and Andy Anderson, Director of Materials Management, recently presented a case study on spend analytics at the 45th Annual Association of Healthcare Resource and Materials Management Conference in San Diego.

Their presentation outlined how MCG Health, Inc. uses techniques for effectively managing and analyzing supply data, including monitoring contract compliance, supporting item file maintenance, researching pricing/packaging discrepancies and providing line item comparisons on non-catalogue purchases. The techniques were developed as part of a University HealthSystem Consortium project.