Dr. Peter Edgerton Opens Full-Time Office Here

Peter Edgerton, MD FACS, has joined the medical staff at Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital. For the past two years, he has been seeing patients on a part-time basis at the Lewis County facility. He will now be a full-time physician here. He is a board certified urologist specializing in adult and pediatric urology medicine.

Dr. Edgerton graduated from New York Medical College in 1977. Following graduation, he went to North Shore University Hospital in Long Island, NY, where he completed a surgery internship and his junior residency in surgery. From there, Dr. Edgerton went to Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, where he was a resident in urology and later became chief resident of adult and pediatric urology. Dr. Edgerton has had practices in Florida, Montana, Virginia and West Virginia during his career.

In 1991, Dr. Edgerton served as a Board Member of the American Cancer Society and is currently a Delegate to the State Medical Association as well as a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Edgerton is married and has one daughter. He and his wife have a home in Fairmont.

SJMH employee Joyce Greenlief took a first place and an honorable mention at the Jubilee Fine Arts Show over Labor Day at Jackson’s Mill. Joyce is pictured above with her first-place entry, “Morning on Route 33”. Good job, Joyce. We are proud of you!

Dr. Joseph Snead was ready for golf during the fifth annual SJMH Charity Golf Tournament on Sept. 25. He made sure he had enough golf balls for his very, very expert game of golf.
Four SJMH Employees Retire

Housekeeping’s Nancy Moody Retires in May

Nancy Moody, of SJMH’s housekeeping department, retired on Thursday, May 31, 2007. She was honored with a reception in the Hospital boardroom attended by Hospital staff.

She received gifts from her co-workers, and a gift certificate from the Hospital.

Nancy loves working at SJMH but decided that she would like to retire at this time.

Nancy is originally from Gilmer County and graduated from Sand Fork High School. She moved to Lewis County in the late ‘60s. She was a substitute cook for the school system and also worked at the old State Hospital in the dietary department. She began work at Stonewall Jackson in 1993 in the housekeeping department on the evening shift.

She has one son, Michael, who is a paramedic with the Gilmer County Emergency Squad. He also works part-time at Minnie Hamilton Health System in Calhoun County.

Nancy said that she plans on doing some of her own housecleaning now that she has the time. She also plans on camping more, too.

Beulah Ruppert Has July Retirement Party

ED’s Beulah Ruppert retired in July. Ruppert started at SJMH on the first day the facility was opened at its present location on Route 33 – November 19, 1972.

She reminisced, “I started as an aide on the second floor. I really didn’t receive any training; we just learned by doing it.”

At the time of her retirement, she was the dayshift secretary in the Emergency Department.

Ruppert is originally from Summersville and graduated from Summer-

Beulah has big plans for her retirement.

“I plan on doing some painting around the house. I normally paint the inside of the house every year,” she explained. She also cans lots of veggies.

Beulah said that she has been on a schedule her entire life. Now she plans on doing what she wants, when she wants to.

“I do want to clean the house and just take it easy,” she said. “Now, if we want to do something, we can just do it on the spur of the moment.”

Chief Nursing Officer Mary Ellen Bragg noted, “Beulah has seen the whole history of the Hospital unfold here. She has worked Med/Surg, OB and ER. She focused on the duties of her job and took them seriously. She was not afraid of change and would readily do any task that was asked of her.”
ED Nurse Bob Mills Retires in July

Robert Mills, RN, an emergency room nurse at SJMH, retired on July 31.

“It has been a pleasure serving all of the people of Lewis County and the surrounding counties,” said Mills.

SJMH Chief Nursing Officer Mary Ellen Bragg said, “Bob had a special knack for dealing with our older patients. He always took the extra time needed to help them. They were well aware of his efforts and we often received notes of thanks and appreciation because of Bob’s kindness.”

Mills has had a variety of careers in his life. He spent some time in the food industry, both retail and wholesale. He also owned a supermarket in Weston. He was a sales manager with Standard Brands, Inc. He worked in the coal mines and had an electrical business. However, at the age of 46, his career took a turn.

“At the encouragement of Dr. Joseph Snead, I decided to go into nursing school,” explained Mills.

He graduated with a nursing degree from Davis and Elkins College in May 1996 and came to work at SJMH.

In April 2002, he was honored as an employee of the month. The nominator wrote, “Bob has been a very dedicated employee...He has worked numerous days off and extra hours, working all different shifts. He is very caring to his patients.”

Bob recently received a special note of thanks from a couple injured in a motor vehicle accident. They felt that he went the “extra mile” in taking care of them.

He has been a member of the Lewis County Emergency Squad since 1980 and is a lifetime member. He plans to continue his work there.

Mills has been married to Vada Monroe for the past 45 years and the couple has four children – Robert Dennis, a chemical engineer; Barton Keith, presently employed by General Dynamics; Cindy Harbert, a nurse; and John, a medical student at the School of Osteopathy in Lewisburg. John was a chemistry/physics teacher before entering medical school.

The couple’s 10 grandchildren are: Joy Mills, Letha Mills, Arla Mills, Billy Mills, Virginia Mills, Derrick Harbert, Cara Harbert, Emily Harbert, McKenzie Mills and Megan Mills.

Mills was honored with a retirement reception July 25 in the SJMH board conference room.

Mills and his wife own a home in St. Petersburg, Fla., where they plan on spending their winters. He enjoys golfing and fishing.

Surgery’s Joan Miller Retires in September

Longtime surgery technician Joan Miller was honored with a retirement reception Sept. 26 at SJMH. Her last day of work was Sept. 28.

Joan came to SJMH in 1976 as part of the OR crew. She is a Beckley native and received part of her nursing education at St. Mary’s in Huntington.

She and her husband, Jim, have four children: Matthew, deceased; Paul, 41; Andrew 38; and Suzan, 30.

She noted that she has seen great changes in the surgery department. Probably the greatest change is the development of laparoscopic surgery, which negated the need for more invasive procedures.

Joan has great plans for her retirement. High on her list of priorities are relaxing, traveling, and devoting more time to her crafts. She and Jim have been crafters for decades. In the past, they have done as many as 20 craft shows in a year, but now sell their wares at two, including the Stonewall Jackson Jubilee.

Joan is a member of St. Mark’s Lutheran Church in Clarksburg, where she has taught Sunday School, coordinated Bible Study, played in the bell choir, and currently sings in the adult choir.

Chief Nursing Officer Mary Ellen Bragg noted, “Joan has seen the whole array of OR staff since the ’70s, from physicians to OR techs, and I appreciated the great experience she brought to Surgery.”

AT THE RECEPTION. Pictured above are, left to right, granddaughter Ashley Miller, daughter Suzan Draughn, Joan, Joan’s husband, Jim Miller, and her close friend, Reita Marks.
Organizers of the fifth annual Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital Golf Tournament raised more than $21,000 at the event on Tues., Sept. 25, 2007. The money is used to fund scholarships for high school students pursuing careers in healthcare. The tournament was held at the Arnold Palmer Signature Golf Course at Stonewall Resort. More than 100 players participated in the tourney.

The scholarship fund is named for the late Bill Adler, a local Weston businessman and supporter of Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital.

The Surg RX team took top honors with a 56. The team was comprised of Dr. Gene Hammell, David Mandler, Scott Tanabe, and Buddy Brennen.

Second place went to Bennett’s Firestone with a score of 57. Team members were Larry Bennett, Lytle Batten, Tony Louk, and Brian West.

The Amis team took third-place honors, also with a 57. Team members were Steve Mohr, Scott Mohr, Mike Morrone, and Marty Morgan.

Other prizes were awarded to: Dan Dickinson, for closest to the hole; Greg Smith, for the longest drive and the longest putt; and Mike Squires, for the straightest drive.

Corporate Sponsors for the tournament were: Benefit Assistance Corporation; Biomedical Technology; Comprehensive Pharmacy Services; Heaster-Hart, LLC; Huntington Bank; Morgan Stanley-James Mason; Sodexo; Steptoe and Johnson; Stonewall Home Oxygen Therapy.

Eagle Sponsors were: Anderson and Roers CPAs; BB&T - Carson Insurance Services; Champion Industries; Columbia Gas; Dominion; Seneca Medical United Bank; Harmon Elevator; United Medical of PA.

Tee Sponsors included: Associated Architects; Crestview Rehabilitation Center; Bill Crouch and Associates; Capellan’s Jewelry Store; Weston Rotary Club; KFC; Keegan & Associates, Inc.; Standard Textile; Best Care Pharmacy; Dr. Scattaregia; Robert Ramsey Insurance; Michael’s; Chick and Janet Lockard; Dr. Rob Snuffer; Weston Transfer; Smith Barney; State Farm Insurance; Garton Real Estate; Stalnaker Energy; Ballard’s Chevrolet, Pontiac, Buick, Inc.

Other donations were given by the Theresa Snaith Hospital Auxiliary and Saint Patrick School.

The M. William “Bill” Adler Scholarship program was begun in 2003. Its purpose is to provide financial help to worthy high school students who are pursuing a career in healthcare. The Scholarship Committee has been able to award 17 students with scholarship monies.
Beverly Salisbury ran into a problem when she was trying to come to work one morning. A sweet little black bear was in the yard. Pictured above is the creature taking a look at Beverly.

Programs to Prevent Patient Falls Started

Two programs have been implemented for nursing here at SJMH. One of the goals is to decrease falls for patients. Due to the combined efforts of all personnel, the staff has been successful in that endeavor.

The first strategy was the creation of a patient safety officer position. This staff member coordinates with other staff members and calls attention to the need to monitor high-risk fall patients very closely and frequently.

“The role of the patient safety officer is to heighten staff’s awareness of those patients who are at a high risk for falling. This delegation is given on the med/surg, telemetry units at SJMH. The officer makes rounds frequently as an added measure of safety for the patient,” said Mary Ellen Bragg, Chief Nursing Officer.

The second part of the effort is a patient sitter program. Education was completed for SJMH personnel who have agreed to sit with patients in need.

Bragg explained, “The patient sitter program has greatly helped the supervisors locate sitters in a much more timely manner than they were able to do before. It is also comforting for us to know that we are able to use ‘our own’ people, who are very competent and caring.”

Both segments of this patient safety effort will provide even better care for those patients who have entrusted SJMH with their care.

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**Pineapple Crisp**

1 1/2 cups flaked coconut
1 cup all-purpose flour
1 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 cup butter or margarine, melted
1/8 teaspoon salt

Filling:
3/4 cup sugar
3 tablespoons cornstarch
1 can (8 ounces) crushed pineapple, undrained
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 tablespoon butter or margarine

In a bowl, combine the coconut, flour, brown sugar, butter and salt. Press 1 1/2 cups into a greased 9-inch square baking pan; set remaining mixture aside.

In a saucepan, combine the filling ingredients. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened and bubbly. Cool; spread over crust. Sprinkle with reserved coconut mixture. Bake at 350 degrees F for 25-30 minutes or until golden brown. Cool on a wire rack. Yield: 9 servings.

**Chocolate Zucchini Bread**
From Lisa Cogar

3 cups peeled and grated zucchini
3 eggs
1 cup vegetable oil
2 cups sugar
2 tsp salt
½ cup cocoa
2 tsp baking soda
¼ tsp baking powder
2-1/3 cups flour
2 tsp vanilla

In a large bowl combine eggs, sugar, oil, and zucchini. Mix dry ingredients together in a separate bowl. Gradually add to zucchini mixture. Mix well, then add vanilla. Pour into two greased (Pam) loaf pans. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean.

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**Exercise each day to stay happy and healthy!!!**
Cheryl Davis Selected as May Honoree

Cheryl Davis, of Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital’s Nursing Department, was named Employee of the Month for May 2007. She has been employed at SJMH since 1996.

She is a native of Fairmont. She graduated from East Fairmont High School and obtained her LPN training from the Monongalia County Vocational Center. Cheryl received her nursing degree from Regents College.

Cheryl lives in Weston with her husband, Doran. The couple’s daughter, Tara, is obtaining her Master in Business Administration from West Virginia Wesleyan College. The couple’s son, Corey, graduated from Lewis County High School in May. Her parents, Eddy and Betty Friend, live at Prickett’s Creek in Marion County.

Cheryl’s nominator was very complimentary and wrote, “Cheryl Davis has the ability to move, work or rotate throughout this hospital into all departments, i.e., OB, O/P, and ED whenever the need arises. She also places herself on the schedule when staff is needed to cover...Cheryl is always diligent and caring to all personnel and exceeds all that is asked of her. Her work ethic is highly commendable. She is supportive and caring to all the patients and staff and continues to be the “go to” person when all other options have been exhausted...Cheryl definitely deserves to be and is long overdue being acknowledged as Employee of the Month.”

Cheryl was pleased with the honor and said, “It is wonderful that I have the opportunity to work in a variety of areas that I would not be able to do in a larger facility. I have been treated very well here.”

In her spare time, Cheryl enjoys gardening, boating, biking, and doing anything outdoors.

Joe Lattea is Selected for June

Joe Lattea, of the maintenance department, was selected as Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital’s Employee of the Month for June 2007. He worked for several years on the midnight shift here and returned full time to SJMH in April 2006.

His parents are George and Rosemary Lattea of Lewis County. He is a Lewis County native and graduate of Lewis County High School. He has two children - Joseph, 16, and Chelsea, 9.

Joe’s nominator was very complimentary.

“Joe always answers our beeps and requests. He never complains, nor does he ever have a negative attitude toward any request from us. Joe is friendly and happy to help. We feel that he is a valuable employee to our Hospital,” wrote the nominator.

Joe’s supervisor, Rick Simpson, wrote, “Joe is a hard worker. He does what we ask of him and he gets along well with his co-workers.”

Joe was happy with the honor and said, “This is a good place to work. I have met a lot of different people here. There is always something new to challenge me.”

In his spare time, Joe likes to spend time with his children. He also enjoys the outdoors when he goes hunting and fishing.
Larry Gatian is Choice for Honor

Larry Gatian, of the Respiratory Department, was selected as Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital’s Employee of the Month for July 2007. Larry has been a full-time employee since February 2006. However, he worked part time for a year before that date, and he was director of the department from 1975 to 1990.

Larry is a Morgantown native but moved to this area in the 1970s. He has been married to Jane Marie for 42 years. The couple has three children. Traci, 40, and Suzanne, 36, both work for the FBI. His son Russell, 38, is a minister.

Larry is happy to be working at SJMH.

“It is great to be back here at the Hospital after all these years,” said the honoree. “My co-workers are very nice and I really enjoy all the people here. It is a pleasure to be back at Stonewall.”

August Selection is Trish Lowther

Trish Lowther, from SJMH’s Food Services Department, was selected as the Employee of the Month for August 2007.

She is a Lewis County resident and graduated from Lewis County High School in 1982. She began employment here at SJMH in June 2006 in Food Services.

Trish is married to Kenneth. The couple has one daughter, Dinhia, 14. The family lives at Turnertown. Trish’s parents, Harvey and Velma Davisson, live on the Right Fork of Freeman’s Creek.

Eight employees from the Intensive Care Unit signed Trish’s nomination, which read, “We just love her. She does her job 100% and also always has a smile on her face. She is very active in the community. She always knows our order before we say what we want. She makes the best potato salad and macaroni salad. She is a great asset to our hospital.”

Trish was also complimentary of the staff here.

“I really enjoy my job here,” she said. “I work with a very good group of people.”

In her spare time, Trish enjoys camping and watching her daughter play softball. Trish also serves as a coach for her daughter’s team, the Lady Bulldogs.
Sodexho Healthcare Services Responsible for Facilities Dept.

Recently, SJMH contracted with Sodexho Healthcare Services Facilities Solutions Group to manage the facilities department.

Paul Carstens has joined SJMH as the new Director of Facilities. Over the summer, the department has successfully completed two large projects - the replacement of the hot water tanks with new on-demand hot water heaters and installation of a new backflow preventer on the water line. Emphasis has also been placed on evaluating and correcting air conditioning deficiencies in OR, the kitchen, and the 2nd floor.

Next year, the Hospital expects a Joint Commission visit that includes a Life Safety Code Inspector. A Facilities regulatory expert will visit the hospital for a full day Life Safety Code Review. In order to prepare, the Engineering Department has implemented new regulatory tracking tools compliant with Life Safety Code requirements.

The department has established a new Building Maintenance Program to inspect and repair any life safety deficiencies. A new skills evaluation and training program is being implemented for the facilities staff.

Carstens is enthusiastic about the new partnership with SJMH.

He noted, “Over the next year, we will provide enhanced general maintenance training for our staff. We look forward to a good year of customer service and productivity and we appreciate the courteous manner in which the Hospital staff works with us.”

A Very Proud Mother!!!

Proud mothers are easy to spot. Take, for example, radiology’s Chris Gum. She is pictured above beaming with her son, Ryan. He graduated May 12, 2007, from West Virginia University’s School of Law. He was also inducted into “The Coil” - the honorary organization for law school graduates who placed in the top 10 percent of the class. Congrats to the new grad, but special kudos to Mom Chris. Ryan works for Judge James Matish of Clarksburg. He also recently passed his law boards.

Security and Visiting Hour Policy at SJMH Clar-
2007 Hospital
National Patient Safety Goals

Note: Gaps in the numbering indicate that the Goal is inapplicable to the program or has been “retired,” usually because the requirements were integrated into the standards.

Goal 1 Improve the accuracy of patient identification.
1A Use at least two patient identifiers when providing care, treatment or services.

Goal 2 Improve the effectiveness of communication among caregivers.
2A For verbal or telephone orders or for telephonic reporting of critical test results, verify the complete order or test result by having the person receiving the information record and “read-back” the complete order or test result.

2B Standardize a list of abbreviations, acronyms, symbols, and dose designations that are not to be used throughout the organization.

2C Measure, assess and, if appropriate, take action to improve the timeliness of reporting, and the timeliness of receipt by the responsible licensed caregiver, of critical test results and values.

2E Implement a standardized approach to “hand off” communications, including an opportunity to ask and respond to questions.

Goal 3 Improve the safety of using medications.
3B Standardize and limit the number of drug concentrations used by the organization.

3C Identify and, at a minimum, annually review a list of look-alike/sound-alike drugs used by the organization, and take action to prevent errors involving the interchange of these drugs.

3D Label all medications, medication containers (for example, syringes, medicine cups, basins), or other solutions on and off the sterile field.

Goal 7 Reduce the risk of health care-associated infections.

7A Comply with current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) hand hygiene guidelines.

7B Manage as sentinel events all identified cases of unanticipated death or major permanent loss of function associated with a health care-associated infection.

Goal 8 Accurately and completely reconcile medications across the continuum of care.

8A There is a process for comparing the patient’s current medications with those ordered for the patient while under the care of the organization.

8B A complete list of the patient’s medications is communicated to the next provider of service when a patient is referred or transferred to another setting, service, practitioner or level of care within or outside the organization. The complete list of medications is also provided to the patient on discharge from the facility.

Goal 9 Reduce the risk of patient harm resulting from falls.

9B Implement a fall reduction program including an evaluation of the effectiveness of the program.

Goal 13 Encourage patients’ active involvement in their own care as a patient safety strategy.

13A Define and communicate the means for patients and their families to report concerns about safety and encourage them to do so.

Goal 15 The organization identifies safety risks inherent in its patient population.

15A The organization identifies patients at risk for suicide. [Applicable to psychiatric hospitals and patients being treated for emotional or behavioral disorders in general hospitals.]
Many Thanks to Staff

Dear Caregivers of Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital,

On behalf of the family of my late husband, I wish to thank you all so very much for all of your efforts from October 2006 to the present—in caring for him. He appreciated your care and help so very much as did I. You all eased his pain.

To the SJMH ICU Staff, God bless you.

God sends us special people to help us on our way, and through them, we’re reminded of His loving care each day.

Thank you all for the compassion and tender care you gave our father and husband during his illness and death. A special thank you to the nurse (sorry we can’t remember your name) who cared for him in his final hours. The kindness shown to our family during this difficult time was greatly appreciated and will never be forgotten. May God richly bless each of you. You are truly the Angels Among Us. Thanking God for the blessing of wonderful people like you.

Thank you so much for the care and assistance that you showed me at your hospital on May 11, 2007. I really appreciate everything you do.

Thanks to all the staff at SJMH for the absolutely TERRIFIC CARE you gave to Carole and Brody. We are very thankful for your love and support.

Carole, Todd, Colyn, and Brody James

Dr. Kelly, Bob Mills, Scott and the cute nurse with the dark hair (I didn’t hear your name) and all the rest (including the nice receptionist who checked us in) and anyone else I may have missed.

This is my way of saying “Thanks” for being so kind and polite to us yesterday. Hope we don’t come back your way anymore but if we do, we hope all you nice people are working. Thanks again! You all are very special.

Dear Mr. Shaffer,

Our family wishes to express love, gratitude and blessings to the hospital and its staff for taking such great care with our mother. She was a patient many times and yet we always felt like family anytime she was treated. The entire staff—from lab techs, cafeteria staff, doctors and nurses - were patient, helpful and concerned for her, and it showed in their actions daily. It has been a great comfort to know that she was in good hands. God Bless each and every one of you.

To Brenda and the Radiology Techs,

I would like to compliment everyone in radiology for their kindness. Give Laura Lightner an extra kudo for being so helpful. I was scheduled for a mammogram at a certain time but because of a family emergency, I couldn’t make the appointment. You all went out of your way to accommodate me. Thanks so much.

To Hospital Administration,

I am a retired RN who was a supervisor at a hospital in Florida. You are to be commended on your employees. They are the most pleasant people – no matter how bad you feel – they make you feel better. Be proud of these people. They are a bright light for me and I hope they get the recognition they deserve.

Thank You for all the care and attention I always receive from all of you.

Thank you very much...

For the picnic foods we had on the 4th of July. I would also like to thank you for the very pleasing food and meals. You all were very nice and I miss the meals. I wish you could bring the meal trays to my home, because I can’t get out.

Thank you very much for the food here.

The foods were always attractive. Every time I asked for something different, I got a smile and whatever I asked for. You were all kind and eager to get whatever I wanted or needed. My husband couldn’t eat because his taste was ruined by chemo. Before we left the hospital today, he was eating like he is starved. God Bless You All.

Our Sincere Condolences to these members of our SJMH family on their losses:

Sherry Peters on the loss of her grandmother;
Mindy Hall on the loss of her grandmother;
Rusty Simpson on the loss of his father-in-law;
Mike Taylor on the loss of his aunt;
Ruth Ann Butcher on the loss of her stepfather;
Jamie Tyler on the loss of her sister.

We offer you our sympathy.
- The pharmacy has officially been named a “teaching pharmacy” for the WVU School of Pharmacy. We have already hosted 2-week rotations this spring and will begin hosting 4th year students for longer clinical rotations this fall. We are also in the process of setting up a similar rotation program with the University of Charleston School of Pharmacy.

- Medication Verification scanning is under way. If there are any medications that are not scanning properly or just general questions about the process, please feel free to contact the pharmacy staff at 8091. We will be glad to help in any way possible.

- Dan Walker will be contributing to the nursing education classes this fall. If there are any specific questions on pharmacy or pharmacy services at SJMH, please keep them in mind or mention them to your nurse manager. The classes will be sometime in October and the pharmacy portion will last approximately an hour to an hour and a half.

- Please remember to report ALL adverse drug reactions (ADRs). Our reporting numbers were very good during the winter months, but seemed to have slipped a bit with warmer weather. This may be due in part to less ADRs, but it also may be a sign that many are going unreported. Remember, call extension 8511 and leave a brief message about the patient, the drug, the treatment and where it took place; pharmacy will take care of the rest.

Donna Ramsey...In The News

Donna Ramsey successfully completed her Certified Emergency Nurse course. She passed a test, which is considered very difficult.

Donna also participated in a program at the Louis Bennett Library in Weston. The program is “The Tot Shop”, an interactive group for toddlers, their parents, grandparents, or guardians. Donna spoke to the group about “shaken baby syndrome” and parental self-control. She also answered health

New OB Nurse Supervisor

Becky Taylor began employment here as the new OB nurse manager in May. She worked at Saint Joseph Hospital for the past 17 years. Becky became aware of Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital when she was the clinical director for the Fred Eberle LPN program. She was well pleased with her experience here.

Becky lives in Lewis County with her daughter, Emily. She is looking forward to her employment here.

“I am really excited to tackle the new challenges here,” she said. She looks forward to the increased opportunities to enhance her obstetric experience.

Fran Hagmann Is Winner; Scholarship Available

Aimee Green, of Human Resources, was very happy to learn that HR assistant Fran Hagmann was awarded a scholarship from the state Human Resources Association. Aimee announces the availability of the scholarship every year because both SJMH employees and their children, enrolled in a healthcare area of study, are eligible for the help. Fran won $500, which will help her in her work toward her BS in HR management.

“I would like to publicize this because we have many employees, and children of employees, who are eligible, being in school for healthcare-related fields. Fran was the only application this year,” commented Aimee. “Several years ago, we also had a nursing student win the scholarship.”

Weddings

Michelle Parsons, of SJMH’s Food Service Department, wed James “Gumby” Gum on Aug. 18 at the Broad St. Church in Weston. James works for the Lewis County Commission and City of Weston. Michelle has a daughter, Maddy.

Infection Control’s Bev Carpenter married Dale Powers on Sat., Oct. 6, in Upshur County. It was a lovely Mossy Oak wedding.
Forty-Four Women Participate In Annual Women’s Health Fair

Forty-four women took advantage of a free health screening Fri., Sept. 28, at the offices of Mountaineer Healthcare and Dr. John Thomas.

Women were able to get a free PAP, pelvic, and breast exam that day. Women who did not have a PAP test in the past year were eligible for the exams.

Dr. Tony Naim, Dr. Serge Cormier, Midwife Vicki Smith, and staff offered their services for free at the event. Students working with the WV Rural Health and Education Partnership were also present to help.

Fairmont State nursing students Tamma Melton and Terrilyn Tenney, WVU nursing student Stephanie Bean Smith, WVU med student Gregory Peters, WV School of Osteopathic Medicine student Chris Smelley, and WVU School of Pharmacy students Ashley Reed and Jenn Rinkes helped in the screenings.

Receives Certification

Diane Ocheltree, LRTC (licensed respiratory therapist certified), recently passed her national board of the National Board for Respiratory Care and is now a Licensed Registered Respiratory Therapist.

Keep On Trucking

Two of SJMH’s physical therapy employees and a spouse took part in the Greater Clarksburg 10K Run held in June. John Weber took third place out of 142 runners in the 2 Mile. Kate Anderson and John’s wife, Rachel, took part in the 10K (6.2 miles.) Kate placed second in the 35-39 age group. Rachel placed first in the 30-34 age group.

New Day-Shift Nurse Supervisor

Carole James has accepted the position of dayshift nurse supervisor.

Carole has worked in many nursing departments, including ED, ICU, OB, and most recently, Med/Surg.

Carole began work here as a Nursing Assistant. She then received her nursing degree from Fairmont State College.

Births

Carole and Todd James announce the birth of their baby boy, David Brody, on May 17, 2007. The baby weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces, and was 21 inches long. He is the first child for the couple. He has one brother, Colyn Chapman, and one sister, Shyanna James. His father is employed at Linn Operating as a gas compressor mechanic. Carole is a nurse supervisor at SJMH.

Tina and Steve Godfrey announce the birth of their baby boy on June 5, 2007. Chayton Jarrett weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and was 21-1/2 inches long. He has an older brother, Trey. Tina is monitor tech here at SJMH’s ICU.

Heather and Eric Smith announce the birth of their first child, a baby girl, on April 12. The little girl is named Katie Isabelle. She weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces, and was 21 inches long. Heather is a nurse in ICU and Eric works for the state tax department.

Wanda Lewis announces the birth of her third child, Kevin Tyler. He was born June 14 at 4:26 p.m. He weighed 7 pounds and 1/2 ounce. He was 19-1/2 inches long. He has an older sister, Kelli, and an older brother, Brian.

Mrs. and Mrs. Charles Fallo, Jr., announce the birth of their first child, a little girl, on Wed., July 18, 2007. She was named Leah Lorraine and weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces. Her mother, Jennifer, works at SJMH in housekeeping and her dad works in the oil/gas industry. The new baby’s aunt is Michelle (Jennifer’s sister) Gum, of the Food Service Dept. Her cousin is Maddysen Parsons.

Bob and Beverly Salisbury welcomed a new granddaughter into their world on August 8, 2007. She was seven weeks premature but is doing well. Addison Brook weighed 4 pounds, 8 ounces, and her parents are Amber and Chris Heater.

Internet Sales Co. Opened

By SJMH Employee

A co-worker of ours is dabbling in the world of internet sales. Diane Ocheltree opened her first of four web sites on July 26, 2007. You can check it out at www.ocheltreeuniquegifts.com. If interested, she would be happy to give you free $10.00 gift cards to use on her site.
Pictures from the Summer

Pictured above are Rick Simpson and Joe Lattea, winners of the horseshoe pitching contest at the annual SJMH picnic.

Several SJMH Retirees came to the annual picnic in July. Pictured above, seated, left to right, are: Ruby Christy, Lucille Hicks, and Betty Sellas. Standing is Mary Ellen Villers.

AT RIGHT
Mary Welch won a grill set as a first-time visitor to the annual picnic.

AT LEFT
- Connie Riffle, the winner of the grand prize awarded at the annual picnic.

AT LEFT. It was a very large beetle on the outside of our building. Farm girl Kim Rush had no qualms about picking it up for the measurement of over 2.5 inches. Earlier in the summer, the materials management staff found these gigantic moths romancing by the building.

Carla Hamner and her family are pictured above at the SJMH baseball outing to a Pittsburgh Pirates game.
Medication/Verification Under Way at SJMH

Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital understands the importance of providing patients with the safest of care. High on the list of safety concerns for any hospital is the correct administration of medicines.

Recently, SJMH implemented a new method of administering drugs with a system called Med/Verify. Simply stated, Med/Verify makes sure that the correct patient is getting the correct medicine at the correct time. The system uses bar code technology (which has been in use at the supermarket for decades) for the administration of medicines.

SJMH staff use scanners connected to a portable computer system. Upon admittance to the Hospital, a patient will receive a bar coded ID bracelet. Most prescription drugs will also have an ID number with a bar code on them.

When arriving in the patient’s room to administer medication, the staff member will scan the patient’s wristband to verify the patient’s identity. This will also pull up the patient’s computerized medical records. Then the staff member will scan the bar code on each medication provided for the patient by the Hospital pharmacy. The computer automatically enters the medication information onto the patient’s chart. There will also be a comparison of the patient’s record to the drugs being administered to ensure that they match. If there is a problem, the computer sends an error message and the problem is investigated. This system can catch an error such as wrong patient, wrong dose, or wrong time to administer the drug.

So, for example, a bar code system could prevent a child from receiving an adult dosage of a drug and prevent a patient from mistakenly receiving a duplicate dose of a drug he or she had already received. A bar code system can also allow the computer to record the time that the patient receives the drug, ensuring more accurate medical records.

The implementation of the Medication Verification system at SJMH has been a combination of effort from several departments, including Nursing and Pharmacy.

The Director of the SJMH Pharmacy, Dan Walker, noted the positives associated with the new process.

“Getting the Medication Verification process off the ground has been a lot of hard work, especially for the nursing staff, but in the long run it will be time and effort well spent. When we sit back at the end of the day and see that another layer of safety has been added to our overall medication administration process, I know it’s great not only for us, but, more importantly, for our patients.”

Chief Nursing Officer Mary Ellen Bragg was in agreement.

“The Med/Verify process is a great patient safety measure. Its purpose is aimed at accuracy in administering medications to our patients: giving the right medication, in the right dosage, to the right patient, at the right time, by the right route. We are very excited to be able to be a part of this safety trend, and the staff has been doing a great job in participating in its initiation,” she explained.

The Institute of Medicine and other expert bodies have concluded that medical errors have substantial costs in lives, injuries, and wasted healthcare resources, and that drug-related adverse events are a major component of those errors.

The Federal Drug Administration estimates that once bar code technology is implemented in the administration of medications, there will be more than 500,000 fewer adverse events over the next 20 years. Thus, FDA estimates a 50% reduction in medication errors that would otherwise occur when drugs are dispensed or administered, even though some hospitals that currently have bar code systems in place report a higher error reduction from bar code usage.

Patients will avoid pain, suffering, and extensions of hospital stays with an estimated value of $93 billion over the next 20 years. In addition, hospitals are expected to avoid litigation associated with preventable adverse events, reduce malpractice liability insurance premiums, and increase receipts from more accurate billing procedures. Also, the bar coding system will help with inventory control for drug manufacturers, wholesalers and pharmacists, as well as efficiencies in ordering and billing.
Fibernet Outage Affects SJMH

SJMH employees were impacted by a telephone outage on Tues., July 10 and Wed., July 11.

On the first day of the interruption when making calls from within the Hospital to outside lines, the caller received a busy signal. Individuals trying to call in to SJMH received a recording noting that all the circuits were busy.

Local news media, police departments, and 911 were notified of the outage about 8 a.m. that Tuesday morning.

Console operator Suzie Miller said that the day was very quiet. Internally, employees could make calls. Since the external phone system was down, many employees could be seen outside in the SJMH parking lot making phone calls.

WDTV also showed up and interviewed IT’s Rob Moran on the Hospital’s response to the outage. Rob noted that the problem was at FiberNet’s Charleston location.

The Fibernet web site reported, “At approximately 5:30 am this morning (July 10), FiberNet experienced a network outage potentially impacting a majority of its service area in West Virginia. It is suspected that the failure of both the primary and redundant card in a network-switching component is responsible for the current outage situation. Although no estimated time to repair is available at this point, FiberNet is working diligently to resolve this problem just as quickly as possible. FiberNet apologizes to its loyal customers for the inconvenience caused by this situation and will provide further updates as they become available.”

KUDOS TO:

• The staff from Dietary, who have the job of providing nourishment for SJMH patients and staff; plus providing catering for special events. So many times, they are underappreciated;

• All staff who help with Soc/Rec events like the annual picnic held in July;

• Nursing staff for learning so many new things;

• Pam Thompson for her many hours of assistance with the Blood Policies;

• Harriett Williams for the many hours spent educating the Nursing staff on all of the changes in the DRG system;

• Don Aules and Jack Scarff for their help in getting a post-op cancer patient the supplies she needs to care for herself at home;

• Avah Stalnaker for involving the staff in the planning phase for the new hospital layout;

• All the people who help make the Adler Scholarship a reality;

• Lisa Cogar, for organizing the Fall Nursing Classes and providing us with CEUs for the first time in the history of the Hospital.

The Theresa Snaith Hospital Auxiliary recently donated clothing to the Hospital’s Emergency Department. The outfits will be given to patients in need. Pictured above receiving the gift is Mindy Hall, RN, one of SJMH’s Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE), as well as Auxiliary member Loys Henry. This is the second year that the Auxiliary has provided clothing to the Department.
A Day At PNC Park

More than 30 friends and employees of SJMH traveled to Pittsburgh’s PNC Baseball Park to see the Pirates down the Chicago Cubs 6-2 in June. Some of the SJMH-affiliated fans sat in section 115, behind home plate. The outing was an activity planned by the SJMH Social/Recreation Committee.

Melanie Betonti and her family were chosen Family of the Day. They were notified of the designation before the game and had their picture on the Pirate Jumbo-Tron. Mel also said that the family will receive a year’s worth of ice cream bars. Mel, her husband, Christopher, and great-nephews, Didre McHoney and Jalen Bridges, were the honorees.

Mel Betonti and her family were chosen Family of the Game at the Pittsburgh Pirates Game. They are pictured above on the PNC Park Jumbo-Tron.