At the beginning of August, two new physicians started their medical practices at Lively Healthcare Center, located in Jane Lew.

Dr. Jeremy Williams is a Lewis County native and WVU Medical School graduate. He is married to Trena Williston of Jane Lew. Trena is a 2005 WVU Law School graduate, who will be opening a private law practice in Weston soon.

He is the son of Harriett and Rick Williams. His paternal grandparents are Ada and the late Don Williams. His maternal grandparents are the late Harriett and Jay Rittenhouse.

Dr. Williams graduated from Lewis County High School in 1999. He attended Potomac State College and finished his undergraduate work at West Virginia University with a BA in Biology. He graduated from WVU’s Medical School and performed his residency at WVU. He is now board certified in family medicine.

“I am quite excited to come back to the Lewis County community,” he noted. “It is wonderful that I am going to have the opportunity to work here now among the people I know so well.”

Dr. Chris Kennedy is a Gilmer County High School graduate. He worked as both an EMT and a paramedic in the Gilmer Co. Emergency Squad. He received two undergraduate degrees at Glenville State - a BS in behavioral science and a BA in chemistry with minors in biology and math. Kennedy received his medical training at the WV School of Osteopathic Medicine at Lewisburg. He performed his residency at United Hospital Center in family medicine.

Dr. Kennedy lives near West Milford. He was born in Grantsville and raised on a farm in Normantown. His parents are Roger and Jeane Kennedy of Normantown. His paternal grandparents are the late Junior and Garnet Kennedy of Normantown. Dr. Kennedy’s maternal grandparents are Wilma Hern and the late James Hern of Cedarville.

Dr. Kennedy enjoys fishing, hunting, and just about any outdoor activity.

He is board certified in family practice.

Kennedy is optimistic about his new practice here.

“I am very happy to stay and practice medicine here in Central West Virginia,” he said.

Continued on next page
Stonewall Home Oxygen Therapy Receives Accreditation, Illustrating Its Commitment to Excellence in Patient Care

Stonewall Home Oxygen Therapy (SHOT), located at Market Place, in Weston, has achieved the Award of Accreditation from the Healthcare Quality Association on Accreditation (HQAA), based in Waterloo, Iowa. This award is achieved only when a home medical equipment company demonstrates a high level of quality practices in their business operations and patient care techniques. Stonewall Home Oxygen Therapy earned the three-year accreditation after completing a process, including a survey, that focused on patient care, financial stability, and a commitment to quality operational practices and procedures. Accreditation by HQAA assures Medicare and other payers that the highest levels of quality are practiced within all areas of the company.

“We sought accreditation by the Healthcare Quality Association on Accreditation to demonstrate that our company is committed to providing excellent patient care and safety,” says Jane Eisenbeis, SHOT Director. “This award also reinforces that our commitment to quality is ongoing.”

Eisenbeis noted that the company began the accreditation process in December 2008.

“We had a number of hurdles in our efforts to gain accreditation, which we started last year. Because of the wonderful cooperation from the staff, all paperwork was submitted and we were ready for survey by the end of May this year,” Eisenbeis noted. “All of the work was done completely online, and by e-mail, which was quite different than other processes I have been involved in. Since we were ahead of the deadline, more time was spent refining our processes.”

Members of the Stonewall Home Oxygen Therapy team include Eisenbeis, Barb Skinner, Mary Ellen Bragg, Larry Rupe, Sandy Smith, and Tedra Linger.

Mary Ellen Bragg, RN, began employment at SHOT in December 2008 and has provided practical expertise in the accreditation process.

“We paid quite a bit of attention to patient education and the assessment of patient needs,” she explained. “I am able to evaluate the need for equipment and obtain prescriptions for patient equipment and supplies as necessary. We have approximately 300 patients. Thorough patient assessment enables us to provide quality care for such a large population.”

Bragg noted that SHOT not only provides patients with oxygen and respiratory supplies, but C-Paps and Bi-Paps, which aid a patient with sleep problems. This type of equipment can provide sleep-deprived patients with the proper rest and renewal of energy which they desperately need. In addition to adult clients, the company also supplies pediatric patients with respiratory equipment/supplies and other vital medical equipment.

Avah Stalnaker, SJMH Associate Administrator, was very complimentary of SHOT’s accreditation. She was present during the exit interview conducted by the accreditation firm.

“The SHOT team should be so proud of the good work they do here. The surveyor noted that this company was very clean and very well organized. The surveyor actually said that SHOT was among the top five companies that she has ever surveyed...everything was just perfect - from customer service to the organization and cleanliness of the delivery van,” she said.

The surveyor was very pleased to report that there were no deficiencies, which the company would have to correct – a very good indicator of the quality of care they provide for their patients.

SHOT provides a complete line of medical equipment to better serve local customers. There is a full line of supplies and equipment for respiratory needs as well as other medical equipment including lift-chairs, scooters, wheelchairs, and beds. The expanded storefront allows consumers many options in personal care items such as canes, bathroom supplies/equipment, medication administration devices, including pill boxes, soft braces, and many other accessories. Also, there is a drive through for oxygen products where patients are able to ring a buzzer for service without exiting their vehicle.

Lively Healthcare

Continued from Page 1

a region where I grew up. I love the people and look forward to the opportunity to give something back,” noted Dr. Kennedy.

Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital had an open house on Fri., Aug. 7, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Jane Lew facility to welcome the new doctors. There were a number of free health screenings, including blood pressure, dermascan, bone density, cholesterol, and body mass index. Approximately 125 people attended.
Many, Many Thanks to Staff

To The Head of the Med/Surg Unit,

While in your unit of Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital I received some exceptional care from your nursing aide, Brenda Smith. While being a professional, she always readily helped you with a smile and talked to you as a compassionate person. Seeing that I have no immediate family even in the state, made me even more thankful for her attitude and personality. I also want to point out that with your staff…I was taken care of with expertise to make you proud.

I talked with all of them I came in contact with (nurses to maintenance) and found them overall very pleasant and friendly while still being the professionals that they are. Thanks to each and everyone of them for being such a wonderful crew that you and they can be proud of.

I appreciate all you have done for us and the care you gave my Mom. You took the time to explain and talk to us about things. Also, thank you for the card.

To Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital, I spent five days in your hospital recently. I just can’t say enough about the super care I received and the super food I had. I have never been in a hospital like you have. And I have been in many hospitals around this country. From being admitted to the triage area and then to my rooms and all that helped every step of the way. I can’t thank you enough. From all my breathing treatments and care, it was just super. All the people who helped me were always so very nice. Please let them know how very much I appreciated all they did for me. You are just super people. Thank you, Thank you. PS. I will never forget your care.

Thank you for the wonderful care our mother received in the telemetry unit. We also appreciate the kindness shown to us with the passing of mother. None of you will be forgotten by us.

ICU,

Thank you for the wonderful care you gave Mom.

P.S. I will never forget your care.

Thanks to all of the second floor med/surg nursing staff for their compassionate care provided to me after my surgery. I am thankful for your help.

How do I begin to adequately thank you for the awesome care you provided during my friend’s nine-day stay? Even though she was severely handicapped, I watched each of you treat her with such compassion and care. I say this from the bottom of my heart – I’d put your staff right up there with the staff of the finest hospital anywhere. Thanks again for everything you did.

Diane Ocheltree Named Secretary

Diane Ocheltree, Respiratory Therapy Department Head, has been elected as Secretary of the West Virginia Sleep Society. Her term of office began October 10, 2009, with installation during the annual Business/Membership meeting at Snowshoe Resort.

New SJMH HR Director Named

Rhonda M. Hager, a 25-year resident of West Virginia, is the new Human Resource Director. She is certified as a Senior Human Resource Professional from the HR Certification Institute and certified as an Employee Benefits Specialist from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania, in addition to a degree in Business Administration with an Accounting major.

She has over 30 years of experience in the Human Resource field, holding positions of Director of Human Resources for The Peacock Hotel & Spa in SC, Director of Human Resources for Genesis Partners in Bridgeport, Manager of Payroll and Benefits for Oglebay Resort in Wheeling, and Administrator of Pension and Benefits at The Greenbrier in White Sulphur Springs.

She is married to Michael Hager, who is employed by Benchmark Hospitality as the General Manager of Stonewall Resort, and has three children, Erin-31, Chris-29, and Trey-22.
Employees Honored at Awards Dinner

45-Year Pin Honoree
Bunny Corathers

35-Year Pin Honoree
Jack Scarff

30-Year Pin Honorees
Chuck Simpson and Diane Ocheltree

25-Year Pin Honoree
Kay Butcher

20-Year Pin Honoree
Pam Thompson

15-Year Pin Honoree
Edie Withers

AT LEFT
10-Year Pin Honorees
Left to right, first row: Ellen Ketron,
Brenda Weaver, Julia Spelsberg; second row - Michelle Gum, Betty Brown, Leatha Irvin, and Aimee Green.
The staff of Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital in Weston honored Velma “Bunny” Corathers with an 85th birthday luncheon and party on Wed., Aug. 26. (Bunny and her twin sister, Thelma Thompson’s birth date is actually Aug. 27.) Bunny is a Certified Nurse’s Aide on the Med/Surg Unit at the Hospital. Despite her 85 years, Bunny is known to “work rings around” younger employees.

Bunny began working at the old City Hospital (predecessor to the present SJMH) in 1942. She left the Hospital in 1949, when she became a mother. Bunny returned to work at SJMH in 1963.

“I started out as a nurse’s aide, but back then we learned everything. We actually did a lot of nursing duties because there weren’t a lot of nurses around,” she explained.

Bunny is so well liked and respected that she was also voted Employee of the Year for 2000.

At that time, she was nominated for her positive attitude and great work ethic.

“Bunny is the model employee. She is kind, considerate, and understanding of the patient’s and family’s needs,” noted the nominator. “Bunny goes beyond the call of duty to provide high quality nursing care. SJMH is very fortunate to have someone as dedicated as Bunny.”

During her birthday luncheon, Associate Administrator Avah Stalnaker reaffirmed that thought.

“We are here to celebrate the 85th birthday of Bunny, a very dedicated and loyal employee for Stonewall Jackson Hospital,” noted Stalnaker. “Bunny is respected by her patients and her fellow employees. We are lucky to have her here.”

**Unfortunate Accident**

Dr. Peter Edgerton was traveling to work at SJMH from his home in Lewisburg when he hit a large animal that turned out to be a bear. Unfortunately, he was driving his Jaguar. There was quite a bit of damage, but the good doctor kept on driving. It was such a hard collision that both air bags deployed. He doesn’t know what happened to the bear, but he sure knows what happened to his car.

Members of SJMH’s Board of Directors attended Bunny Corathers’ 85th Birthday Celebration. Pictured above, left to right, are: R.G. “Chick” Lockard, Bunny, Jean Bennett, and Gerald Wood.

Bunny enjoys her co-workers as well.

“I sure have liked the Hospital,” she said. “Everyone has been very good to me. I dearly love working.”

She also said that when SJMH opened at its present location in November of 1972 “I came with the building.”

Bunny was born at Freemansburg (Lewis County). She is the mother of one daughter, Barbara Ann King Wilt, who lives in Parkersburg. She has one grandson and a great-granddaughter and great-grandson.

**Honored By Gateway**

Andi Lamb, physician services biller for SJMH, was honored with a letter of recommendation from Gateway, SJMH’s electronic claims processing company.

The letter noted, “Congratulations! You showed outstanding performance in February. 99% of the claims you submitted to Gateway EDI were ERROR FREE. You have achieved the Gold Standard of Revenue Cycle for Medical Practices. … Keep up the good work! We look forward to sending this same message to you next month! And we will be sending out special prizes each quarter for everyone who meets these criteria each month!”
Ronda Brown is March Pick

Ronda Brown was chosen as the Employee of the Month for March 2009. She is the housekeeping supervisor and began employment at SJMH in February 1992.

Ronda is a Lewis County native but now resides in Buckhannon with her son, Jacob, who is a student at Buckhannon-Upshur High School.

She is the daughter of Patty Heath, of Roanoke. Patty was the housekeeping supervisor at SJMH for many years. Ronda’s father is Ed Heath, of Weston. She has two brothers, Mark, of Buckhannon, and Ed, of Weston. She also has a close friend, Thomas Wilkins, of Buckhannon.

Ronda enjoys her work and was very positive about the employees at SJMH. “I love my job and I love my staff,” she said.

Ronda’s nominator was very positive about her as an employee and as a supervisor.

April Employee of the Month is Kathy James

Surgery employee Kathy James was selected as Employee of the Month for April 2009. She began employment at the Hospital in February 1998 in the Food Services Department. She has also worked in Medical Records, as a Unit Secretary, in Registration, and now as Surgery Secretary.

Kathy’s nominator was very complimentary of her. “Kathy is a hard worker, always going over and above in the operating room. She has a wonderful personality, works well with the staff, doctors, and doctors’ offices. When she is asked to do something, most of the time it has already been done. She has a great deal of responsibility and performs extremely well. We are very proud to have Kathy as part of the team,” the nominator wrote.

Kathy is a Lewis County High School graduate. Her parents were the late John Kent and Garnet A. Gum of Churchville. She has three children, Amber Moyers, of Keyser, WV; Kelly Osborne, of Churchville; and Dusty James, of Weston. Kathy has four grandchildren, Logan Moyers, 8; Libby Moyers, 5; Mason Osborne, 5; and Izzy Snyder, 1.

Kathy was very pleased with the honor and noted, “I enjoy all the people I work with very much. Surgery is very interesting. I have learned a lot and I have seen a lot. All of my co-workers are true friends. They would do anything for you.”

Kathy enjoys bowling, bingo, as well as being with her family.
Cathy Marsh is Chosen as May Employee

Cathy Marsh, of the SJMH Laboratory, was chosen as the May 2009 Employee of the Month.

She began her employment at SJMH in December 1980 as a nurse’s aide. She went to the Lab as a phlebotomist in 1986. She took a year off in 2005 and returned to SJMH in 2006.

She is a Lewis County High School graduate and received training on the job at SJMH.

Cathy and her husband, Gary, have one son, Kyle, a student at LCHS.

Her parents are the late Addison and Helen Simpson. She has three brothers, all SJMH employees – Chuck, Rusty, and Rick.

Her nominators were very complimentary of Cathy.

One nominator wrote, “Cathy is always a positive person. She does her job with a smile – always. She makes patients feel at ease, whether they are a difficult stick or if they are just plain tired of being stuck. She always has the workboard caught up and never leaves any sticks behind for someone else to do. She is an expert at her job and has helped out co-workers with difficult sticks. As a phlebotomist, Cathy is an ambassador for the Lab. The positive experience which Cathy gives to the patients translates to positive views of the Lab from the patient’s perspective. I am proud to have Cathy represent us.”

Another co-worker wrote, “Cathy is perfect for the job.”

The last comment was, “Even when the workload is very heavy and hectic, Cathy does not lose her cool. I have worked with Cathy for years. She’s great for the patients and great for her co-workers.”

Cathy was equally complimentary of her co-workers and said, “I really like the people I work with because they are like family.”

Cathy enjoys spending time with her family, fishing, and recreation time outside.

June Selection is Accounting’s Patty Casey

Patty Casey, Hospital Accountant, was selected as Employee of the Month for June 2009. She began work at SJMH in February 2004. This was the second time that she has been selected for this honor.

She and her husband, Patrick, live at Jane Lew. Patrick is an entrepreneur and they have several businesses. The couple has two children – Sarah and Emily, both Fairmont State University students. Her parents are John and Genevieve Saeler, of Jane Lew.

Patty is a Lewis County native and a graduate of Lewis County High School.

Patty’s nominator wrote, “Patty is a jewel. She is very knowledgeable about all things Excel and in accounting in general. If you want a good graph, go to Patty. She is the most dependable, team player that an employer could ever want. ‘No’ is not in her vocabulary.”

Another nominator wrote, “Patty is a very good listener and a wonderful co-worker. She even fills in for our CFO, Dodie, ...pretty big shoes to fill.”

Patty was happy with the honor and said, “I love the people I work with because they are wonderful. There is something new everyday here.”

In her spare time she likes to go motorcycling with her husband. She also enjoys reading, the pool, the beach, and trips with her family.
Kathy Daley Chosen for July Honor

Kathy Daley, RN, has been selected as the Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital Employee of the Month for July 2009.

Kathy is a lifelong resident of Lewis County. She is the daughter of the late Stella and Oras C. Hefner. She has six sisters and three brothers.

She has been married to Bill for fourteen years and has four stepchildren – Robert Daley, Faith Smith, Bill Daley, and Lorelei Daley. The couple has eight grandchildren – Josh, Adam, Tanner, Tyler, Mary, Jehra, Liam, and McKenna.

Kathy is a Lewis County High School graduate. She worked for fourteen years at the Lewis County Senior Center as a CNA. She went to Davis and Elkins College for nursing school, graduating in 2005. At that time she returned to SJMH on the Med/Surg Unit and is now a charge nurse there.

Kathy was very flattering of her co-workers here.

“I love my job and the Nursing staff I work with. They are more than just my co-workers...we are like family. We work well together and we work as a team. There are days when things go crazy and all you have to do is ask one of them for help and they are right there,” she wrote.

Kathy’s nominators were equally complimentary.

One wrote, “Kathy is a great worker – wonderful! She is always willing to help out any way she can and tries to go the extra mile when she’s here.”

Another wrote, “Kathy is an excellent charge nurse – always willing to help anyone. She keeps everyone and everything organized. She is a problem solver and is good at troubleshooting.”

Kathy also noted that becoming a nurse is especially meaningful to her.

“My Mom always wanted me to be a nurse, something she could never do because she was raising ten children. She always told me that I was living her dream. I owe my Mom and my husband so much thanks for all their support during my schooling. I thank all that nominated me for this great reward but the honor is working with the Med/Surg staff.”

Kathy was also nominated for Employee of the Month in 2006.

In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, camping, and collecting rocks with her husband. The couple is a member of the Bluegrass Rock and Mineral Club in Kentucky.

Greg Hamrick is August Selection

Greg Hamrick, from SJMH’s Respiratory Department, was selected as the Employee of the Month for August 2009.

He is a Braxton County native and now lives inGasaway with his family. He attended Glenville State College. Greg received his respiratory training from WVU Institute of Technology. He began employment at SJMH in 2008.

Greg and his wife, Amanda (Longcoy), have two children - Preston, 10, and Easton, 2. His parents, Gary and Lynn Hamrick, live in Sutton.

Greg received two nominations from a number of staff members, including nurses and physicians.

In part, the nominators wrote, “Greg is very deserving. He works very hard at his job and he is compassionate and cares for his patients. He lives by the Golden Rule and treats the patients and others the way he would like to be treated...He is a wonderful ASSET to this and any hospital.”

The second nomination noted, “Greg illuminates his co-workers and is always receptive to situations surrounding him. In our very diverse hospital Greg improves the mood of all his co-workers and is always positive! Greg is very knowledgeable of his duties and helps other nursing team members even if it means he is late getting some of his work completed. He is an indispensible part of our respiratory team.”

Greg said that he went into respiratory care so that he could help people and save lives.

He was very humbled with the honor.

“I feel I shouldn’t be singled out because I feel that we are all a team in the Respiratory Department. We can only accomplish our goals when we work as a team,” said Greg.

In his spare time, Greg enjoys spending time with the family.
Robert Thomas,
of SJMH’s Laboratory,
marked a milestone on July 1, 2009. Thomas had been
at the local Hospital in the Lab for 50 years.

“I began work here on
July 1, 1959,” he explained.
“I retired in 1995, but Pam
Thompson, the SJMH Lab
Director, called me back
in December 1996 to help,
and I have been here ever
since.”

He was born in New
York but graduated from
high school in Buckhannon.
He attended West Virginia
Wesleyan and attained his
degree in medical tech-
nology from a school in
Cleveland, Ohio.

When he started at
SJMH, he said, he was the
only lab technician.

“There really wasn’t a
department head position
because I was the only
one in the department,”
he explained. “Eventually,
Roseann Swiger and
the late Suzie Stasel were
added to the lab
staff.”

There have been many chan-
ges in all aspects of
the medical field,
he explained, so
there have been
many changes in
the laboratory as
well. For exam-
ple, he said, the
lab staff would
have to make up
their own agents
from chemicals.
Now, however, things are
very sophisticated and pre-
made.

Thomas has been mar-
rried to Jackie Fitzgerald
Thomas for five decades.
They now live in Bridge-
port.

The couple has five chil-
dren – Barbara Walker,
Michael, David, Diane
Walker, and Christopher.
They have six grandchil-
dren: Chad Freshour, Ryan
Walker, Michael Walker,
Shawn Thomas, Rachel

Celebrates 50 Years at SJMH

Born To Be Mild

BRING YOUR BIKE TO WORK DAY - Mem-
bers of the SJMH Pharmacy took advantage of
the national day to ride a motorcycle to work.
Pictured above are Dan Walker, Mary Ann
Heaster, and Andrew Bleigh.

Pictured above during a celebration for Bob Thomas are
Tammy Taylor, Amy Cyrankowski, Avah Stalnaker, and
Bob Thomas.

Thomas, and Ian Fitzgerald
Walker.

As well as being em-
ployled at SJMH, Bob
was high school basket-
ball coach for five years at
Saint Patrick High School
from 1964 to 1969. His
team won a Catholic High
School Championship once
during that time.

Bob gives Lab Director Pam Thompson a hug
during his 50th Anniversary celebration.
SJMH Loses Two Former Employees

Susan Ann Miller, 72, of Bridgeport, passed away at 3:02 a.m., Sun., May 3, 2009, at her residence, following a brief illness.

She was born in Pittsburgh, PA, on June 5, 1936, daughter of the late Marple Miller and Evelyn (Wilfong) Miller.

Susan is survived by three children, Pamela Fury, Jacqueline Shaver and husband Tom, and Robert Elliott, all of Bridgeport; six grandchildren, Bryan Fury and wife Sara of Columbus, OH; Brandon Fury and wife Jackie of Pittsburgh, PA; Megan Paulson and husband Paul of Bridgeport; Lindsey Elliott of Morgantown; Ashley Hotsinpiller and husband Dustin of Bridgeport; and Ali Devono of Bridgeport; and five great-grandchildren. Also surviving is one sister, Vicki Skinner of Bridgeport; companion Lowell Weaver; and her loving dogs, Oscar and Sam.

Susan was a switchboard operator at Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital with 30 years of service. She was a graduate of Weston High School and a Methodist by faith.

S.S. “Susie” Stasel of Court Street, Weston, died Friday, July 31, 2009, at Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital, Weston, following an extended illness.

She was born November 14, 1939, in Weston, the daughter of the late Hobart R. Stasel Sr. and Freeda L. Bush Stasel.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Hobart R. Stasel, Jr.

She is survived by several cousins and loving friends.

Susie retired as a Medical Technologist from Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital on June 6, 2006, after 43 years of service. She was a member of St. Matthew United Methodist Church, Weston.

She enjoyed spending time with “her girls”, her three poodles, Chloe, Joy and Jill.

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

Tonya Stewart on the passing of her husband, who is also Brenda Stewart’s stepson;
Wanda Bender on the passing of her father;
Sandi Coffman on the passing of her mother;
Tisha Farnsworth on the passing of her mother;
Brenda Smith on the passing of her father and Kathy Daley on the passing of her brother-in-law;
Beverly Salisbury on the passing of her father and brother;
Avah Stalnaker on the passing of her father-in-law;
Denver Turner on the passing of his mother; and
Tina Burnside on the passing of her father.

We offer you our sympathy.

Good Job!

Congratulations to Kathy Jo Smith, Kayla Grose, and Charlotte Veith for passing their nursing boards.
Friends, family members, and co-workers honored SJMH employee Cammie Posey with a retirement party on Thurs., May 21, at the Hospital. Cammie had been employed here since March 26, 1979.

She had worked in a variety of departments as a Nurse’s Aide, including the First Floor and Emergency Department. In 1985, she went to work on the Console and had been there ever since. It was a job she really enjoyed.

“I have made lots of friends here in this position,” she noted. “Meeting the public has been wonderful. This is a fun place to work with a friendly atmosphere.”

Cammie comes from a family of nine children. She is a Lewis County native and attended Walkersville High School. She is married to Francis Posey of Weston and has six children and eleven grandchildren. The couple was married in 1961.

She has been a member of the Haleville Mission Church since 1985 and is a devout Christian. The Hospital gave her a gold cross and chain from Caplan’s Jewelry Store as one of her retirement gifts.

Cammie said that she wished to retire so that she could spend time with her family and do the things that she couldn’t do in the past.

**LaDonna Sprouse Retires from SJMH after 37 Years**

After almost 37 years of service to Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital, in Weston, LaDonna Sprouse retired in July 2009. She was honored with a retirement party on Tues., July 21, in the SJMH Boardroom. Her husband, Roger, accompanied her.

She began work here on December 24, 1972.

Sprouse has a very good story of how she came to work at SJMH.

“The Hospital’s grand opening was in November 1972. I came with my baby son and waited outside in a line to get to come in and see this brand new hospital. I had worked at the old City Hospital on Main Avenue but quit in 1969. The Director of Nursing was Lois Perkins and she wanted to know if I would like a job. I said that I wanted to work day shift, but Ms. Perkins said she only had night shift. So I ended up working night shift for almost 37 years,” she explained.

She will be missed by the SJMH staff, says Chief Nursing Officer Cheryl Davis.

“LaDonna is a very dedicated employee,” said Davis. “She worked throughout the Hospital and was very knowledgeable in just about all our departments. She does a wonderful job helping new employees with work here.”

LaDonna is the daughter of the late James Kenneth and Madeline Dennison Bland of Doddridge County. She has one brother and sister-in-law – Leland and Wanda Dennison of Columbus, GA. She and her husband have one son and daughter-in-law – Shawn and Sandra Sprouse of LaVergne, TN. LaDonna and Roger have four grandchildren: Waylon, 8; Lane, 7; and twins Jacequan and Julianne, 5 years old.

LaDonna worked throughout the SJMH facility, including Telemetry, Skilled Care, First Floor, Surgery, Med/Surg, and Obstetrics.

She graduated from the Upshur County School of Practical Nursing in 1986 as an LPN. It was the last class from that facility.

LaDonna has great plans for her retirement.

“I plan on traveling and visiting our son and brother. I also need to catch up on housework,” she said.

Recently, the couple remodeled their home on Keith Fork and they have a big front porch now. LaDonna said she would like to sit on the porch, read a book, and watch the hummingbirds.

The couple would also like to spend time camping, hunting, and fishing.
Fonda Teter Retires after Twenty Years at SJMH

Fonda Teter retired from Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital exactly 20 years to the day that she started there. Her employment began on April 24, 1989 and ended April 24, 2009.

Hospital staff and family members honored her with a retirement luncheon at the Hospital on her last day of work.

Associate Administrator Avah Stalnaker presented Teter with a wooden bench that had an engraved plaque attached commemorating her years of service, and a monetary gift.

In her comments, Stalnaker noted that Fonda had been an Employee of the Month twice while at SJMH—February 1991 and July 1996. She also attained perfect attendance for five years—1992 through 1996.

Her Employee of the Month nominators noted that Fonda was “dependable, honest, had a great attitude, and a cheerful smile…She takes pride in her job; is able to work independently; is a hard worker; and is reliable.”

Fonda is a Braxton County native. She was born in Sutton to the late Samuel Wade Ratliff and Mary Allen Ratliff, who resides with Fonda. She lives on a 22-acre farm at the foot of Pigeon Roost Fork Road with her husband of 37 years, Dana. The farm belonged to Dana’s parents.

She has six brothers and sisters—Gary Ratliff, Charlotte Marple, Connie Bailey, Dorothy Mae Voshell, Jerry Ratliff, and the late Allen Wade Ratliff.

She grew up on Long Run at Napier in Braxton County and graduated from Burnsville High School there.

Fonda worked mostly in the SJMH laundry department, which is a very hard and labor-intensive job. She did some cross-training with housekeepers.

“The girls in laundry have a very hard job. We would have between nine hundred and a thousand pounds of laundry in one shift,” she said. “That is a lot of work.”

Fonda and her husband are quite proud of the farm, which provides most of their needs. She said that they have big gardens, fruit trees and bushes, and an occasional head of livestock, which supplies most all of their food needs.

“I can produce all the time,” explained Fonda. “We have apples, peaches, plums, cherries, and nectarines. We can, freeze, make jams, jellies, and apple butter. We have a blackberry patch and I just ordered some black raspberries.”

The farm even has a pond with fish in it.

As hard as Fonda works, she still has some spare time. She enjoys hunting, fishing, and reading when she gets a chance. She also enjoys working in her flowers.

“I love working with roses, lilac, irises, tulips, lilies, creeping phlox, and peonies,” she said.

Ronda Brown, her immediate supervisor, said, “Fonda was just a great employee. She never missed work and she was very honest. She was a hard worker all the way around. Fonda is a good person and she got along with everyone.”

New Director of Physician Services

Jeanie Hart, CPC, has joined the staff of Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital as Director of Physician Services. Jeanie has several years of experience in managing physician practices, as well as experience in areas such as accounting, Human Resources, credentialing, policies and procedures, coding, collections, billing, surgical scheduling, the precertification process, budgeting and monthly reporting.

Jeanie graduated from Braxton County High School and resides in Sutton with her husband, Bob. They have four adult children and five grandchildren.

Greenlief’s Son Practicing Law

Joyce Greenlief, credentialing secretary, is quite proud of her son, Ian Godfrey. He is now an attorney for Ward, Hocker & Thornton, in Kentucky. His specialty is automobile/motor vehicle litigation, insurance defense, and workers’ compensation. He received a B.S. in political science in 2005 from the University of Louisville and his law degree from Brandeis School of Law in 2008. He is a member of the Louisville Bar Association and Kentucky Bar Association. While at the University of Louisville, he was a member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity, wrote for the school paper, and participated in the Resident Student Association. Ian began working with Ward, Hocker, and Thornton as a law clerk in January 2007.
Summer Fun at Annual Picnic

AT RIGHT - Retired SJMH employee Betty Sellas and her husband Philip visited at the picnic.

AT LEFT - Respiratory’s Diane Ocheltree had a great time at the picnic.

AT LEFT - Chelsey King, April Kovach, and Margie Barrett of Weston

ABOVE - Grandma Brenda Stewart and daughter Chrystal Skinner are pictured with Chrystal’s babies, Sydney and Adrian.

AT RIGHT - Weston ENT/Audiology staff Jackie Bankcroft and Dawn Bledsoe posed.

Rick Thomason helped cook that day.

Tammy Moody

Dr. Snead

AT RIGHT - Retired SJMH employee Nelson Riffle and his wife Joan were kind enough to visit during the picnic.
R. G. “Chick” Lockard Celebrates 80th Birthday

Longtime SJMH Board of Directors member R.G. “Chick” Lockard was honored at a surprise 80th birthday party on Fri., Sept. 25, at the local Hospital. Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital Board Members and Staff gathered in the Boardroom for the fete. Lockard was first appointed to the SJMH Company Board in 1978 and then became a Board Member in 1983.

Chick is the son of the late Theora and Carres Lockard and was born at Pricetown. He is a Navy veteran of World War II and the Korean War. He has been a trucker and worked for Grafton Coal for 25 years – 13 of those as a general supervisor. He owned Kelly Coal, Superior Mining and Supply, and Lockard and Sons. He is now retired.

He is married to Janet Bakas Lockard and has two sons – Jim and Steve, and one stepson, Nicole Bakas. He is very proud of his five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. He and Janet are also the proprietors of a farm which houses 26 cats, 4 dogs, 2 ponies, 2 rabbits, and the neighbor’s horses.

Chick really enjoys hunting deer. He has been a superintendent at Waldeck United Methodist Church and taught Sunday School there.

His wife noted that on his 79th birthday he was in SJMH having a hip replacement. This year, for his 80th, he was able to walk into the party.

Neurologist Now Seeing Patients at SJMH

Neurologist Adnan Alghadban, M.D., is now seeing patients at SJMH.

Dr. Alghadban’s areas of clinical interest and expertise include headaches, neck pain, back pain, diabetic neuropathy, and myopathy. He treats seizures, Alzheimer’s disease, Parkinson’s disease, memory problems, and sleep disorders, including sleep apnea. Dr. Alghadban recently acquired new state-of-the-art noninvasive technology for the treatment of carpal tunnel syndrome with cold laser.

Dr. Alghadban received his medical degree from Tishreen School of Medicine in Syria. Following an internal medicine internship at Nassau County Medical Center in New York, Dr. Alghadban completed a neurology residency at State University of New York and advanced his fellowship training in clinical neurophysiology at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina.

Dr. Alghadban is board certified in Neurology and Clinical Neuropsychology and is a member of the American Academy of Neurology.

He is seeing patients in the offices of Dr. Peter Edgerton on the ground floor of SJMH.

Births

Sierra Joreyn Bowen is the name chosen for the second child of Chad and Mary Bowen, born at the Martinsburg Hospital on Feb. 27 at 4:16 a.m. She has an older sister Rory. She weighed six pounds, twelve and one-half ounces. Her grandparents are Dana and Vicki Bowen of Weston. Vicki is the nurse manager in the Outpatient Department.

Joyce and Steve Greenfield are the proud grandparents of a little boy born on Sept. 17, 2009, at SJMH. Her son, Corey Godfrey, and Ashley Stump are the parents of the newborn, Ethan Bryce Godfrey, who weighed eight pounds, four ounces, and was 21 inches long. The baby’s father works at Stalnaker Energy Corporation and his mother works at Sunbridge Nursing Home in Glenville. Joyce is an administrative assistant and credentialing coordinator at SJMH.
Dr. Edgerton Now Offering Cryosurgery

Dr. Peter Edgerton, urologist at SJMH, is one of the few physicians in the state who is using cryosurgery (cryotherapy) in his practice. He has been performing the procedure since September 2006.

This procedure is used to destroy specific types of cancer, such as prostate cancer and small kidney tumors.

Cryosurgery, or cryotherapy, is a minimally invasive procedure that freezes cancer cells and surrounding tissue. The procedure for prostate cancer involves insertion of thin probes into the prostate gland. Argon gas circulates inside the probes, creating an iceball that kills even very aggressive cancer cells as effectively as it destroys early stage cancer. Unlike some surgery or radiation treatment, cryosurgery can be repeated if cancer recurs. Clinical data indicates that the average long-term success rate for this procedure is very high in treating all stages of localized prostate cancer.

Rick Bates, territory manager for Endocare, SJMH’s cryocare provider, noted that cryosurgery is the best solution for a number of patients. “The average age for a suitable prostate cancer patient using this procedure would be 65 to 80. Whereas a younger patient might have surgery, an older patient would benefit from cryosurgery. It is also good for patients who would be poor candidates for surgery because of other health conditions,” he noted “Cryosurgery can also be used for people who have had previous radiation treatments or seed therapy. It can also be repeated if the cancer is not killed with the first treatment.”

Dr. Peter Edgerton has an interesting story about becoming a doctor. Despite his career as a New York accountant, his wife concluded that she and several family members—including her husband!—would attend medical school. He eventually surrendered to her plan and they all went together.

His hands-on experience at Columbia Hospital proved to be wonderful. At a friend’s suggestion, he looked into urology, and it did not take him long to decide that he liked it.

As he says, “You have to enjoy something for it to be fun and I really enjoyed the field.”

Above all, his goal is to make patients feel better and do well, knowing that when they do well with their problems, they can stay out of the office.

In keeping with this philosophy, Dr. Edgerton offers cryotherapy as a treatment option for prostate cancer because it is “very patient-friendly and provides good results.”

He expects the results of cryo to be as good, if not better, than brachytherapy (using radioactive seeds), and has observed fewer side effects with cryo when compared to brachy.

No matter what treatment they choose, Dr. Edgerton recognizes that it’s important for patients to relax so they can get better. He sees to their emotional comfort, making sure that his explanations are understandable.

Dr. Edgerton earned his medical degree at New York Medical College (Valhalla, NY). He completed his internship and junior residency in Surgery at North Shore University Hospital (Manhasset, Long Island, NY), followed by a residency in Urology at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center (New York City). He became Chief Resident there. He is certified by the American Board of Urology.

Advantages of modern cryosurgery compared to other methods of cancer treatment are:

• Less invasive and therefore minimal pain, bleeding or other complications related to surgery
• Shorter hospital stay (or no hospital stay at all)
• Focused area of treatment limits destruction of healthy tissue
• Treatment can be repeated
• Treatment can be used in addition to other treatments
• An option for patients who are not good candidates for conventional surgery because of their age or other medical conditions
• A potentially curative option for patients whose prostate cancer has come back after initial (primary) radiation treatment
Pictured above is Harriett Williams receiving a retirement gift from SJMH Administrator David Shaffer at a retirement party held in her honor in April. Harriett was Information Management Director and was employed by SJMH for 35 years.

New beds and over-the-bed tables were purchased for SJMH patients this past summer. They make our patients so much more comfortable.

*Keep A Smile On Your Face*