

THE REPORTER

August 15, 2006

Georgia Regional Hospital at Savannah

www.garegionalsavannah.com

GRH-S

Grass Skirts & Flowered Shirts



HOW LOW CAN YOU GO?
Activity Therapists Joyce Morris and Jimmie Bartley do the limbo.



ALOAH! Lee Marsh, Patient Education Director and Joyce Fraser from Serendipity sport grass skirts.

Infection Control

Grass Skirts and flower leis were in style at the summer Luau Party in a brightly decorated Serendipity. Guests from units 4, 5 and 6 were greeted at the door with a traditional aloha and customary lei on July 20 at 10 am. Clients and staff beat the heat playing the limbo and musical chairs for baseball cap prizes. Everyone had a chance to enjoy sherbet punch and fresh cut fruit along with a special treat; nachos with cheese sauce, ground beef, and sautéed onions and green bell peppers freshly grown in the Serendipity garden with Garden Therapy.

Clients also participated in a balloon raffle where they popped their balloon to see if their number matched one of seven prize Hawaiian shirt giveaways. A great time was had by all! Special thanks to Mariah Hay and Joyce Fraser for coordinating the event. Thanks are also extended to Activity Therapy and Patient Education for all their help.



This Month

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The staff on unit #4 should be recognized. Each weekend I work they are always there to lend a hand. Annette, Sharon, LPN and Sharon from Environmental services and Herb, Mr. Mike just to mention a few. Ms. Mason of course when she is there. The day shift has always been supportive and I really appreciate all of their help! When you have 17 clients doing an activity and you only know a handful it's a feeling of security when the unit staff works with you on the weekends. They understand what "teamwork" means.

-Jeni Ellis-Riggs, Activity Therapy Leader



Thanks to All,

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of those who contributed to my recent retirement celebration either by bringing gifts, food, drinks, paper products, utensils, etc., by sending cards, or coming by to wish me a happy retirement.

At the party, I tried to express my gratitude to and respect for all who contribute to the operation of this facility. From my first day at GRHS in 1990 until the present time, I have been impressed by the concern shown by this staff for the clients that they serve and for the care and treatment the patients receive here. Despite all of the ongoing difficulties and hardships that continually confront the staff, you all continue to excel in your care for our clients. You do yourselves proud.

You will probably see me around for a while longer. I have agreed to work a couple of days a week until another dentist is hired or until our home sells, whichever happens first.

I consider that I was fortunate to be a part of the staff here, and I count the sixteen years that I spent at GRHS as the highlight of my thirty-eight years as a dentist.

I wish all of you good health, much success and happiness in the future.

Thanks and best wishes,

Neal Cobb, DDS



Employee Advisory Council

GRH - S

An Employee Advisory Council has been formed to help give a voice to all areas of the hospital. Each area has a representative serving on the council. These employees can be contacted by any staff member who wishes to make suggestions/improvements regarding the operation of the hospital. The following are a list of representatives and their respective areas.

Richard Mike (Unit#4)
 Sheila Boyette (Unit#5)
 Dr Helen Gorini (Psychology)
 Julie Smalls (Lakeside)
 Laurie Evans (Pharmacy)
 Dale Bond (Medical Records)
 Michelle Williams (Procurement)
 Keisha Young (Juliette House)
 Denise Kearse (Unit #6)
 Irene Albert (Environmental Services)
 Joyce Fraser (Serendipity)
 Solomon Dillon (Engineering/Maintenance)
 Mercedes Byrd (Forensics Unit)
 Beth Rawlinson (Special Education)
 Rick Petrea (Activity Therapy)
 Jessica Scott (Food Services)
 Chon Jernigan (Human Resources)
 Jamekia Powers (Human Resources)
 Joyce Deal (Data Management)
 Melissa Hutton (Financial Services)
 Sandy Pullman (Lab)
 Deborah Wolfolk (Dobson/Sea Palm Homes)
 Jamekia Powers (Human Resources)



POOLSIDE
AT Jeni Ellis-Riggs enjoys the water with a client while HST Calvin Thompson (right) helps out with lunch.



Summer Fun on Unit 5

Unit 5

Splish, Splash! Unit 5 clients get relief from the heat at the Elks Club swimming pool on Wednesday mornings at 10 am. Coordinated by Activity Therapy, a trip to the pool provides clients with some time away from the hospital and a fun activity. For the past few summers the Patient Benefit Fund has sponsored the outing by covering the pool and lifeguard expenses. Clients enjoy an hour by the pool and a light snack

before returning to campus to get ready for lunch.

On the unit clients recently enjoyed a grill-out inspired by the fourth of July. Clients and Staff enjoyed a lunch outdoors including hotdogs, hamburgers, and much, much more. Celebrating holidays is just one of the ways clients keep up on their current events. Most days Unit five clients spend the morning in Serendipity while

attending the Treatment Mall, which provides education on topics such as personal hygiene, medication, and cooking, as well as taking a look at the day's local and world news.

Dr. Aziz Invited to Join Coalition

Clinical



Dr. Hassan Aziz was invited to serve on the Diagnosis and Staging Workgroup as part of the Georgia Cancer Coalition and the Georgia Division of Public Health. Dr. Aziz and others were asked to revise the state's comprehensive cancer control plan. The purpose of the plan is to create a roadmap

that builds on current strengths, establishes priorities, allocates responsibilities, and sets targets using evidence-based metrics that will focus the efforts of all stakeholders. The goal of the Georgia Cancer Coalition is to develop a plan that will be the national model for comprehensive cancer control,

a plan that will minimize the impact of cancer on the citizens of Georgia. For more information on the Georgia Cancer Coalition visit www.georgiacancer.org.

Thanks to the Fantastic Four

Editorial

On August 2, I was stranded at the light on the corner of Eisenhower and Truman Parkway. My car just died. Cars were going around me and no one would stop to help. Frank Baran from Tech Support came and pushed my car out of the street to let cars come by so that I was not blocking traffic. I would really like to thank him for that, (thanks a bunch Frank). I called Bert in Maintenance to ask for some help. Three minutes later I looked up and there were the 'Fantastic Four' – Craig Matthews, Kory Tidwell, Jeff Andres, and Marvin Jackson. They pushed my car all the way to the hospital parking lot. I felt rescued! They were so willing to help even though it was really hot that morning. I have never called any of our maintenance guys before and was so thankful for their positive attitude and willingness to help no matter what the situation. I want to say thanks to them and let them know how much I appreciate their act of kindness at a very stressful moment for me.

Thanks guys, your awesome!
Lalia Jackson, Executive Secretary
Nursing Administration



EASTER
2006
Clockwise:
Hunter,
Karen,
Donnie, and
Carter

weeks into the pregnancy, Karen's cardiologist recommended a C-section. Carter was born weighing only 2 pounds, 11 ounces. He had to stay in the hospital a while, but he is now a healthy and happy little guy.

Since Carter's birth in 2003, Karen's health has been progressively getting worse. It has now become necessary for her to have a heart/double lung transplant. Karen's surgery will be performed at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. The cost of the surgery and one year's treatment will be in the range of \$800,000. Insurance will pay most of the medical costs, but, there are co-pays and deductibles that must come out of pocket. The surgery and aftercare, will require that Karen and her family remain in Pittsburgh for four+ months incurring additional expenses. Karen will also take anti-rejection medication for the rest of her life which typically runs from \$3,000-\$4,000 a month. Anything you can do to help would be greatly appreciated.

Help Save a Life

GRH-S

Karen Arrowood is the daughter of John and Dora Poulk, long time state employee. Karen is 34 years old and is the mother of two small sons; Hunter is four and Carter just turned three. Donnie Arrowood, her husband of ten years, is a Deputy Sheriff in Cobb County.

Karen was born with a severe heart defect known as Transposition of the Great Vessels. Basically, her pulmonary artery and aorta formed in a manner that did not allow

oxygenated blood to flow to her body causing her to be a "blue baby". She had her first surgery soon after she was born, with two more by the time she was four. She has lived with this condition with only minor complications most of her life.

In 2001, due to infertility problems, Karen and Donnie adopted their first child, Hunter. As often happens, Karen became pregnant soon after they got Hunter. During her pregnancy, Karen developed Pulmonary Hypertension which causes severe strain on the heart. Due to increasing risk, at 29



Free Computer Classes

Human Resources

Jamekia T. Powers

The Live Oak Public Library System offers a variety of computer classes to the public. The following courses would be very beneficial for employees who are beginners: Introduction to the Internet, Windows, and E-mail. The public library system also offers introductory, intermediate and advanced courses in Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint. For more information, please visit their website at: <http://www.liveoakpl.org/Classes.htm> or call the main branch at 912-652-3600. The St. Joseph/Candler African-American Health Information & Resource Center (AAHIRC) offers various computer courses at their mid-town location. For additional information, please call (912) 447-6605.

Donations are being sought to help ease the financial burden on Karen and her family. If you can help, please send your donation to: Bank of America, Bank by Mail, P.O. Box 31900, Tampa, FL 33631-3900. Make check payable to: Family Trust of Karen P. Arrowood, Acct.#3340 0048 9039

(For updates & info on Karen's bid for life, please check out the following web site: www.Karenarrowood.com)

RECOGNITION

WELCOME & CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations on your Promotion!

Lori Riddle Human Resources
Misha Snider Acute Care

Congratulations on your Retirement!

James W. Lewis, Trades Supervisor
Engineering and Maintenance
Marvin L. Jackson, Craftsman
Engineering and Maintenance
Dr. Willian Neal Cobb, Dental Director

Welcome to GRHS

Stephanie Burns Recovery Care
Amy Harvey Lakeside Center
Quinetta Johnson Food Service
Bettie Jones Acute Care
Frank D. Pechal Acute Care
Sophia Wright Dobson House
Barbara Richardson Dobson House
Micah Burton Secure Unit



WHAT IS A CLIENT?

A Client is not an outsider to our business.
A Client is the reason for our existence.

A Client is not an interruption of our work.
A Client is the purpose for our work.
We are not doing them a favor.
They are doing us a favor by letting us serve them.

A Client is not a cold statistic.
A Client is flesh and bone, a human being
with feelings and aspirations, exactly like our own.

A Client is not someone with who to argue or match wits.
A Client deserves courteous, attentive and sympathetic
treatment.

A Client is here to be served, not tolerated. It is our job
to help clients reach their highest level of health and
attainment of skills.

A Client's needs make it possible that our jobs exist.
This is true whether we are clerks, care providers,
department heads, housekeepers, maintenance workers,
nurses, physicians, service directors, etc.

**REMEMBER, A CLIENT IS THE MOST
IMPORTANT PERSON IN OUR BUSINESS.**

GRH-S REPORTER

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Spotlight on Human Resources

HR

Jamekia T. Powers
Lori Riddle

Human Resource Department Contact Information

*For HR questions, please
see below for the contact
person:*

912-356-2022 (Phone)
912-356-2740 (Fax)

Colleen Hartman—Payroll,
Transactions, DHR Debit
Cards, Employee Self-Serve
and Accrued Leave

**Chon Jernigan/Robyn
Praylo**—Recruitment, New
Hires, ID Badges, Faithful
Service Awards,
Employment Verifications
and Exit/Clearance Process

Lori Riddle—Worker's
Compensation, Leave of
Absence, Deferred
Compensation, Retirement
and Employee Benefits

Your Employee Benefits
During Leave of Absences
Without Pay—"LWOP"

Please submit your questions and/or topic suggestions!!

Please submit questions
and suggestions via e-mail
or interoffice mail to
Jamekia Powers in the
Human Resource
Management Department
before the 20th of the each
month. We will discuss the
suggested topic or answer
your question in the next
issue of the Reporter (no
names will be used).

New and Enhanced Benefit Options

Specifically, for the 2007 Plan Year,
the new and enhanced benefit
options will be as follows:

**NEW! SHPS – Health Savings
Account (HSA)** – offers
employees personal
responsibility to direct healthcare
expenditures and allows them to
save, invest, and distribute funds
on a pre-tax basis for qualified
health expenses not covered by
their High Deductible Health Plan.

**NEW! SHPS – Limited Flexible
Spending Account (LFSA)** – used
in conjunction with the above
mentioned HSA for vision and
dental related expenditures.

**ENHANCED! AIG Specified
Illness benefit – Spouse and
child(ren)** will be eligible and
coverage is guaranteed. Child
coverage will be free at no charge
to employee.

Further details and information
will be provided as we get closer
to the upcoming 2006 Fall Open
Enrollment period. **NOTE:** As of
this date, Benefit Fairs for the 2006
Fall Open Enrollment will be held
at only two state hospitals
(Central State and Northwest
Regional).

Family and Medical Leave (FML) Information

The Family and Medical Leave
Act (FMLA) provides job-
protected leave without pay to
eligible employees for certain
reasons. Federal law entitles
eligible employees to a maximum
of twelve (12) work weeks of FML
each calendar year. The
Department of Human Resources
permits employees to use annual,
sick, and/or personal leave, if
appropriate, while on Family and

Retirement Information

For service retirement, you should allow at least 45 days from the time the application is received by The Employee's Retirement System (ERS). Applications must be received at least 30 days prior to retirement, but not more than 90 days prior to the retirement date in order to receive your first check on the last working day of your retirement month. If not, your check will be delayed. For information on retirement, please visit the ERS web site at: www.ersga.org.

Retirees are eligible to continue their Health and Dental Benefits when they retire. If you have additional benefits such as Long-Term Care, Group Term Life Insurance (Employee, Spouse or Child), Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance or supplemental insurance (AFLAC, Chesapeake and Colonial), you must request Conversion and Portability information and forms so that you can individually continue your coverage. You can request forms from the insurance carrier or contact the Human Resource Management office (requests for forms or information on the conversion/portability of supplemental insurance should be directed to the insurance carrier only). Some forms are also available on the Georgia Merit System web site at: www.gms.state.ga.us. Also for information concerning retirement and financial planning visit www.perpetualwealth.org.

Medical Leave (FML) so that the
employee can remain in pay
status. For qualifying reasons
and eligibility information, refer to
DHR Human Resources/
Personnel Policy #1005 Family
and Medical Leave or contact the
Human Resources Department for
more information.

Update your Address and Telephone Number

Hospital Policy # 70-19

All employees shall maintain up-
to-date records of their addresses,
telephone numbers or contact
numbers with their unit/
department of assignment and the
hospital's Human Resources
Department at all times.

Maintaining a current address,
telephone number or a reasonable
contact number is one of the
conditions of employment at
Georgia Regional Hospital at

Savannah. Employees who fail to
abide with this policy are subject
to appropriate disciplinary action
including possible dismissal.

It is very important that you visit
the Human Resource
Management Department to
complete the necessary
paperwork when you change your
address and/or telephone number
(telephone number must be
VALID). In addition, your contact
number should be given to your
supervisor. Please review hospital
policy 70-19 "Employee's
addresses and telephone
numbers."

Employee Discounts

The State of Georgia offers
employee discounts for various
activities, events and promotions.
For information on employee
discounts, please visit
www.gms.state.ga.us

THIS MONTH

WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY

Dental Clinic

Congratulations Dr. Neal Cobb on your retirement. The dental clinic staff and all other employees in Bldg. 2 will miss you. Dr. Cobb retired on August 1, 2006

Admissions

I would like to thank the Admissions staff and all other staff for being so supportive to me during my brother passing, thank for all the cards, phone call ,foods and donation were greatly appreciated.

-Mary Johnson and Williams family.

Dobson Group Home

Our condolences are extended to Tia Ferguson on the loss her 6 month daughter.

To the Dobson staff, Thank you for all that you do. The, dedication, the commitment, and the countless hour of service that you have given and continue to give. To each of you , I appreciate you. Thank you!

Food Service

Mia Clark delivered a 7lbs. 15ozs. baby boy on Tuesday Aug.7, 2006. All of the employees in food service send their congratulations on her delivery and are looking forward to her return.

Congratulations to Ms. Paulette Golden who, live on the Sonny and Jody show on August 24, 2006 discussed how she turned all the tragedies in her life to triumph which lead her to starting her own home based business baking pies and various desserts and donating them to churches, after school programs ,and other non - profit agencies.

Human Resources

Congratulations to Lori Riddle on her recent promotion. Ms. Riddle has over 13 years of Human Resources training and experience in both the Non-Profit and Public Sector.



August 22

Happy Birthday to Jershua Stacey from Your Secret Pal!



Happy Birthday September!

Sept. 2	Denenna Rhodes Kimberly Scott	Sept. 14	Edward Heyward III
Sept. 4	Eni Ofong Jacqueline Potter George Smith Debra Thompson	Sept. 15	Delores Mason Kennedy Okere LaTonya Hicks
Sept. 5	Stephen Lewis	Sept. 16	Harriett Blazer Micah Burton Jannie Green Barnes
Sept. 6	Melvin Reeves	Sept. 20	Betty Miles Richard Pauly Sheri Rawlinson
Sept. 7	William Stokes	Sept. 22	Jennitra Waters
Sept. 8	Evelyn Mallory	Sept. 23	Lavonia Johnson
Sept. 9	LaQuanna Givens Donald Harris	Sept. 24	Ann Christensen
Sept. 10	Curtis Carter Miriam Rock	Sept. 25	Elloweese Coleman Denise Kearse
Sept. 11	Irene Albert Rosemary Downing Carolyn Emerick	Sept. 27	Ronald Brantley
Sept. 12	Gladys Jones Phyllis Jones	Sept. 28	Keith Trawick
		Sept. 29	Jamila Grant

IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR BIRTHDAY INCLUDED IN THE REPORTER PLEASE NOTIFY EDITOR TWO MONTHS PRIOR TO PUBLISHING. THANK YOU.

Are you a Veteran?



ARE YOU
A VET?
We would
like to
recognize all
veterans of
all services.

GRH-S

Are you a veteran who works at Georgia Regional Hospital at Savannah? We would like to recognize all veterans, all services, in peace time or in war from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard, Air National Guard, Reserves or any other branch for their hard work and dedication while serving our country. If you are a veteran and work at GRH-S please contact Mariah Hay at mrhay@dhr.state.ga.us or call 912.356.2103, or contact Rick Petrea at rpetrea@dhr.state.ga.us.

Georgia Regional Hospital
at Savannah

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