

THE REPORTER

July 15, 2006

Georgia Regional Hospital at Savannah

www.garegionalsavannah.com

GRH-S

Unit 5 Declared Winner



BEST MAINTAINED UNIT goes to Unit 5, who worked hard to keep the unit extra clean

Infection Control

Congratulations to LaTanya Thompson, RN, Nurse Manager, and the entire staff of Unit 5 at Georgia Regional Hospital-Savannah! They are the winners of this quarter's "Best Maintained Unit" contest.

This contest began on April 17, 2006. Twice monthly, the Infection Control Nurse, Linda Rowland, RN, made unannounced inspections for Units 4, 5, 6 and Lakeside Center. Some of the items assessed were refrigerator temperature charts, cleanliness of refrigerators, laundry facilities, bathroom facilities, and the availability of general hygiene supplies for both staff members and consumers.

Unit evaluations were graded on a point system and each unit worked very hard to win! Bonus points were given for staff members receiving their Hepatitis B series and for having their yearly flu vaccine.

Each quarter, the winning unit will receive a large basket of home baked items, hot chocolate, hard candy, paper plates and napkins. In addition to the basket of goodies, the winning unit will keep the "Best Maintained Unit" trophy and have full bragging rights for three months!

Next quarter begins on July 1, 2006 and will run until September 30, 2006. It would be great to have a four-way tie for first place, wouldn't it?

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EDITORIAL

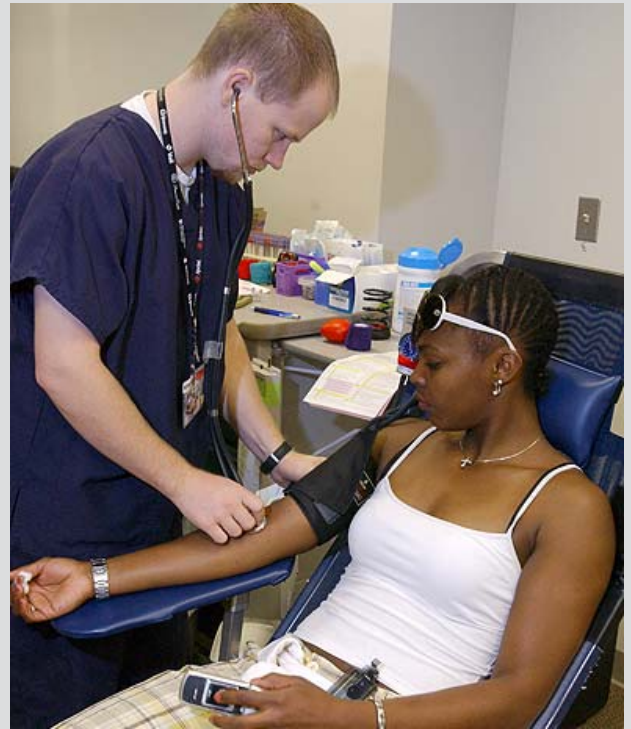
My name is Beverley Trotter and I work in the Lab Department. I would like to recognize an employee here at GRH-S named Elliot Wiggins and works 11 to 7 on the Recovery Care Unit. Since I have been employed here I've seen a lot of HST'S come and go. I have also seen those that are only here for a paycheck, but I've noticed that Mr. Wiggins takes pride in his work and loves the patients. When I go on Unit 5 early in the morning I can tell that he is working because all the clients are up, dressed, shaved, and smelling good. He shows the clients a great deal of respect. He is always kind and courteous to me and to the other staff. I think he is a great asset to this organization. When someone excels in their work performance it should be noted. I would like to be one of many to thank Mr. Wiggins for going the extra mile with his performance, positive attitude, and caring nature. Thank you.

MRS. BEVERLY TROTTER
LAB PHLEBOTIMIST

Unit 4 Celebrates the 4th

Activity Therapy

The Secure Unit clients and staff enjoyed a Fourth of July cookout provided by Activity Therapy staff Joyce Morris and Jimmie Bartley. The menu included fried chicken, grilled sausage links, hotdogs, potato salad, baked beans, and corn on the cob and ice cold watermelons. They also had live entertainment provided by one of our very own clients. A great time was had by all.



American Red Cross
Celebrating 125 Years of Service



Community Blood Drive

EMS

Bonnie Watson

GRH/Savannah hosted its first community blood drive for the American Red Cross on Wednesday, June 21, 2006. Our doors were open not only to our own hospital employees, but also to employees from other area businesses including Hospice, the Public Health Department, and WalMart.

A special "Thank You" is sent to the following hospital employees who participated in the drive:

Marcia Hutton-Longwater
Mary Bell
Jimmy Lewis
Solomon Dillon
Martell Merritt
Albertha Tolbert
Randy Cone
Richard Pauly
Joyce Deal
Mary Ann Noonan
Rena Bradham

Helene Small
Steve Johnson
Trish Marquardt
Cathy Levine
Kimberly Miles
Bonnie Watson
Joyce Fraser
James Conyers
Ronetta Smith
Barbara Munro



JULIETTE HOUSE is a safe place for recovery and healing for female clients between the age of 13 and 17.

clients are expected to help out with daily living chores in order to learn to live independently. Cooking, cleaning, and personal hygiene are some of the skills which will be learned through the basic living experience.

The clients residing at Juliette House will also participate in therapeutic writing, beginning with a positive statement every morning called morning inspiration. "The journal will also help with vocabulary skills," says team leader Gloria Mathis, "The girls will be required to try and learn 5 new words a day."

Clients will also be involved in giving back to the community through volunteering at organizations such as the Humane Society, local hospitals and Hospice.



Best wishes and Goodluck

Unit 6

Friends and co-workers gathered to wish Dr. Kim and Julie Chanin farewell on June 7th. Unit 6 staff held a brief program thanking both Dr. Kim and Ms. Chanin for their hard work and dedication to the hospital. The program was followed by a small feast (provided by unit 6 staff) including everything from fried chicken to macaroni and cheese.

Having begun his employment in 1982, Dr. Kim will be retiring after serving GRH-S for 24 years. He plans on traveling during his retirement. Destinations include France, Italy and a return visit to South Korea, his native country.

Julie Chanin, a social worker on Unit 6 and previous MSW student, plans on moving to Ohio with her husband.

Good luck and thanks are extended to both Dr. Kim and Julie Chanin.

What's Up with Juliette

Juliette House

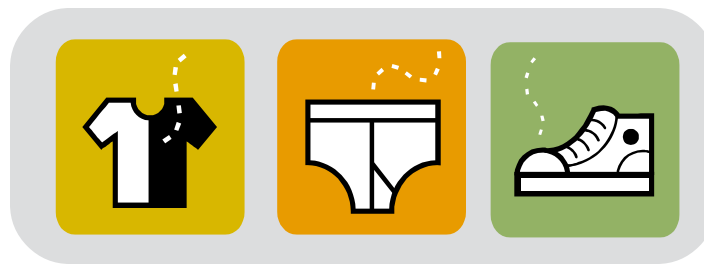
Now up and running, the Juliette House admitted its first client on May 23. Currently, the house has had 2 clients but is expecting to take on more with an 8 bed capacity.

Juliette House is a safe place for girls ages 13 to 17 to reside for a duration of 3 to 9 months while recovering from substance abuse. During the day, girls will attend a day treatment program through Gateway. While at the house,

Clean out your Closet

Serendipity

Packing for a vacation? Now is the perfect time to rid your closet of clothes that have been sitting (or hanging) for years because they are too small, not the right color, or have that weird stain on the right sleeve. They can all be put to good use right here at Georgia Regional Hospital at Savannah. Lots of clients come here with the clothes on their back or even in a hospital gown. We use donations to help clothe these clients, as well as ones who have outgrown/worn out their current outfits. We take men's, women's and big kids clothes including but not limited to shirts,



t-shirts, pants, shorts, long skirts, long dresses, shoes, sandals, socks, underwear, bras, belts, bathing suits, coats and hats. We are currently in most need of men's apparel, and are lowest on pants and shorts at the moment.

All donations are tax deductible (we can provide a receipt), and will

assuredly be put to good use. Donations can be made in Serendipity (bldg. 13) between 8 am and 5 pm or left at the front or back door after hours. Please include a name and address with any donation left at the door. For more information contact Mariah Hay at 356-2103 or e-mail mrhay@dhr.state.ga.us.



MAYOR JOHNSON Pictured waving to the crowd from a parade float before his heart attack.

Well Wishes for Mayor Johnson

Activity Therapy

When Mayor Otis Johnson had his heart attack many Savannahians were concerned. Mayor Johnson received many cards and letters wishing him a speedy recovery. Among those were letters from our very own Unit

5 clients. Jeni Ellis-Riggs, an activity therapist on Unit 5 wrote, "I wonder how many of our own employees here realize how caring and supportive our patients are. I asked in one of our sessions for our clients to perform and

unselfish act; make a card for Mayor Johnson. Even though some of our clients are not from Savannah, they were thrilled to do it. It was nice to know how nice people from all over can be, especially the clients which we serve."

Mayor Johnson replied to the Unit 5 cards by saying; "Thank you for your card expressing the desire to see me have a full recovery from my recent heart attack. I am currently in cardiac rehab and it is going well. I have also made a lifestyle change which, hopefully, will give me many more years to serve our community."

"I was thrilled when we received a letter from him," said Ms. Riggs. "I read it to everyone."

Dobson Home Receives Police Safety Certification

Dobson House

Joyce Fraser

Ms. Deborah Wolfolk, an employee at the Dobson House Group Home, saw an exciting opportunity for the clients to enroll in an exciting workshop. The Garden City police Department held a 10-week course teaching the fundamentals of safety. The fundamentals included teaching individuals how to make phone calls in emergency and non-emergency situations, gun safety, drinking and driving, the police k-9 unit detecting drugs, and a forensics class on how fingerprints and blood is detected.

Four clients and three staff members received police safety certifications in this great learning opportunity. Ms. Wolfolk commented that everyone enjoyed the course and she continues to seek any learning opportunities available to her clients.

The New York Times

nytimes.com

June 21, 2006

A Legacy of the Storm: Depression and Suicide

By SUSAN SAULNY

NEW ORLEANS, June 20 — Sgt. Ben Glaudi, the commander of the Police Department's Mobile Crisis Unit here, spends much of each workday on this city's flood-ravaged streets trying to persuade people not to kill themselves. New Orleans is experiencing what appears to be a near epidemic of depression and post traumatic stress disorders, one that mental health experts say is of an intensity rarely seen in this country. It is contributing to a suicide rate that state and local officials describe as close to triple what it was before Hurricane Katrina struck and the levees broke 10 months ago.

Compounding the challenge, the local mental health system has suffered a near total collapse, heaping a great deal of the work to be done with emotionally disturbed residents onto the Police Department and people like Sergeant Glaudi, who has sharp crisis management skills but no medical background. He says his unit handles 150 to 180 such distress calls a month.

Charles G. Curie, the administrator of the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, said the scope of the disaster that the hurricane inflicted had been "unprecedented," and added, "We've had great concerns about the level of substance abuse and mental health needs being at levels we had not seen before."



Are you a Vet?

Are you a veteran who works at Georgia Regional Hospital at Savannah? We would like to recognize you for your hard work and dedication while serving our country. If you are a veteran and work at GRH-S please contact Mariah Hay at 356-2103 or e-mail

RECOGNITION

WELCOME & CONGRATULATIONS!

Welcome New Employees

Elizabeth Arango	Seal Palm Circle
Yolanda Bailey	Lakeside Center
Mornae Brown	Dobson House
Brandon Carter	Dobson House
Rodrigus Coleman	Secure Unit
Joseph Cooper	Lakeside Center
Tia Ferguson	Dobson House
Jennifer Green	Sea Palm Circle
Katanna Harden	DD Group Homes
Tammy Hines	Dobson House
Rosalyn Milton	Secure Unit
Charles Neal	Acute Care
Robyn Praylo	Human Resources
Cynthia Walker	Sea Palm Circle

Congratulations on your Promotion

Tiffany Braxton	Medical Records
Dawn N. Everett	Monitoring and Evaluation

Faithful Service Awards

30 YEARS

Marvin L. Jackson	Maintenance
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25 YEARS

Michael Orgen Emerson	Admissions
Diane F. Albritton	Data Management

20 YEARS

Jannie Ann Pope	Acute Care
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15 YEARS

Joyce B. Tyson	Secure Care
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10 YEARS

Sheri E. Rawlinson	Patient Education
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Stars and Superstars

The following staff were mentioned by clients on the May 2006 Patient Satisfaction Survey as "most helpful" to them. These surveys were completed by clients who were being discharged from Unit 6. STARS are the staff that were mentioned by at least one to four clients. SUPER-STARS are the staff who were mentioned by more than four clients. Thanks and congratulations to all of you.

Stars:

- Agyemang, Kennedy
- Bellinger, Sharon
- Cooks-Jackson, Mary
- Gorini, Helen Mary
- Graham, Latoya R
- Green, Soloman
- Hash, Lonnie
- Hawkins, Stefon
- Johnson, Cynthia
- Johnson, Mary
- Jones, Kelly
- Jordan, Mary
- Keane, Holly
- Kearse, Denise
- Martinez, Dr.
- Mike, Sylvia
- Moultrie, Nancy
- Nixon, Dee
- Nixon, Sean
- Orear, Gary
- Pellicano, Edward
- Pinkney, Leona
- Small, Helene
- Smith, Fannie
- Washington, Jeanette

Super Stars

- Bland, Kevin
- Gordon, Sarah
- Kelly, Reginald
- Lloyd, Wallace



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at Savannah**

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Spotlight on Human Resources

HR

Jamekia T. Powers

Employees who are eligible to participate in the Flexible Benefits Program should continue all insurance options in which they have enrolled by paying the required after-tax premium during a period of “approved leave of absence without pay” for a period of up to twelve (12) months. If an employee fails to make personal premium payments while on approved leave without pay (LWOP), and returns to work within the same Benefit Plan Year, we must collect ALL premiums and health care spending account contributions from the employees’ salary for continuous coverage during the period of out-of-pay status. ***Personal payments to the Child (Dependent) Care Spending Account are not allowed while on an approved LWOP***

Licensure (DHR Human Resource/ Personnel Policy # 2001)

All employees in positions which require licenses (including driver’s licenses), certificates or registrations are responsible for ensuring these documents are current. Employees are responsible for renewing required licenses, certificates or registrations, as necessary. Failure to obtain or maintain valid licenses, certificates or registrations is a basis for separation of employment.

Employment Status of Relatives (DHR Human Resource/ Personnel Policy # 1204)

The Department of Human Resources (DHR) prohibits or limits the employment or change in employment status of relatives

Please welcome Robyn Praylo, Program Associate, to the Human Resource Department at Georgia Regional Hospital at Savannah. Ms. Praylo has a strong administrative background and holds an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts, and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Human Resources.



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”

when necessary and appropriate. For more specific details please refer to: *DHR Human Resource/Personnel Policy # 1204* at <http://www2.state.ga.us/departments/dhr/ohrmd/Policies/1204.pdf>

Personal Leave

Personal leave may be used for any reason upon receiving supervisory approval of the leave request. Any Personal Leave converted, that has not been used by December 31, 2006, will be LOST. Personal leave can be used beginning January 1 of each year through December 31. If you wait until December, your supervisor may not be able to grant your leave request.

Update your Address and Telephone Number

It is **very important** that you visit the Human Resource Department to complete the necessary paperwork when you change your address and/or telephone number (**telephone number must be VALID**). Please review hospital policy 70-19 “Employee’s Addresses and Telephone Numbers.”

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**).

Retirement Info

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.

THIS MONTH

WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY

Acute Care Unit

Congratulations to Kevina Bland, graduating Valedictorian from Savannah High School. She received numerous scholarships including the Presidential Award, Jack & Jill Award, an award from the Youth Commission and the Governor's Award. To date she has received over \$50,000 in scholarships. Kevina will attend Tennessee State in the fall. She is a well rounded student that excels in sports as well as academically. Kevina is the daughter of Kevin Bland, HST on the Acute Care Unit #6.

Environmental Services

Condolences are extended to Margaret Green on the passing of her mother.

Get well soon Dora Grant and Gwendolyn Coney.

Classifieds

For sale: Cat/small dog carrier. \$15.00 Call Jeni Ellis-Riggs after five, 236-1965

FOR SALE:

Twin bed, mattress and box springs; little girl's twin sheets and comforter; two crib mattresses; day bed with mattress (or without) - color white metal. Also have 3 matching antique dining room chairs and dining room table (does not match chairs). Please call Carolyn Robbins (home-352-1931) - for prices.



Happy Birthday August!

- Aug. 2 Jessica Scott
- Aug. 4 Tina Wyatt
- Aug. 5 Eartha Coles
Glenn Dixon
- Aug. 7 Helen Gorini
Kevin Bland
Thomas Kurtz
- Aug. 8 Mildred Miles
- Aug. 10 Yolanda Bailey
- Aug. 11 Latisha Maronie
- Aug. 13 Linda Rowland
- Aug. 14 Dorothy Cason
- Aug. 15 Lynette Davis-Williams
- Aug. 16 Sharon Bellinger
Mariah Hay
Lalia Jackson
Earline Mack
Wiliane Quarterman
Janet Timmons
John Walters
- Aug. 17 Carolyn Robbins
Tammy Watson
- Aug. 22 Nancy Moultrie
Jerusha Stacey
- Aug. 24 Celia Singleton
James Waller
- Aug. 25 Veronica Cook
- Aug. 26 Nina Ryles
Janet Schauss
- Aug. 28 Mary Bell
Herb Smith
- Aug. 29 Glenn McGee
Cynthia Mustafa
Wilhelmina Smokes
- Aug. 31 Marian Douglas
John Middleton

Retirement Info Cont.

HR

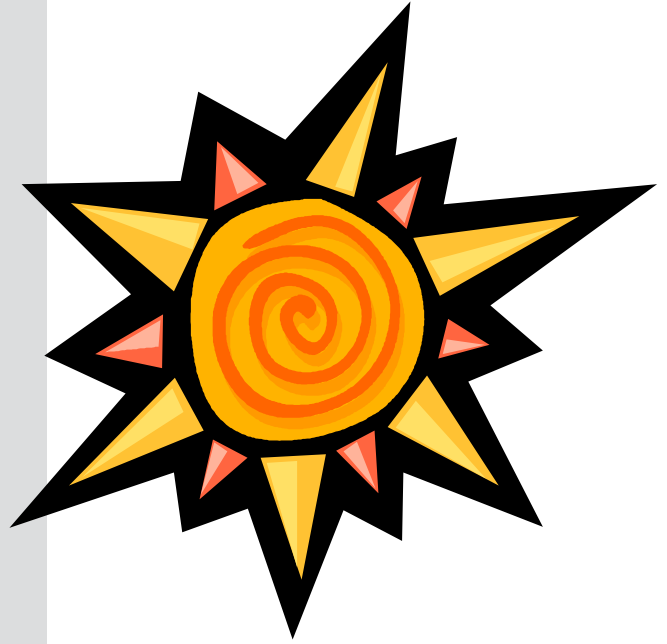
Jamekia T. Powers

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.

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

Sun Safety Protect Yourself and Your Family All Year Round

1. Seek the shade, especially between 10 A.M. and 4 P.M.
2. Do not burn.
3. Use a **sunscreen** with an SPF of 15 or higher every day.
4. Apply 1 ounce (2 tablespoons) of sunscreen to your entire body 30 minutes before going outside. Reapply every two hours.
5. Cover up with clothing, including a broad-brimmed hat and UV-blocking sunglasses.
6. Keep newborns out of the sun. Sunscreens should be used on babies over the age of six months.
7. Examine your skin head-to-toe every month.
8. See your doctor every year for a professional skin exam.
9. Avoid tanning and UV tanning salons.



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at Savannah

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