

# THE REPORTER

March 15, 2007

Georgia Regional Hospital at Savannah

www.gregionalsavannah.com

GRH-S

## Black History Celebrated



BLACK HISTORY MONTH was celebrated on Units 4,5 and 6 with a program commemorating historic events.

AT

Jimmie Bartley

The Secure Unit celebrated Black History Month with a program/remembrance of one of our own by lighting of candle ceremony on Feb. 21st which also included a reading of a poem in her remembrance.

The participants on the program gave information on how and why the month of February was chosen for Black History and other Black History facts. Unit staff Wm. Stokes gave a reading of the history of The Buffalo Soldiers. A duet was performed by a talented client and Hair Stylist Lisa Miles (Volunteer Services). The program finale was a tribute to James Brown (the god-father of soul) with an electrifying dance performance by another client.

Following the program everyone enjoyed a traditional Southern meal of fried chicken, ham, mac & cheese, gumbo, corn, home made peach cobbler with ice cream. Everyone enjoyed the celebration. Special thanks to the staff of the Secure Unit and Activity Therapy staff Joyce Morris and Jimmie Bartley for coordinating the event.

Units 5 and 6 also held similar programs celebrating Black History Month. Special thanks are extended to Unit Staff, Activity Therapy and Patient Education for coordinating the events.

### Features

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## Way to go Lab!

### Laboratory

Hassan Aziz, Ph.D.

Congratulations are in order for the laboratory staff for an extremely successful Joint Commission survey held on January 9. The one day unannounced event allowed the surveyor to take a closer look at the daily laboratory operation. The surveyor reviewed the regulatory paperwork and proceeded with an extensive validation of proficiency testing performance and performance improvement data review. Later, a

tracer activity on several clients took place to review the process of test ordering patterns. Additionally, the surveyor reviewed 7 random client charts and found it in compliance. Finally, point of care performance was discussed to ensure compliance. Overall, the surveyor was very impressed with the laboratory staff and the way they maintained laboratory services. Following the survey, the lab received full accreditation. Great Work!



## Thanks to you, Doc

### Holiday

National Doctor's Day is always March 30 and provides a time for people to show appreciation to the doctors who care for them or their loved ones.

The first Doctor's day observance was March 30, 1933, in Winder, GA. The idea came from Edora Brown Almond, wife of Dr. Chad Almond, and the date was the anniversary of the first use of general anesthetic in surgery.

Please take time to show appreciation for our doctors this March 30.

**Lab Consultant**  
Dr. Jane Jennings

**Medical Staff -**  
Michael Amburgey  
InTai Cheong  
Chrissie Clure  
Sandra Ligneel  
Michael Martinez  
George Negrón  
Jesus Ortiz  
Frank Pechal  
Ed Pellicano  
John Prather  
Suseela Vajrakarur  
Khoa Vo

**OD's -**  
Shabeer Abubucker  
Darshan Acharya  
Andrew Clark  
Ryan Duhn  
Sam Featherston  
Shaun Franklin  
Travis Henderson  
Tal Herbsman  
Dilraj Mann  
Kennedy Okere  
Rebecca Payne  
Stephen Thombley  
James Waller

**Nurse Practitioner**  
Naomi Ryan

## MARDI GRAS



**DARYL MALLARD** poses with the EMS dragon.



**EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER LEONA PINKNEY** rides a corvette waving to the crowd.



**FINANCIAL SERVICES** have struck it rich with a float featuring a pot of gold.



## EMS Update

EMS

Colleen Hartman

### Enjoy the City Fund Raiser

There are only 4 books left. It is full of coupons for casual dining, fast food, entertainment, recreation retail services and travel. The cost of the books is ONLY \$15 each. Coupons are good through the end of 2007. If you, or someone you know is interested in purchasing one, you may do so by coming to the Business Office or by contacting Colleen Hartman at ext 2545.

### Mardi Gras Parade

Thanks to all staff that took part in the parade. I hope you all had as much fun as I did. Thanks to all the staff that made sure our clients got to enjoy the parade. We couldn't have done it without you! I hope we can make this an annual event!

### Employee of the Quarter

Nominations are being accepted for 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter from now through March 15, 2007. Those employees that were previously nominated may be nominated again! Nomination criteria and forms are located on the "J" drive. Winner will be announced at General Staff Meeting in April.

### T-Shirt Sale

We will be selling short sleeve t-shirts, long-sleeve t-shirts and polo shirts in a variety of colors and sizes. Colors and sizes will be on display in the lobby of Bldg #1 within the next week. Order forms will be available on the display table.

### Theme Basket Raffle

Calling ALL units/departments. Start getting ideas together for

your theme basket. The Theme Basket raffle will be held in late March. Supervisors/Charge Nurses /Program Assistants will be receiving more information soon.

### Yard Sale

Start your spring cleaning now. We will be having a yard sale on Friday, March 30 (for staff only) and Saturday, March 31 (general public and our staff). We will be accepting furniture, appliances (big or small), clothes, dishes, linens etc. Nothing is too big or too small. Anything that is not sold will be donated to Goodwill. You can start bringing your items in on Monday, March 26. If you have an idea of some of the things you will be donating, please e-mail Colleen Hartman a list so that we can advertise.

## Materials Management Scores 100%

MM

Congratulations for a job well done were extended to Materials Management who scored 100% on their February audit by DHR Office of Facilities and Support Services. The auditors performed an audit on all 608 items on inventory and all were accounted for.

"Staff at Georgia Regional Hospital are to be commended and congratulated for their fantastic work, and on showing us what can be accomplished when proper management emphasis is placed on this most critical area of asset control and when staff members are empowered to do their jobs in such an excellent manner."

~Alan Cardin, DHR Office of Facilities and Support Services

Congratulations to Janet Edenfield and her great team in Materials Management.

## Register Your Handicap Permits

EMS

Captian Smith

In order to monitor the appropriate use of handicap parking permits on campus, it is necessary to initiate verification of these permits by the Facility Police Department. The Chatham County Tag Office informed us that a vehicle marked with a handicapped permit may only be used by the individual to whom the permit was issued. If the

individual to whom the permit was issued is not driving or being driven, the car cannot be parked in a handicapped space.

The Facility Police Department is requiring that all staff members who have handicap permits register their permit with the department. The Facility Police Department will periodically check the serial number with the Chatham County Tag Office to make sure permits are assigned

to the person who is driving the vehicle.

The Facility Police Department is requesting that by March 5, 2007 all staff members bring in their paper work so they can start registering these permits. If you have any questions or need assistance, contact the Facility Police Department. Thank you for your assistance in this very important issue.



MRSA can look like blisters, often in groups.

## It's Your Health

### Infection Control

Linda Rowland

MRSA. What is this "Super Bug" that we have been hearing about in the news?

MRSA is simply a *Staphylococcus aureus* pathogen that has become resistant to some of the antibiotics that we rely on. This does not mean that MRSA is a stronger "bug". It simply means that some of the drugs that we commonly use may not be effective for that particular infection. The good news is there are other drugs that can be used effectively against MRSA.

To identify MRSA, a bacterial culture and antibiotic sensitivity test must be done. When the results of the Culture and Sensitivity (commonly called a C&S) are back, the physician can treat the infection with medications that work against the bacteria.

The primary way MRSA is transmitted is by the hands. Simple hand washing removes MRSA and prevents the spread of the infection from patient to patient.

Standard precautions include good handwashing. This can be either with soap, running water and a lot of friction or with the use of an alcohol based waterless hand cleaner. The use of single use, disposable gloves should always be used when touching blood and all body fluids. When in doubt, use your Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)! **BUT...you must still wash your hands after removing the gloves.**

Personal Protective Equipment is located in all of the Units at GRH-S. Items included in PPE are gloves, face mask/shield/goggles and gowns. BUT remember, even if you use all of the PPE available, you still need to wash your hands thoroughly using soap and water or waterless hand cleaner.

Remember, MRSA is *not* a SUPER BUG. You can help prevent the spread of MRSA and all other infections by using standard precautions, including washing your hands! After all, **IT IS YOUR HEALTH!**

## March is National Nutrition Month



### Health

Sponsored by the American Dietetic Association, National Nutrition Month promotes the importance of nutrition as a key component of health and illustrates the flexibility of nutrition recommendations, dietary guidelines, and The Food Guide Pyramid as the framework for making daily food choices. For more information visit [www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org).

## WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY

### Materials Management

Good Luck to Tina Wyatt on her promotion and transfer to the Finance Office. We appreciated all you did while working in Materials Management and you will be greatly missed by everyone.

# RECOGNITION

WELCOME & CONGRATULATIONS!

## Welcome

David Banks	Environmental Services
Kenneth Butler	Food Service
Evelyn Fann	Recovery Care
Katrina Karris	Acute Care
Kelly Patterson	Acute Care
Rebecca Payne	Admissions
Bertina Roberts	Sea Palm Circle
Brenda Smith	Lakeside Center

## Congratulations on Your Promotion

Alexander Fields	Facility Police
Craig Matthews	Maintenance
Tina Wyatt	Financial Services

## Fields Named Lieutenant

### Facility Police Captian Smith

Congratulations to Alexander Fields Jr on his promotion to the position of Facility Police Lieutenant at Georgia Regional Hospital at Savannah effective February 16, 2007.

Lieutenant Fields began his Facility Police career with us in 1987. He has served in other positions in the department prior

to his promotion, including interim head of the Facility Police Department. Prior to joining us, he served with the Savannah Chatham Board of Education Campus Police. He also served in the United States Marine Corps. Lieutenant Fields' devotion to duty and his professionalism is of the highest caliber. Please welcome Lieutenant Fields to his new position.

## Social Work Month

### Social Work

In March we celebrate National Social Work Month to recognize social work professionals who are improving society by working and advocating for individuals in need. Observing National Social Work Month gives us the opportunity to show our support and appreciation of these dedicated professionals.

More than 600,000 people in the United States hold a degree in social work. Social workers can be found in schools, hospitals,

mental health facilities, senior centers, corporations, and even the military. Whatever the problem, social workers have the right education, experience, and dedication to help people help themselves whenever and wherever they need it. For more information visit [www.socialworkers.org](http://www.socialworkers.org).

A huge thanks goes out to our social workers here at GRH-S for all of the hard work that they do.

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at Savannah**  
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## GRH-S REPORTER

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**Charles Li, MD**

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Developmental Disabilities  
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Reporter Phone; 912.356.2103

# Spotlight On Human Resources

## For HR questions and/or assistance please see below for the contact person:

912-356-2022 (Phone)

912-356-2740 (Fax)

Dana Holmes, Personnel Technician 2—Employee Benefits, Deferred Compensation, Workers Compensation, Leaves of Absences, Faithful Service Awards, and Retirement

Chon Jernigan, Personnel Technician 2 and Selena Shepard-Gaylor, Personnel Technician 1—Recruitment/Selection, New Hire Processing, ID Badges, and Employee Exit/Clearance Process

Lakia Maxwell, Personnel Technician 2—Payroll/Transactions, DHR Debit Cards, Payroll/Transactions Reports, Employee Self-Serve, and Verifications of Employment

Lori Riddle, Personnel Transactions Manager—Payroll/Transactions, Accrued Leave Issues, Unemployment, DHR Debit Cards, Manager Self-Serve, Verifications of Employment and Wages, Garnishments/Bankruptcy, Child Support Orders, and Direct Deposit

Tiffani Booth, Office Assistant

Jamekia Powers, Personnel Officer—HR Operations/Management, DHR Policies and Procedures, Allocations/Reallocations, Advance Hire, Salary Adjustments, Grievance Process, and Employee Relations/Progressive Discipline

## HR

Jamekia T. Powers  
Dana Holmes

### Effective Hiring Process and Job Announcements

Job Announcements are available online at:  
[www.gareregionalsavannah.com](http://www.gareregionalsavannah.com).

Effective Friday, February 2, 2007, GRHS will only accept Resumes electronically (MS Word format) from individuals who are interested in positions that are open and posted. Applicants must identify which position title (and position number) they are interested in on their Resume and in the subject line of the e-mail ( v i s i t [www.gareregionalsavannah.com](http://www.gareregionalsavannah.com) for more information). Our official HR Department e-mail address is [grhs\\_hr@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:grhs_hr@dhr.state.ga.us). Positions are advertised at [www.gareregionalsavannah.com](http://www.gareregionalsavannah.com).

### Places to go for access and/or assistance:

The Live Oak Public Library System offers free computer use and a variety of free computer classes to the public. For more information, please visit their website at: <http://www.liveoakpl.org/Classes.htm> or call the main branch at 912-652-3600.

### Locations:

Bull Street (Main)- 2002 Bull St. (912) 652-3600  
Oglethorpe Mall Library- 7 Mall Annex (912) 925.5432  
Carnegie Branch- 537 E. Henry St. (912) 231.9921  
W.W. Law Branch- 909 E. Bolton St. (912) 236.8040  
Forest City- 1501 Stiles Ave. (912) 238.0614  
Ogeechee Branch- 1820 Ogeechee Rd. (912) 232.1339

The St. Joseph/Candler African-American Health Information & Resource Center (AAHIRC) offers free computer access and various free computer courses at their mid-town location. For additional information, please call (912) 447-6605.

Georgia Department of Labor- 5520 White Bluff Rd. (912) 356.2773

Savannah Entrepreneurial Center- 1801 E. Gwinnett St. (912) 652.3582  
Savannah State University Library-P.O. Box 20394, Tompkins Rd. (912) 356.2183

Armstrong Atlantic State University Library- 11935 Abercorn St. (912) 927.5332  
SCAD Library-201 E Broughton St. (912) 525.4653

### Resume Assistance:

Georgia Department of Labor- 5520 White Bluff Rd. (912) 356.2773

Template Resumes and cover letter available at [www.gareregionalsavannah.com](http://www.gareregionalsavannah.com)

Need resume assistance? Call Human Resources at 912-356-2022 to schedule an appointment for resume assistance. Assistance will be offered on Wednesdays (from 10:00am to 2:00pm), appointments are required.

### Nominate your co-workers

The Smart Government Award—Please visit the Team Georgia Connection website at [www.team.georgia.gov](http://www.team.georgia.gov) for instructions on how to nominate your co-worker or contact your supervisor if you do not have computer access.

Right Work/Right Way Award—Please visit the employee intranet at <https://intranet.dhr.state.ga.us> for more information or contact your supervisor if you do not have computer access.

GRHS Employee of the Quarter Award—contact any member of the EMS Team for more information.

### Employee Self-Service

Please remember to keep a record of your password and answers to your security questions for Employee Self-Service. You can visit to access Employee Self-Service from your work or home computer. If you require any assistance or training, please contact Lakia Maxwell at 912-356-2022 to make an appointment.

### Peach State Reserve Seminar

Georgia Regional Hospital at Savannah will be hosting a retirement seminar Friday, March 30, 2007, from 11:00am to 3:00pm. Please welcome Mike Delvecchio, Plan Consultant, from CitiStreet (new record keeper for Peach State Reserves). Mr. Delvecchio will be here to discuss changes and answer questions you may have about your deferred compensation.

### Workers Compensation

Please remember all injuries should be reported to your supervisor immediately and a claim should be processed with DOAS services. When a workers compensation claim is reported, DOAS is able to have a record of the work-related injury, even if medical treatment is not selected at that time.

**Please submit your questions and/or topic suggestions!!**



Avoiding the phrase “*I don’t have time...*”, will soon help you to realize that you do have the time needed for just about anything you choose to accomplish in life.

*-Bo Bennett*

## March is Mental Retardation Awareness Month

### Awareness

Mental Retardation awareness is recognized each March to increase public knowledge of Mental Retardation, its prevention, and the needs and abilities of the seven million children and adults in the United States who have mental retardation.

The American Association on Mental Retardation defines mental retardation as “a disability characterized by significant limitations both in intellectual functioning and in adaptive behavior as expressed in conceptual, social, and practical adaptive skills. This disability originates before age 18” (Luckasson et al., 2002). This means that a person with mental retardation has an intelligence quotient (IQ) of approximately

70 or less and that he or she needs support to take care of him or herself. Other terms are used for this condition in other countries. In the United Kingdom, for instance, the terms “intellectual disability” is used. Many people in the United States prefer this term.

People with mental retardation can and do learn new skills, but they do so more slowly than people with average intelligence and adaptive skills. The severity of mental retardation can be expressed based on intellectual impairment (i.e., mild, moderate, severe, or profound), or on the basis of the intensity of supports needed by the person (i.e., intermittent, limited, extensive, or pervasive). For more information visit [www.thearch.org](http://www.thearch.org).



## Happy Birthday April!

- |          |  |          |  |
|----------|--|----------|--|
| April 1  | Tiffany Braxton<br>Rose Mikell                       | April 17 | Carolyn Louper                                 |
| April 2  | Willie Williams                                      | April 18 | Travis Henderson<br>Heather LeBlanc            |
| April 3  | Cherlyn Alexis<br>Ashley Maru                        | April 19 | Angela Buchanan<br>Albert Holmes<br>Lisa Miles |
| April 4  | Kasey Antoine  | April 22 | James Bell                                     |
| April 6  | Stacie Colello<br>Cecil Dundas<br>Mary Smith         | April 23 | Olivia Stark<br>Sophia Wright                  |
| April 8  | Catherine Davis<br>Jesus Ortiz                       | April 27 | Patricia Speight-Oney                          |
| April 9  | Thu Do   | April 28 | Charlotte Wheeler                              |
| April 13 | Claire Hodges  |          |  |
| April 14 | Evelyn Fann  |          |  |
| April 15 | Geraldine Coleman<br>Xiaoshong Li<br>Barbara Pickett |          |  |

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



Georgia Regional Hospital  
at Savannah

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