



PULSE

May 29, 2015
VOL. 26 NO. 5

NEWS OF INTEREST TO RPMH EMPLOYEES

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



Rob McCann, is the RPMH May Employee of the Month. Rob began working in Plant Operations as a Maintenance Technician in December 2013. Nominated by a co-worker, it was said that Rob is “never too busy to help.” “During the ice storms, he parked cars and came in early to help everyone get in the building safely.” Rob graduated from Sweetwater High School in 1989 and went on to attend classes at Texas Tech University. Rob and his son, Hunter, live in Sweetwater. Congratulations to Rob- our May Employee of the Month!

SPECIAL DAYS



- May 25-Memorial Day
- May 27-Department Director’s Retreat
- June 4-Sam’s Membership Drive in Cafeteria
- June 11-18-National CNA Week
- June 21-Father’s Day
- June 22-Masquerade Jewelry Show in Wellness Center

NEW EMPLOYEES



WELCOME!!!

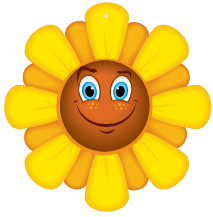
Social Services
Teri Willson, LBSW

MED/SURG
Wendy Davis, RN

Doctor’s Offices
Bri Burnett, FNP
Tessa Kirby

Environmental Services
Erica Torres
Johnnie Kingston, Jr.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

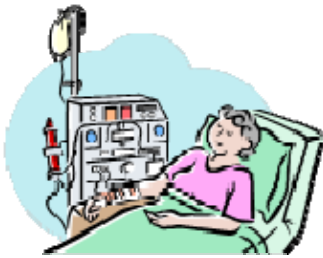


April Forbes
Dr. Patterson
Joanna Chavira
Keri Halford
Renee Gaskin
Wendy Figueroa

Arnettia Saddler
Irene Garcia
Jodie Kingston
Lisa Bustamante
Rolinda West

Brittany Brackett
Jacklyn Brasuell
Kali Sorrells
Nellie McGinley
Susan Almanza

PATIENT OPINION POLL



"I would like to thank Wendy Figueroa for making me feel better when she talked to me while giving me excellent care. She showed real concern for me. All the nurses were kind and friendly from the ER to Med/Surg. My breakfast was great!"

"Every nurse and aide that assisted me during my tenure, Rolinda West, Lisa Bustamante, Arnettia Saddler and Joanna Chavira made my stay a pleasant one. Dietary was friendly as well."

"Brittany Brackett is an outstanding aide! She is a very hard worker and never blinked at a request. She was always cheerful and had a smile on her face. Hoping she continues in the health industry. She would make a great nurse/doctor."

"The ER staff was great and caring! Dr. Patterson explained the treatment and was very nice. Keri Halford, Kali Sorrells were awesome. Nellie McGinley in Admissions was so sweet and kind. It was a great first impression of our hospital!"

"April Forbes met all my wife's needs and assisted her with all the routine things addressed each morning. She is a super lady dedicated to her patients and others."

"Each one came when I needed them and they did all they could to make me comfortable. God bless each one!"

Voluntarily Yours Gift Shop

The Voluntarily Yours Gift Shop has moved temporarily to the Hospital Classroom 1 located next to Admissions. Come by and see what they have done!

**WE'VE
MOVED**

HIPAA, LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE LEGAL SYSTEM

HENRIETTA



THE HIPAA HIPPO

It is not uncommon for law enforcement and/or the legal system to produce subpoenas or warrants for protected health information. At Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital these subpoenas usually are for emergency room records although other records have been subpoenaed that involve potentially unlawful acts and reportable incidents. We usually receive a court order or a grand jury subpoena for these records. If the subpoena is appropriate then we must comply with the subpoena or face penalties for failing to comply. The protected health information released, however, must be limited to the disclosure of records required by the subpoena. Because of the complexity of these issues, it may be necessary to obtain legal counsel prior to complying with the subpoena. Therefore, any subpoena should be routed to the HIM director for review and compliance with the subpoena.

A warrant is similar in nature. The Privacy Rule allows disclosure in response to a warrant, but the warrant may force the disclosure or legal consequences can result. As long as the warrant is produced by a court with jurisdiction over the hospital, the warrant is sufficient authority for the hospital to produce records. The warrant must be reviewed carefully to ensure that only the records described in the warrant are produced.

When presented with a warrant for a legal blood draw, the specimen and the test results are considered legal evidence and are required to be given to the law enforcement officer – usually for testing in their lab. The warrant should be retained and sent to HIM.

If a blood alcohol level or drug screen is performed as part of the treatment of the patient, then an authorization from the patient, a court order, subpoena or other legal process must be provided by law enforcement in order for the hospital to release the protected health information to law enforcement or the legal system.

HIPAA FAQ

What if I am called to serve on a jury and I know the patient?

If you are selected for jury duty and you know one of the parties involved because he/she has been a patient in your facility, you have an obligation as a potential juror to disclose that you know the party. However, there is no provision under HIPAA that permits you to disclose that the party has been a patient at your facility.

The best option is to ask to speak to the judge in private. You may be called to the bench or to the judge's chambers, usually with both attorneys and the court reporter. You can state that you are aware of the party through your employment, and as you are employed by the hospital, the knowledge you have of the party is protected by the HIPAA Privacy Rule. That should be sufficient for the judge to make a decision but the judge could order you to disclose more information. HIPAA allows you to make this disclosure in response to a court order. You will probably be excused from serving on the jury.





Dear RPMH Family

I wanted to express my sincere thanks to you all for your kindness, best wishes and hugs given to me during the service awards on May 15. I was humbled and grateful. It is a real privilege to be here at RPMH – and especially with all of you. The kind words, the surprise of having my daughter there, my brother Eddy's presence, the presentation of my 40 year pin (it just cannot be that long), the parking spot (yippee!!) and the gift are greatly appreciated.

It is a testament to what a great place this is to see so many long time employees receive service pins. There are several more long timers who will be receiving their 40 year pins soon. Those of you who are new to the family – time will fly by and you will see and experience amazing things here. I hope you all enjoy your time here as much as I have!

Love,
Martha

CLASS OF 2015

Chance Adams-son of Rick and Jill Adams, will be graduating from Highland High School. He has been accepted to Hardin Simmons University and will be studying Computer Science with a minor in Leadership.



Kelsie Rose-daughter of Kimberly Kiser and Jimmie Rose, will be graduating from Sweetwater High School. Her future plans consist of attending the Nursing Program in Abilene at Cisco Jr. College.

Mckaylan Poitevint-granddaughter of Sharon and Bruce Sutton, will be graduating from Odessa High School. She plans to attend Odessa College Cosmetology School.

Cody Phillips-grandson of Sharon and Bruce Sutton, will be graduating from Rankin High School. He plans to attend Sul Ross-Alpine to study in Wildlife Management and become a Game Warden.



Zach Garcia-son of Bonnie Garcia, will be graduating from Sweetwater High School. He will be attending Harding University in Searcy, Arkansas majoring in Youth and Family Ministry.

Veronica Baldivia-daughter of Lisa Baldivia, will be graduating from Wallace High School.

William Hawkins-son of Jill Hawkins, will be graduating from Sweetwater High School. He will be leaving on August 8, 2015 to join the United States Navy.

RPMH HOSPITAL WEEK



5 years

Deb Swain, Kayla Smart, Keri Halford,
Rosa Cooper, Tandi Riley, Amber Hope,
Mary Segura



10 years

Nellie McGinley, Bridget Coe, Jennifer
James, Bonnie White, Judy Grice



15 years

Brenda Green, Julie Hall, Vicky Rasberry,
Lori Brockman



20 years

Louise Turney, Tracy Villaneva,
Sandra Atkins, Kayrene Ham



25 years

Marcella Williams, Lori Brockman,
Donna Ashley



NURSES WEEK



DAVID RICHARDS

**HE IS THE PROUD
OWNER OF A NEW
STETHOSCOPE!!!**

RPMH HOSPITAL WEEK



30 years

Ruby Arnold, Erma Lopez



35 years

Jeree Hendley



**40 YEARS!!!!
MARTHA RIPPY!!!!**





NURSES WEEK



Congratulations to Elva DeLaCruz!!!!

She is the winner of the drawing for the Great Wolf Lodge getaway!!!!

RED NOSE DAY!!!!

