Cancer care heads east

Couples back to work one year after horrific crash

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These rooms, 5 East, previously part of the cardiac cath labs that were located before they moved to the newly built Heart and Vascular Center, bring the total number of rooms (5 South and 5 East) to 36.

"The extra rooms were added so that we could meet increasing needs," said Valerie Jividen, nurse manager. "Our goal is to create inviting spaces that encourage rest and personal growth during the healing journey.'

All rooms have large individual bathrooms and showers for added comfort. The rooms are equipped with computers for ordering and charting, furniture that folds into beds and flat screen TVs.

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Pamela Dawson, RN, CNI – Teays Valley Hospital

Dawson has worked at CAMC for 24 years. She has worked in many areas of the hospital including med-surg, telemetry, ICU, PACU and the emergency department. She is certified in ACLS and PALS.

Her coworkers said in her nomination: "Pamela exemplifies CAMC’s mission of providing the highest quality care to every patient, every day. She has a great personality and is loved by everyone that meets her. Pamela is always upbeat, positive and enthusiastic about her job as a nurse. She is an excellent patient advocate, continually trying to find new ways to improve the care our patients receive."

Travis Valley Hospital

Amanda Beng, RN – INTENSIVE CARE UNIT

Beng has worked at CAMC-Travis Valley Hospital for 10 years in the Intensive Care Unit. She serves as an instructor for Critical Care Classes as well as a preceptor for new staff in the Intensive Care Unit. She has been the core trainer for new IS systems that have been implemented at Teays Valley Hospital, training many staff in the hospital.

Amanda’s co-workers said in her nomination: “Amanda serves as an example of dedication and commitment to true patient advocacy, delivering personalized care to all patients and in all circumstances. She is a highly skilled, very compassionate, critical thinker, collaborator and consistently displays the highest ethical standards. Amanda works in collaboration with others to ensure the best outcome for our patients.”

Women and Children’s Hospital

Linda Brison, RN, CNI – CARE COORDINATION

Brison has worked at CAMC for 22 years. She is responsible for overseeing and evaluating applications submitted for the award. The board is composed of about 500 leading experts selected from industry, professional and trade organizations, education and health care organizations, and nonprofits (including government).

Save the date
CAMC Foundation Golf Classic Date: Aug. 16
Location: Berry Hills Country Club, Sleepy Hollow Golf Club
Fundraising goal: $100,000 to benefit the CAMC Foundation Children’s Fund Thanks to our lead sponsor Barnett Benefits at $15,000.

Golf Classic co-chairs – Karen Price and Ann Vincent Urling
Kidney donors and recipients have a “ball”

Earlier that day, a luncheon was held for doctors, nurses and other staff at CAMC General Hospital. Charlottesville and Emmett Ray, whose son, Jason, was a senior and mascot for the University of North Carolina when he was hit and killed by a car, spoke at the lunch.

Jason had signed his driver’s license to be an organ donor. His death saved the lives of four West Virginians. Jason’s family dedicated their son’s memory to Cameroon’s Kidney Transplant Center.

The WV Challenged Sports Championships were held May 27 through May 29.

Championship Performances

Women’s Medicine Center

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Students explore nursing

Seven middle school students spent some of their summer break at Leaven Valley Hospital as part of its Junior Nursing Leadership Academy.

“The focus of this project is to show middle school students the exciting opportunities and rewards that nursing has to offer and to help rebuild an educational path that will lead to a professional career in nursing,” said Liz Wilter, RN, education coordinator.

“Reaching out to students high school gives them the knowledge required to select the correct preparatory high school classes. It also provides the incentive and psychological support young students need to stay focused and excel,” Wilter said.

Jennifer said she is working hard to get information about nursing specialties and mobility can maintain the spark that will lead to a bright future. Students need to understand that it takes dedication and perseverance to be accepted into a nursing program and then much more talent and commitment to complete the education.

Championship Performances

“Nurses are the largest critical component of the health care workforce. West Virginia’s demand for nurses continues to grow as nurses age and retire and fewer students are drawn to the profession,” she said.

Jennifer praised the staff in medical rehabilitation for keeping her and Rob together, excellent communication and for being very motivating.

“You have to be able to trust those who are taking care of you,” she said.

Jennifer and Rob Hoover were both discharged on Aug. 4, 2009. Jennifer said her children, Rob and Jennifer Hoover were both discharged on Aug. 4, 2009. Jennifer said her children, Molly and Jacob, were a big help when she was discharged.

Rochester is a self-employed construction worker. His death saved the lives of four West Virginians. Jennifer Hoover returned to work two months after doctors expected).

He underwent physical, emotional and spiritual therapy. Everyone who worked with him was very good, but I was so close to going home. I didn’t want to leave Rochester, but he’s a very motivating. "You can trust those who are taking care of you," she said.

Jennifer said that despite what she’s been through, “there’s always someone worse than you are. Life goes on. I was pretty emotional when I first discovered I’d lost my leg, but then I realized that at least I have my arms and can still hug my children.”

He said, “It’s been amazing.” Rob said, “It should encourage other people that if this pretty woman can do it, they can too.”

"I feel we’re miracles," Jennifer said of their accident and recovery. "We have faith in God. I always have hope and faith." Jennifer said that despite what she’s been through, “there’s always someone worse than you are. Life goes on. I was pretty emotional when I first discovered I’d lost my leg, but then I realized that at least I have my arms and can still hug my children.”

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Women’s Medicine Center

"The staff at Women and Children’s Hospital is pleased that free, healthy reminders will be delivered weekly to the mother-to-be, not just when they have appointments once a month,” said Stovall. The text4baby wireless carriers are voluntarily providing the critical communications link of the initiative, distributing text messages to recipients at no charge.

For more information about text4baby, visit www.text4baby.com. For more information about programs and services offered at the Women’s Medicine Center, call (304) 388-2427.

If you are interested in obtaining an associate degree in nursing and pursuing a career at CAMC, you can take advantage of an exciting opportunity.

CAMC, in collaboration with Kanawha Valley Community and Technical College, is in search of people who wish to obtain an associate degree in nursing. CAMC will provide educational assistance that covers degree-related costs in exchange for a commitment to work at CAMC.

Application information will be available at camc.org starting Sept. 1, 2010. You will also find frequently asked questions, a sample course curriculum, course descriptions and a schedule of informational sessions to learn more about the program.

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A heart-lung machine, as well as the associated components of an oxygenator, filters, reservoirs and tubing, does the work of the patient's own lungs and heart. The perfusionist is responsible for the complex circulatory and respiratory functions of the patient during cardiac and other procedures requiring bypass of the heart and lungs. The return and preservation of the patient's own blood is a top priority.

"Basically, the perfusionist uses equipment to oxygenate and perfuse the patient's blood, which contains nutrients throughout the patient's body," said Mike Wood, one of 13 perfusionists at CAMC. "The perfusionist must work as a team with nurses, both new and experienced, who have spent time in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at CAMC Women and Children's Hospital. Collaborative care is key to ensure the safety of the patient, the patient's family and the medical team.

The perfusionist monitors the patient's blood to control the levels of oxygen and carbon dioxide.

In addition, perfusionists constantly monitor many vital signs and physiologic measures to ensure that the circulating and respiratory needs of the patient are being met.

The perfusionist is a certified professional and must maintain continuing education, competency and recertification every three years. Clinical certification is accomplished by clinical activity certification exams.

The complexity of the process is highly challenging and requires the use of many safety devices and excellent communications between all members of the surgical team. Perfusionists further assist cardiac surgeons with emergent bypass surgery which generally requires one to six hours, and ineluctable situations requiring blood salvage and intra-arterial balloons. Management in the coronary cath lab, which frees up perfusionists to do the more complex procedures.

"We are grateful for the support from the National Association of Chronic Disease Coordinators and the National Diabetes Education Program for their support and encouragement of the gestational diabetes project at the Women's Medicine Center. The gestational diabetes project at the CAMC Women's Medicine Center offers programs to aid pregnant women and new moms. Quality improvement project helps establish an efficient process for the identification and treatment of gestational diabetes.

The gestational diabetes project at the Women's Medicine Center at CAMC. Women's Medicine Center offers programs to aid pregnant women and new moms. Women with gestational diabetes are at increased risk for problems with large babies, cesarean deliveries, pre-eclampsia and the development of diabetes later after pregnancy. Up to 40 percent of women who have had a child with gestational diabetes are diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes at least 10 years later.