

# Right Here

A Monthly Newsletter for the Staff of MMC



*Jason Douglas*

## President's Message

It feels like just last month I was writing a President's Message about the temperatures getting warmer and summer just underway. Wow, does time fly. Here we are approaching the dog days of summer and squeezing in as much lake time as we can. Before we know it, the kiddos will be back to school.

Speaking of back to school – here's a great idea to make sure your child or grandchild is prepared: if you recall, children ages 12+ can receive a COVID-19 vaccine, which is a great addition to their back-to-school checklist. There are several locations in our area that offer the free vaccine, but the Ashland County Public Health Department (630 Sanborn Ave) is offering free walk-in vaccination clinics (Pfizer) on August 3 from 2-6pm, August 4 from 8am-12pm, and August 5 from 9am-1pm. Consider doing your part in encouraging your child or grandchild to get vaccinated.

Another activity for members of your extended family – our 55+ Drive-Through Health Expo taking place Wednesday, August 11. This creative, cruise-through experience will allow community members 55 and over to drive through the Lake Superior Elementary School parking lot to grab a goody bag of giveaways

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- Partners of MMC Member Passes Away
- Dr. Bertel Retires
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and important health information. Plus, they'll be given a locally-made boxed lunch. The event goes from 11am-2pm, so be sure to pass the word in the community.

A couple of great clinical updates to share – we're thrilled to have urologist, Dr. Paul Tonkin officially on our staff collaborating with Mary Vitek, APNP to provide extended urologic services to our community. Dr. Tonkin is such a great addition to our medical team and we're happy to welcome him back to the community.

I'm pleased to announce that many of our Sterile Processing Department staff have recently passed the certification requirements to be named as Certified Registered Central Service Technicians (CRCST). This is excellent news as the performance of every person in the Sterile Processing Department has a direct impact on patient and employee safety and they are all "instrumental" to our care.

Thanks for a great summer, everyone. I hope you enjoy these last weeks of warm weather as we gear up for a busy fall season. I appreciate each of you immensely.

With gratitude,



Jason Douglas, CEO of MMC



## Upcoming Events

### CRUISIN' TO HEALTH 55+ DRIVE THROUGH EVENT

**Wed. August 11 • 11 AM - 2 PM**

**Lake Superior Elementary School  
Parking Lot**

Anyone 55 years of age or older is invited to cruise through and pick up a bag of goodies and healthcare information. Box lunches will be available.

### EMPLOYEE WELLNESS SUMMER FUN DAY & PICNIC

**Thursday, August 12 • 11 AM - 2 PM**

**Behind the Cafeteria**

Stop down for some summer fun and games. Enter the prize drawings for a Traeger Grill, a Solo Stove, and a Yeti Cooler package. Many other prize drawings are happening throughout the event. Lunch will be served.

### NWCC PATIENT SUPPORT FUND RAFFLE

**Saturday, August 14 • 11 AM - 5 PM**

**Neighborly Bar, Ashland**

Win an exciting themed basket! Enjoy brats and hot dogs on the grill. Proceeds from this raffle support those going through cancer treatment. Please spread the word.

Save the Date:

### COMMUNITY RECOVERY PICNIC CELEBRATION

**Saturday, September 25 • 4 - 8 PM**

**Prentice Park, Ashland**

Join the Chequamegon Bay Voices for Recovery and Partners in Recovery groups for a recognition of success stories and survival during the pandemic and also to recognize those we have lost.

There will be a recovery walk, open mic, food, music, tie dyeing and a 50/50 raffle.

*Volunteers are needed for this event!* If you are interested in volunteering to help with serving food or tie dyeing activities, please contact **Kaye Lani Hebert, BHS** at Ext. 4500.

# MMC Community Sponsored Events



City of Ashland Bike Rodeo



Iron County Fair



Ashland Bay Days



# All in the Family

The Perioperative Services/Sterile Processing Department is proud to announce that **Debbie Blakeman, Wendy Hallstrom, Brenda Buss, Doreen Nohl-Parker, Amanda Oschsenbauer, Patty Sorrels, Jenny Brinker & Alicia Abaye** have passed the certification requirements to be named as Certified Registered Central Service Technicians (CRCST).

The International Association of Healthcare Central Service Material Management (IAHCSMM) is the premier organization for professionals working in Sterile Processing and one of its primary roles is to provide education and certification.

Certification requirements include a minimum of 400 hours of relevant experience, completion of specialized courses of study, and successful completion of a written exam.

The performance of every person in the Sterile Processing Department has a direct impact on patient and employee safety and reflects IAHCSMM's motto that Central Service professionals are "Instrumental to Patient Care".

## Recognition for ER staff

On July 18 **Patrick Hansen, Nursing** said, "Our ER team did a great job today! I believe we broke the record with a total of 76 patients on 7/17/21. We have a great team and it was a pleasure to see how well we worked together. Kudos to everyone, but mostly to **Michelle Riley, NP, ED** and **Jodi Wartgow, RN, ED** who handled 35 patients in Urgent Care on their shift. They were amazing!"

**Trisha Hagmann, Nursing** adds, "even with such high volumes of patients the team was able to have ED through-put times of 132 minutes for the weekend as a total. Great work! This is very impressive. It is not only beating our organizational pillar goal, it is not far from the WI state reported average of 122 minutes. This metric is a metric which is reportable and listed on Hospital Comparisons which patients are able to look up to see the ratings of hospitals. Thank you all for all of your hard work and positive energy, it is a real joy to work with each and every one of you!"



*Daughters of **Grace Emmert, HR** got into the 4th of July spirit!*



*Young golfer, son of **Kate Deering, Marketing** at the Mellen golf course driving range.*



# Nursing Bundle Refresher

## The Benefits of Bedside Shift Reports

- Patient has increased understanding and involvement in care.
- Decreases patient and family anxiety and questions.
- Prevents communication-related errors.
- Improves nurse accountability for their care.
- Improves whiteboard use.



Monthly resource reminders brought to you by the Nursing team and the Patient Experience team.

## Generous Benefactor to the Partners of MMC Passes Away



Jean Isabelle (Rappatta) Smart, age 98, of Ashland, passed away on Wednesday, November 18, 2020, at her residence. She was born January 27, 1922, in Ashland, the daughter of Theodore and Erna (Fredrich) Rappatta.

Her obituary was just posted on Friday, July 16 that invited people to a celebration of her life held on Saturday, July 24, 2021 at Grace Bible Fellowship Church, on Highway 13, outside of Washburn.

Jean has lived in Ashland for the past 30 plus years. She has always been very active in her church life, teaching children and being on various committees and as a member of various organizations including: the Ashland Monday Club (historian), the Wednesday Music Club, Eagles, VFW, Alpha Delta Kappa Sigma and Fidelas Gramma Chapter, the Partners of MMC, the Delta Homemakers and also worked at the Ashland Chamber of Commerce. Social activities included Chatty Hatties and Superior Views Red Hatters, cribbage at the Ashland Senior Center, the Smart Bunco Group, and family activities focused around grandchildren.





## Dr. Bertel Retires

MMC would like to wish General Surgeon Dr. Charles K. Bertel a very happy retirement. Dr. Bertel joined the medical staff at MMC in November, 2017. His expertise in the surgical field and his pleasant personality will be missed. Congratulations Dr. Bertel!

## Construction in Radiology

Please note that the CT scanner area is undergoing a remodel in Radiology. When staff and patients are heading to MRI or other areas in Radiology, there might be some inconvenient construction noise and disruption. Please excuse the mess. We are building a healthier tomorrow! If you have any questions, please contact **Brad Zeller, Radiology** at Ext. 5239. Thank you for your patience during this construction project.

## Volunteering Program Winners

The True North Community Team heads up MMC's volunteering program, encouraging staff to get out in our community and make a difference.

If you keep track of your volunteer hours and send them to Kaye Lani Hebert, BHS at [khebert@ashlandmmc.com](mailto:khebert@ashlandmmc.com), you're entered to win great Chamber Dollar prizes! The more hours, the more chances to win.

This quarter, the winners of our volunteering program are:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> place (\$25 Chamber Bucks): **Laura Jorgensen, Quality & Safety**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place (\$50 Chamber Dollars): **Marnie Krueger, Nursing**
- 1<sup>st</sup> place (\$100 Chamber Dollars) = **Joy Hinrichsen, Infection Prevention**

If you'd like to get the chance to win next time, be sure to track your volunteering hours (same tracking system used in department volunteer hours tracking), and submit to Kaye Lani.

Plus, you can get a FREE volunteer t-shirt to wear while you're out helping in the community. If you want a shirt, contact **Abby Miller, Marketing**: [ammiller@ashlandmmc.com](mailto:ammiller@ashlandmmc.com) or dial X 5182.

Email any questions to co-chair of the team: Grace Emmert, Human Resources: [gemmert@ashlandmmc.com](mailto:gemmert@ashlandmmc.com).

## Did You Know...

The Partners of MMC coffee shop serves breakfast Mon. - Fri. beginning at 8 AM. They are open until 2:30 PM Mon. - Thurs. and until 11 AM on Fridays. The shop offers fresh, ready-made breakfast sandwiches, hard boiled eggs, sausage patties, hot coffee and a variety of munchies and drinks for sale to all staff, patients and visitors. The coffee shop is located on the ground floor of the hospital just across from the elevators. The coffee counter phone extension is 5171.



# True North - People • Training Team All Staff Education Fair

Thank you to all of the teams and departments who had education tables at the fair! Also thank you to everyone who volunteered and helped with set up, tear down, and maintenance. A special thanks to Building Operations as well. And of course, the Employee Training Team really appreciates all of the attendees who came over to the fair on Wed. and Thurs., July 14 - 15. The fair was a real success with 330 staff members visiting the event over the two day period. It really does take a team to make us this great!

If you were unable to attend the fair in person, please visit the link on the home page of the portal with the education pieces from the fair available for viewing and downloading.





Memorial  
Medical Center



# STAR

Service

Teamwork

Accountability

Respect

Every encounter,  
every person,  
every time.



**Memorial  
Medical Center**

*Right here in the place we love.*



Happy 4th of July from our wonderful group of ER staff who were right here to take care of emergencies in our community over the holiday weekend.

## Got Photos?

Submit them to *Right Here!*

We'd love to highlight your favorite photos. Send us your favorite photos of anything related to our community, or any milestones of you and your family.

Email your pictures as JPG files to [krdeering@ashlandmmc.com](mailto:krdeering@ashlandmmc.com)