

# Right Here

A Monthly Newsletter for the Staff of MMC



*Jason Douglas*

## President's Message

I'm glad that snowstorm is over! And I want to thank everyone that moved so nimbly to reschedule appointments during the day when services were down here at MMC. That takes a lot of effort and patience, and it happened quickly and efficiently.

Speaking of snow, a heartfelt thanks to everyone who volunteered at the Book Across the Bay race with our MMC stations. I attended the event and was so proud to see that MMC was well-represented. And thank you to those who helped out at the Birkie race!

COVID cases are also decreasing in our area, which is excellent news, even though for our area transmission is still relatively elevated. As cases and case severity decrease in our region, we are modifying our visitor policy. Starting March 1, MMC will allow one visitor per patient per day. This visitor will be screened, not allowed to come and go at will, or roam the hospital campus aside from the gift shop and cafeteria. Behavioral Health will continue restricting visitors. Our goal is to preserve patient satisfaction while retaining a strong and healthy workforce. We happily believe the time is right to reduce restrictions on visitors.

I'd like to introduce one of our newest administrators on our team – Kevin Roy. He filled a new position, the Vice President of Provider and Clinic Operations. Kevin

[Continued >](#)



March, 2022

VOLUME 8 • ISSUE 3

## Inside:

- Bill Sloan Scholarship
- Welcome New REI Staff
- Book Across the Bay
- Q1 Retirements
- Dr. Krutsch Passes Away

## President's Message, continued from page 1

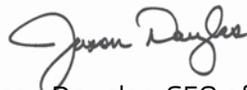
will play a critical leadership role in ensuring the successful day-to-day and long-term clinical operations and delivery of high-quality services across both Ashland and Hayward. He will partner with the clinic leaders and providers and have overall responsibility to design and implement best practices, oversee operations of the group, and establish policies that shape our team's vision and culture. One of Kevin's first priorities will be to provide leadership and guidance as we prepare to launch Family Medicine, later this spring, in Hayward.

I'm also pleased to announce that Craig Saylor will be joining our team this month as Interim Quality Officer for REI. Craig has agreed to serve in this interim position for 90 days, possibly longer, until we can successfully recruit a permanent Vice President of Quality and Safety. In this role, Craig will support the quality teams in Ashland and Hayward. He previously served in CEO, COO, and vice president roles at Somerset Hospital and has an extensive background in quality management.

Did you know March 9th is Wear Blue Day? It's a day to bring awareness to colon cancer and to encourage the public to get a screening colonoscopy if they are eligible. Dress up in blue with your department and be sure to snap a photo for marketing and be sure to tag our MMC Facebook page with photos.

Thanks again for the great work you do every day and for the personal, genuine care you provide to our patients.

With gratitude,



Jason Douglas, CEO of MMC

### FEEL BETTER CARE BETTER WINTERTIME STAFF PICNIC Mon., March 7 • 11 AM - 2 PM MMC Cafeteria

To mark the end of the Feel Better Care Better campaign, the True North Steering team and Nutrition Services invite all staff to enjoy a free "picnic" lunch. Menu includes hamburgers/brats, cookies, chips, baked beans, salad, and sodas/water.

### ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE Wed., March 2 • 2:30 PM • MMC Chapel

You are invited to the chapel for a brief service. Imposition of ashes will be offered. Contact **Andrew MacGregor, Chaplain** at ext. 5498 or [amacgregor@ashlandmmc.com](mailto:amacgregor@ashlandmmc.com) for individual or departmental arrangements.

## Upcoming Events

### GO BLUE - WEAR BLUE FOR COLON CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

**Wed., March 9 • All Day Event**

March is colon cancer awareness month. All staff are encouraged to wear blue on March 9 to show your support for colon cancer prevention and research. Take a photo of your group wearing blue and text it to Marketing at 715-681-1302, or post it on Facebook and tag Memorial Medical Center.

Over 45 years of age? Schedule a colonoscopy today. Early detection can save your life. Call Specialty Services of MMC at 715-685-6010 and make your appointment.

# Bill Sloan Scholarship

MMC is proud to offer scholarships to high school seniors. Do you know any high school seniors who are interested in a career in the medical field? The Bill Sloan Future Caregiver Scholarship will be awarded to graduating high school seniors who are planning on a degree in a healthcare field, and from one of the following school districts: Ashland, Bayfield, Butternut, Chequamegon, Drummond, Glidden, Hurley, Northwestern, Mellen, South Shore, and Washburn. The Bill Sloan Future Caregiver Scholarship is a \$1,250 award and will be distributed directly to the recipient's designated school of higher learning.

Bill Sloan Future Caregiver Scholarship winners are not required to work at MMC after graduation from their healthcare program, however applicants need to have a sincere interest in a medical field and an honest ambition to work in healthcare as their career choice.

The scholarship application is available on our website under the "About Us" tab. Application deadline is April 1, 2022.

# All in the Family

**Samantha Klevgard, Radiology** works full time at Aspirus Ironwood and is also a PRN RT here at MMC. She was recently interviewed as part of a story series on healthcare workers published in the Daily Globe.

The full story is posted on the main page of the portal.



The 2021 - 2023 Community Health Improvement Plan has been published.

To view the plan for keeping our communities healthy and find out more about the Community Health Needs Assessment results go to [ashlandmmc.com](http://ashlandmmc.com) and click on the link under Your Visit.



# Welcome Vice President of Provider and Clinic Operations



We are pleased to announce that Kevin Roy will be joining our team as the Vice President of Provider and Clinic Operations. Kevin will hold an REI Leadership position, reporting to Jason Douglas and Luke Beirl. He will have offices in both Ashland and Hayward.

Kevin's most recent position was Operations Manager at Marshfield Clinic in Minocqua, where he was responsible for the operations and strategic initiatives of multiple specialties and served as the liaison between physicians, administration, staff and patients since 2016. His additional experience across other Marshfield Clinic sites included extensive data analytics to provide leaders with information to support organizational strategic decisions.

Kevin has a Bachelor's of Administration degree from the University of Minnesota, Duluth and earned his Master's in Healthcare Administration from Grantham University. He is also board certified through the American College of Medical Practice Executives.

Please welcome Kevin to the REI organization!

# Welcome Interim Quality Officer

We are also pleased to announce that Craig Saylor will be joining our team on 3/7/22 as Interim Quality Officer for REI. Craig has agreed to serve in this Interim position for 90 days, possibly longer, until we can successfully recruit a permanent Vice President of Quality and Safety. In this role, Craig will support the Quality teams in Hayward and Ashland, and will split his time between the locations. Craig's most recent position was President of Senior Choice, where he was responsible for the leadership of their board of directors, and consulted with senior living leaders related to financial operations, quality management, and helped guide the organization through the ongoing pandemic crisis. He previously served in CEO, COO, and Vice President roles at Somerset Hospital and has an extensive background in quality management.

Craig comes to us from Hollsopple, Pennsylvania and has earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in Business Management from Liberty University, and a Master's Degree in Organization Management from the University of Phoenix. He is also a Registered Respiratory Therapist, has a professional certification in Healthcare Quality, and is part of Fellow American College for Healthcare Executives.

Please welcome Craig to our organization!

*(no photo of Craig is available at this time)*



# 2022 Book Across the Bay

Thank you to all who volunteered at the Book Across the Bay this year despite the cold wind, and congratulations to everyone who finished the race. We had MMC volunteers at the registration tent, at the Med tent and out on the ice at the 5k water station. There were over 3,500 participants on the ice that night and we are calling that a success!



*Registration tent*

Special thanks goes out to:

- Dr. Matheus** and his team for setting up the tent.
- Ben Anderson, Cardiopulmonary** for donating his generator.
- Building Ops** for lights and power cords.
- Nutrition Services** for ordering Water, Cookies, and Cups.
- Rob Jones, Cardiopulmonary** made 34 liters of hot chocolate.
- Andrew McGregor, Chaplain** for picking up last minute supplies.
- Brenda Eder, Nursing** for music play list.
- Kent Dumonseau, CFO** for his camp light.
- Jason Douglas, CEO** for additional firewood.



*Base camp 5k water station crew*



*Medical tent volunteers*

Reminder to everyone who volunteered to submit your photo, and hours worked into the Community team VolunTEEr program for a chance to win chamber bucks! You can submit this info on the portal under True North/People/Community Team. Call **Kaye Lani Hebert, BHS** at Ext. 6409. Or email her at [khebert@ashlandmmc.com](mailto:khebert@ashlandmmc.com) if you have any questions.



# MMC Retirees - Quarter 1 of 2022

Congratulations and thank you to all of the staff who are retiring in the first quarter of 2022:

- **Tom Semrau, Radiology • Retire Date: 1/22/2022 • 20 years at MMC**
- **Lee Hafeman, Purchasing, Retire Date: 2/4/22 • 40 years at MMC**
- **Pam Stanny, Social Services • Retire Date: 2/22/22 • 32 years at MMC**

## Events in Review



*Feel Better Heal Better wellness week gratitude wall by the cafeteria. Don't forget to be grateful every day... "What is the best part of your day so far?"*



*NWCC staff pitched in for the flamingo fundraiser for Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School. Flamingos were placed outside of the cancer center treatment windows to brighten up the landscape for our patients.*



*MMC donated to the Marengo Valley School's Strider Bike Program. The school has now reached its goal, and new bikes are on the way soon!*



# Events in Review (continued)



*This drone shot of the Birkebeiner starting line was taken by the husband of **Kelsae Ruppe, Nutrition Services**. Kelsae is in that line up somewhere. She completed her first Birkie this year coming in at 4:13. Way to go Kelsae!*



**Kari Williams; Erin Merrigan; Cyndi Belanger & Erika Kurtz, MMC ED**, at the Birkie Timber Trail Medical Aid Station.

## Long Time Local Urologist Passes Away

Dr. Kenneth N. Krutsch, age 77, of Washburn, WI passed away Saturday January 29, 2022.

Ken was a 1963 graduate of Whitefish Bay High School. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and was awarded his M.D. from the University of Wisconsin Medical School in Madison in 1973 where he also completed his urology residency in 1978.

After moving to Washburn, Ken practiced urology in the area for almost 40 years. Second only to his love for his family, he loved his work and his patients. He had many passions including making maple syrup, planting and nurturing trees and shrubs, splitting and stacking wood, a love for food and wine, and a gift for friendship. He took exceptional delight in being outdoors particularly on his beloved five acres on Lake Superior where he and his wife have lived and raised their family since 1978. He will be greatly missed.





# STAR

Service

Teamwork

Accountability

Respect



Ellie & Esther, daughters of Grace Emmert, HR wearing their MMC "buffs" with their baby cousin Oliver, son of Ben Blazek, Building Ops. All three have MMC parents!

---

**Every encounter,  
every person,  
every time.**



**Memorial  
Medical Center**

*Right here in the place we love.*

**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)