

Right Here

A Monthly Newsletter for the Staff of MMC



Jason Douglas

President's Message

Happy May!

It's just finally starting to look like spring and I can't wait for this month to get started. We've got a lot of things going on this month, including National Hospital Week, Nurses Week, and EMS Week. I know this is a separate time to thank everyone for your hard work and efforts, but I also want you to know this every day! I hope you feel proud to work at MMC as I do, but I sincerely do want to take a moment to thank you for all you do for this organization, our patients, and our community.

Another thank you I'd like to share goes to Dr. Enrique Africano in our OB/GYN service as he will be leaving MMC this month. He's been a great provider on our team, providing high-quality and specialized OB/GYN care to our communities, and I thank him for his time and work.

A couple of activities happening in the next few weeks – our next DAISY Award recipient will be announced on May 11. I enjoy hearing about these nominations as they come directly from patients and their families talking about the great care and experience here at MMC.

Also – we're so proud to have the cancer center open now for six years! The big

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May, 2022

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difference is that since 2016, cancer patients can get radiation treatment right here in Ashland. Prior to that, they had to travel pretty far for radiation. There's a celebration on May 2 highlighting this anniversary.

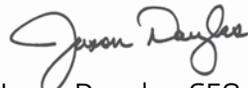
Our community team is coordinating a Clean-Up Month with the City of Ashland to encourage our staff to help clean up our beautiful area. You can find more information on the portal about this initiative, including ways to get a new MMC volunteering sweatshirt and how to participate in cleaning up.

Big news for our sister hospital – Hayward is opening their Family Medicine Services this month. A lot of effort and planning has gone into this service, and we're very happy they get to launch this service soon.

Also, in case you missed the CEO forums that recently took place, please take about 45 minutes to watch the video of the presentation on the portal. There's some great information about upcoming projects within the organization.

Thanks again for continuing to do great work here at MMC. It's an honor working with you.

With gratitude,



Jason Douglas, CEO of MMC

HAPPY
★
MEMORIAL DAY
★★★
REMEMBER & HONOR



NWCC 6 YEARS OF SERVICE CELEBRATION

Monday, May 2 • 12 Noon - 2 PM

Presentation from Dr. Boyle at 12:15 PM

Cancer Center Lobby

Stop over and help recognize 6 years of service for the Cancer Center! Take a cupcake and drink to go.

Celebrating
6 years of cancer care
close to home

Upcoming Events

NURSES WEEK • May 6 - 12

Check the portal for online MMC Nursing recognition videos during this week.

HOSPITAL WEEK FESTIVITIES

May 9 - 13 for all MMC, REI & NWCC Staff

Mon., May 9: Recognize healthcare workers in the community with a banner displayed at our main entrance.

Tues., May 10: Yogurt Parfaits for Breakfast. 7-10 AM in front of the cafeteria.

Wed., May 11: MMC Spirit Day! Wear your MMC Logo apparel & send your photos to: **Kate Deering, Marketing:** krdeering@ashlandmmc.com.

Thurs., May 12: Dilly Bar delivery to departments 1-3 PM.

Fri., May 13: Popcorn for everyone! 2 - 4 PM in front of the cafeteria.

[More Upcoming Events >](#)

Upcoming Events (continued)

PRESENTED BY THE CITY OF ASHLAND AND MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER

*Earth Day Clean Up and
Arbor Day Celebration*

SUNDAY MAY 22, 2022
BEASER PARK
10AM

Tree Planting and Dedication at 10am
followed by a City Wide Trash Pick
Free Earth Day T-shirts for the first 50 Volunteers



MEN'S PROSTATE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Monday, May 23 • 4 - 5 PM • Zoom Meeting

Dr. Twomey will be presenting and answering any questions. If you or someone you know is affected by prostate cancer, and has questions, this is a great opportunity to get answers from a specialist. Find the event on our Facebook page for more details.

Save the Date:

ALL STAFF TRUE NORTH TRAINING

Tuesday, June 21 & Wednesday, June 22 • MMC campus

This will be Summer FUN, in-person, required training with multiple 2-hour sessions each day. Plan on attending a session. Look for sign up options and details coming soon on the portal.



All in the Family

Welcome

We are proud to have nurse practitioner, Rebecca Fleming join Behavioral Health Services of Memorial Medical Center.

Rebecca Fleming, APNP **PSYCHIATRY**



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1615 Maple Lane
Ashland, WI 54806

715-685-5400
ashlandmmc.com

MMC Partners with Ventures Unlimited



Kelly Kinsel has been employed with Ophthalmology Services of MMC in Hayward, and formerly Hayward Northern Waters Ophthalmology for 5 years. She takes a lot of pride in her work as a housekeeper and is an excellent employee. She loves being part of the team. Kelly found the opportunity to work with MMC through Ventures Unlimited, a non-profit organization which serves adults with disabilities. Ventures Unlimited's mission is to help people with disabilities find meaningful, integrated work within our communities. Kelly worked with Tysa Goold, Venture's Job Placement Specialist to learn the skills necessary to gain and maintain employment. Ventures Unlimited offers day services, supported employment and school to work transitions along with many other services for its members within the community.



Congratulations Retirees!



Diane Lulich, Human Resources
Thank you for 45 years of service.



Margie Ronchi, BHS
Thank you for 28 years of service.



Did You Know...

The crane that was operating in front of the hospital last week was hoisting a huge HVAC unit the size of a railway car on top of PCU. This unit is being installed so that the Critical Care units can be converted easily to negative pressure rooms should the need arise. This construction is also the cause for all of the noise and disruption you may have been hearing on the 2nd floor. The project should be complete by the end of May.



Events in Review



MMC participated in the state-wide *Donate for Life* flag raising event on Fri., April 22.

Thanks to **Jill Curry, Nursing** for organizing the event for the 4th year in a row.

Please consider being an organ, tissue & eye donor. Want more information? Go to: donatelifewisconsin.org.



CEO Forums were held the week of April 18th. If you were unable to attend one of the sessions, please go to the portal and watch the video as soon as you can. The content was meaningful and interesting as always.

CEO forums will be held three times per year and all staff are expected to attend. This is an opportunity to hear our leaders discuss hot topics for MMC and also for staff to ask questions, pitch in with comments and get answers and feedback directly from administration.

Do you have an agenda item suggestion that you think would be a good subject for the next CEO forum? Email your ideas to **Chad Lipske, HR** at clipske@ashlandmmc.com.



MMC Offers Minimally-Invasive Acid Reflux Treatment

Nearly 20% of all Americans are afflicted with acid reflux, and many suffer from GERD - gastroesophageal reflux disease, a chronic condition that affects the gastrointestinal and digestive system. While most people experience heartburn or indigestion here and there, if you feel the burning sensation in your chest more than two times a week, you might have GERD.

Many people try over-the-counter medications, or may even end up on stronger medication to try to help with symptoms, but one of the best ways to truly heal from acid reflux is to treat it at the source – the esophagus. A weakened esophageal sphincter lets contents of your stomach flow back up into your esophagus.

There are several factors that can weaken this sphincter, including:

- Being overweight
- Smoking or regular exposure to secondhand smoke
- Overeating
- Pregnancy
- Hiatal hernia (part of the stomach protrudes into the diaphragm muscle)

Dr. Matthew Bettendorf, a general surgeon at MMC performs a minimally-invasive procedure using a device called LINX®. It's essentially a magnetic sphincter – about the size of a nickel - that's tightened around the lower part of the esophagus to help restore the body's natural barrier to reflux.

Since it's a minimally-invasive procedure, most patients can go home the same day or the day after surgery, and many can resume a normal diet immediately. Plus, studies have shown after LINX®, 99% of patients no longer experienced regurgitation and over 85% were free of heartburn and no longer needing daily reflux medication.

For more information on acid reflux management at MMC, visit ashlandmmc.com/acidreflux.

Employee Fitness Center Update

- Employee fitness center will be on the ground floor in the old Cardiac Rehab space.
- Equipment should be arriving in the next week or 2.
- Orientation times will be listed on the portal. You must attend an orientation to have access to the fitness center.
- 25 points towards the Taking Shape program for completing an orientation.
- Contact **Kyle Narges, Employee Wellness Coordinator** at Ext. 5508 if you have any questions.





Memorial

STAR

Service

Teamwork

Accountability

Respect

Every encounter,
every person,
every time.



**Memorial
Medical Center**

Right here in the place we love.



Thank you to our staff who represented MMC Sports Medicine Services at the AHS 2022 Spring Sports Athletic Meeting (from left to right):

Kelsae Ruppe, Nutrition Services;
Sheila Bartelt, Athletic Trainer; Nikki Gleeson, Rehab Services & Ellie Leask, Orthopedics.

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 to MMC or any milestones of you and your family.

Email your pictures as JPG files to krdeering@ashlandmmc.com