



## *The Heartbeat of St. Elizabeth*

**Making St. Elizabeth a GREAT place for patients to receive care,  
physicians to practice medicine, and employees to work!**

ST. ELIZABETH HEALTH SERVICES

THE PULSE

### *The President's Message* ***The End is in Sight!***

We have been through a lot of challenges with the implementation of CHI Connect and the Kronos project, but we are seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. Because of your dedication and hard work, along with your willingness to try new things, St. Elizabeth has gotten the reputation of jumping in and getting things done even when things get tough. That message has been heard throughout CHI, and it makes me proud to work with such an excellent team.

I want to thank you all for your contribution to the process, and I know that, although we still have a few hurdles to jump, we will reach the finish line in great fashion.

*George Winn, President & CEO*



## **It's OPEN ENROLLMENT Time!**

**November 5 - 19**

Don't forget to sign up for your benefits for 2008! It's easy, and there are several ways that you can do it. First, check the annual enrollment packet that was sent to your home (if you are benefit-eligible and did not receive a packet, please see Human Resources!). Make sure the information is correct and it is what you want for next year. If there are changes that you want to make, or if you want to participate in the flexible spending account, you will need to make those changes electronically.

Here's how you do it: Go online to <http://resources.hewitt.com/chi> and go through the step-by-step process described in your packet. Or, if you would rather do it via the telephone, call **1-888-450-9450** and go through the process as prompted by the telephone prompts.

I strongly advise you to go through the process even if you do not intend to make any changes. There have been some reports through CHI that some of the information that is critical to your coverage may not be accurate in the electronic version, so confirm this to make sure you won't lose out on your coverage next year.

Thanks – and have fun!

## Thank You So Much!

"I would like to thank the amazing employee of St. Elizabeth Health Services for their incredible and continued support.

"We are overwhelmed with the generosity that we have been shown by everyone and it touches our hearts deeply to know that you are all thinking and praying for us. We feel truly blessed to be living here and to have such kind and generous people surrounding us through this challenging time.

"There are simply not enough words to express how thankful we are for all that has been done in our behalf."

Thank you all so very much,  
*Shirley Ingle and Family*

## "Tis the Season to be Safe!

Once or twice this year we have seen the snow sneak up on us and dust the Elkhorns, which can only mean that we will soon be "enjoying" a healthy helping of the white stuff down here in the Baker Valley. While it can be fun to ski and snowmobile when we are prepared, it can also be a challenge when we are trying to make our way across icy sidewalks and snow-covered parking lots. Here are a few tips we encourage you to follow to make your time this winter as safe as possible:

- Wear shoes that have some traction in the snow. That may mean changing your shoes when you get into the building, but the time you save (and maybe the hip you save as well!) will be worth it in the long run.
- SLOW DOWN! The faster you walk, the harder you fall, so take baby steps and take your time across slippery surfaces.
- Beware of water in the halls. Snow can sneak in and melt without us realizing it, so expect to see it there, and clean it up if you find it.
- Finally, in this "slips and falls" season, helping a friend can also be a great help for you. Supporting those who are a little unsteady is a great way to be safe!

# The Safety Scene

**Question:** If I find a spill that I believe is hazardous material, what should I do?

**Answer:** **DON'T** clean it up! Cordon off the area and alert others in the area of the spill. Notify your supervisor or facilities. Call a Code Yellow using the overhead paging system (call "0" and have the front desk page the code and location).

**Question:** Who is responsible for shutting off the oxygen (piped gases) during a fire?

**Answer:** **ONLY** Facility Maintenance or the House Supervisor has the given authority and training to shut off the oxygen supply during a fire or internal disaster.

**Question:** Some of the medical equipment in our organization requires inspection or may need to be removed from the floor for scheduled preventative maintenance. How do we know when this should occur?

**Answer:** Medical equipment that needs to be inspected or receive maintenance will have a green sticker with a number on it indicating the month the inspection is due. If you see a piece of equipment with this sticker, and the date has passed, do not use this equipment until Bio-Med/Clinical Engineering has inspected it.



# The CHI Connection!



Festival of Trees is three weeks away! The volunteer force is so helpful. There are still opportunities to help as tree nannies. The decorators take time away from their work and their families to decorate the big Christmas trees. Day and night from Monday, November 26 through lunchtime November 29<sup>th</sup>, tree nannies bring delicious snacks to fuel the decorators. This year you can be a part of the buzz and watch as the empty Armory is transformed into a winter wonderland.

If you would like to volunteer, please call or email me so that I can get you on the schedule. Bonnie and Gary Stalder, Jo Ann Illingsworth, Michelle Paoletti and Janet Jensen have already raised their hands and I need a few good women and men to round out the edges.

Each year the Festival raises funds that go directly toward the operation of the St. Elizabeth Health Care Foundation. Many of you donate to the Employee Giving Campaign which also benefits the Foundation. The Foundation is just wrapping up the \$600,000 Eastern Oregon Center of Orthopedics project. In previous years the Foundation helped fund the \$1.6 million dollar ER/ICU renovation, and \$1.1 million dollar Birth Center.

The *Preview Among the Trees* event will be Thursday, November 29 from 5:00 to 9:00 pm. The Geiser Grand will cater the affair and there will be music from the Baker High School Band and mini trees and wreaths on silent auction. Sure to be a hit, the tickets are only \$15 dollars. The Friday night gala, *Night of Stars* has very limited seating available for the sit down dinner catered by the Sunridge Inn and live auction. The event begins at 6:00 pm; tickets are \$75 per person and include a ticket to *Preview*. *Family Day* is a popular event for children and adults, you'll find music and Santa Claus and the price of admission

is an unwrapped toy or canned good. The festivities on Saturday begin at 10:00 am and end at 3:00 pm.

Tickets are available at the admission desk, as well as Betty's Books, Sane Janes and the Sycamore Tree.

*Amy Dunkak*

*Director of Communications and Business Development*

## Ergonomics Revisited

Have you ever had a position that you just didn't feel that comfortable working in? I don't mean the job – I mean the actual physical position. Did you think that maybe your body was trying to tell you something?

Well, here at St. Elizabeth Health Services you can do something about it! We have a process that each employee's worksite can be evaluated by a member of our Ergonomic Team (primarily Flint Stearns, who has training and extensive experience evaluating people and worksites for ergonomic compatibility).

Should you feel that you need to have your area evaluated, contact your supervisor and let them know of your concerns. He or she may be able to make some minor adjustments, and will also be able to set the ergonomic evaluation in order. Flint will complete the assessment and send a report to your manager with the recommendations (many are changes that can be done with little or no financial impact), and your manager can help to resolve the problems.

You can be comfortable at work, and more important – be safe. There are things we can do, so when you think your body is trying to say something– Listen to your body talk!



## Happy Birthday!

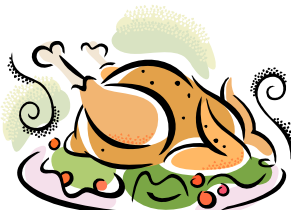
Christmas and birthday in the same month? Does that mean more presents or less?!

|                  |        |                 |        |
|------------------|--------|-----------------|--------|
| Lori Stewart     | Dec 2  | Betty Ledbetter | Dec 17 |
| Carolyn Haslett  | Dec 3  | Anne Nemece     | Dec 18 |
| Carrie Kozlowski | Dec 3  | Deb Immoos      | Dec 19 |
| Kathie Pointer   | Dec 4  | Tara Rivera     | Dec 19 |
| Suzanna Kozlik   | Dec 7  | Victoria Davies | Dec 22 |
| Al Koppenhaver   | Dec 10 | Amy Dunkak      | Dec 23 |
| Glenna Namchek   | Dec 14 | Dr. Devos       | Dec 24 |
| Annie Thomas     | Dec 14 | Bill Mattes     | Dec 26 |
| Ginnie Dethloff  | Dec 15 | Rebecca Sanders | Dec 27 |
| Helen Loennig    | Dec 15 | Laurie Solisz   | Dec 28 |
| Heather Luster   | Dec 15 | Jim Culbertson  | Dec 31 |
| Kay Totten       | Dec 15 | Debra Wright    | Dec 31 |



No reason to ask “Who Cares” – these are our “I CARE” winners for October. Congratulations to Bob Gritter for reaching 10 and getting a cool pin!

|                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Alicia Teeter          | Julie Ingalls (2)     |
| Annette Grover (2)     | Kathy Ross            |
| Bill Mattes            | Laura Adcock          |
| Bob Borders (2)        | Laurie Solisz         |
| Bonnie Price           | Laurie Young (2)      |
| Brenda Morris          | Lola Taylor           |
| Brianna Peppers        | Marvin Taylor         |
| Charlie Fillebrown     | Mary Ann Woods        |
| Dana Mills             | Megan Nelson          |
| DJ Nichols             | Michaeline Martin (3) |
| Dr. Richards           | Misty Goodwin (2)     |
| Ella Devore            | Seth Payton           |
| Ginger Whitney (2)     | Sheri King            |
| Glady Sosa-Shirley (2) | Stacy DeLong (2)      |
| Glenna Namchek         | Suzie Hoadley         |
| Heather Luster (7)     | Tina Aldrich          |
| Homer Relaford (2)     | Tina Griffin          |
| Jeff Martin (2)        | Vicki Dyke            |
| Jim Hilderbrand        | Victoria Davies       |



## If You See or Hear it....

There have been some rumors going around of HIPAA infractions, but nothing has been reported to Administration, Health Information Management, or HIPAA Security. So if there is really some issue that you have concern about, please document it and turn it in to one of the entities listed above, and let us address the issue so it is taken care of once and for all! Thanks!

## A Reminder...

Please check your pay stubs to make sure your address is correct – W-2s are not forwarded by the post office, and you are going to need those little pieces of paper before you know it!

## Mission Moment

I know that I have been accused of being an emotional guy (but usually there is something in my contact – really!), and I hate to get all “tenderized” around you, but something happened to me that I just have to share. I was standing in the hall talking when someone walked towards me. As we are supposed to do, when the person got within a few feet I said hi. That person patted me on the back and returned my “hi” with a smile. And suddenly I knew it! I like working here!

I’ve known it for some time (about 21 years, to be exact), but every once in a while I am reminded again that I work here because I like it here! I like the job – but I especially like the people I get to work with. I like being able to walk down the halls and say hi to someone that I know, and see the smiles that I usually get from you.

This month we celebrate Thanksgiving, and I think I have more to be thankful for than anyone I know. God has blessed me in the important ways – I have a wife that loves me, children that I am proud of, and a place to work that is filled with people I consider my friends. The little annoying things that flutter around don’t amount to much when I can experience blessings like these.

I pray that you will enjoy a great Thanksgiving this year too!

*Jerry D. Nickell, VP Mission & H.R., CRD*

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