



October 30, 2020

New Direction

Hairston believes in Memorial Hospital mission to serve

Carla Hairston, Ph.D., APRN, FNP-BC, serves as a Memorial Family Medicine advanced practitioner and is a firm believer in the mission of Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital. That's a good thing because she has worked for, or with, the hospital off and on since 1976 in one capacity or another.

"I work for Memorial because it's the county hospital and we care for all people regardless of income or insurance," she explained.

That mission is a sentiment that has been dear to her heart since she and spouse Dr. Wm. Hairston opened their University Drive Health Clinic. They ran the clinic for 43 years, starting back in the days when payment might be a bushel of vegetables or a basket of eggs, before officially joining the Memorial family of employed providers in 2016.

"I have a passion for nursing and caring for others. I like to learn and to teach," Carla said. That's also a good thing, since she's an adjunct faculty member in the Stephen F. Austin State University School of Nursing. Her most memorable students, coworkers and employees have all shared the same traits that Carla herself possesses – they're anxious to learn and patient-centered.

The mother of three and grandmother of seven enjoys kayaking, gardening and clogging and says the most useful advice she ever got was "ask questions, and don't ever be afraid to ask."



Family flu clinic over, team shots still available

Flu shot clinics concluded this week with vaccinations for Memorial staffers' immediate family members like Anjou Bice's daughter Andraissah (pictured), our volunteers and a few remaining employees.

If you missed the chance at a team member flu shot, employees ONLY can schedule an appointment with Amanda Meshell, infection control nurse at ext. 4601 or 4668.

If you did not get a flu shot here at the hospital, please provide the proper documentation from your doctor.

David Schaefer, pharmacy director, has acquired a cloth mask so realistic that it's somewhat startling, especially considering the resemblance to David's actual face and winning smile. We thought you'd enjoy seeing it.



Toll-free Compliance & Ethics Hotline
1.800.427.7240

Forrest King, EMS manager, retires after 40 years of service

Local first responders and hospital employees came out en masse last week to honor Forrest King, our emergency medical services manager, as he retired after 40 years of dedicated service to Memorial Hospital and the Nacogdoches community. Forrest has plans to travel with his wife Lisa, work on projects around the house, and spoil his granddaughter Ada. He'll also continue teaching ACLS, CPR and PALS classes.





Forrest King passed the torch, so to speak, when he passed along a big red marker to his successor Wade Blake during his recent retirement reception. Forrest is known amongst his EMS crews for the use of his red pens.

Wade joined the Memorial team in 1990 and has 21 years under his belt as an EMS supervisor. As the newly appointed EMS manager, Wade looks forward to the challenges ahead.

Plant ops crew celebrates Facilities Week



This week, the plant ops team was touted as the “Heroes of Health Care Facilities,” recognizing the important role they have in ensuring a safe and efficient environment for all patients, visitors and staff. They were treated by their director to donuts, kolaches, Fuzzy’s Tacos and goody bags during Facilities and Engineering Week.

Business office recognizes PAM Week

The business office celebrated a job well done during Patient Account Management Week recently with finger foods, breakfast and two luncheons, one catfish and one beef and chicken fajitas.



The department has three employees with an impressive 30 plus years of tenure in Marilyn Latham, Linda Gregory and Jackie Acrey; and Thelma Wade-Bryant will be celebrating 40 years of dedicated service in December.

The department sends out a special thanks to Mindy Winslow, revenue cycle director and Rhonda McCabe, CFO for encouraging them to celebrate the team during their special week.

Gift shop possibly opening in November

After being closed down due to the pandemic, the Auxiliary Gift Shop was supposed to be reopening for business recently, but organizers discovered problems with the digital register resulting in further delays of several weeks. Expect the gift shop to open no sooner than the middle of November, but more details will follow as leadership works through the issues.

Plans are still for the shop to be open Monday – Friday from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. for all your shopping needs.

Score! Football tickets available

The hospital has a limited number of tickets to the Oct. 31 homecoming game and Nov. 14 SFA football game that are up for grabs. If you would like to attend the games, which begin at 4 p.m., be the first to call Ella in administration at ext. 8523. First come, first served!



It’s Food Truck Friday again with Jojo’s Meat on a Stick and Eat a Bite as the featured trucks today. Look for them in Blount Park from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., or as long as the food supply lasts.

Because of the holidays, we’ll only have one Food Truck Friday in November and December. Look for that on Nov. 13 and Dec. 11, with full details to follow shortly.



Two weeks ago during Food Truck Friday, the United Way committee sold Raising Canes lemonade and tea as a fundraiser. TODAY is the final day to place your order for a \$15 United We Stand - Six Feet Apart T-shirt and to turn in your pledge card in HR. The committee has almost hit their goal of raising \$20,000 for the Memorial Employee’s United Way campaign.

