



CAN YOU IDENTIFY THESE STAFF MEMBERS? GO TO THE BOTTOM OF PAGE 2 FOR THE CORRECT ANSWERS.

Mary McKittrick Known to Most as the Travelling Flu Shot Nurse

Even though **Mary McKittrick** has been a part of the nursing team at both Grace Hospital and Hôtel-Dieu Grace Hospital for more than 30 years, (working in the Adult Day Surgery Department for the past 15 years), most staff know her best as the travelling flu shot nurse.

For the past five years, the Occupational Health Office has contacted Mary's unit manager **Cathy Piazza** and requested that Mary be taken off her job temporarily to assist with administering the seasonal flu shot to staff, physicians, volunteers and students. And every year Cathy gives Mary permission to leave her regular nursing duties behind to help administer flu shots.

Instead of her usual routine of caring for patients in the Cataract Eye program, Pre Admission, local OR, IV Therapy or Endoscopy Recovery, Mary will prepare her cart with everything she needs to educate and administer flu shots.

"Mary works with the Occupational Health Office every year to assist with the flu clinics," states **Sue Klein**, Employee Health Nurse. "She is enthusiastic, cheerful, knowledgeable, and has a reputation for 'giving a great shot'. Mary uses the travelling cart to access staff working in areas that have difficulty leaving their respective departments. She knows every nook and cranny in this building."

This year, Mary also stepped up to assist Sue with the challenge of setting up H1N1 flu clinics. "Due to the preparation of this vaccine, she was mainly confined to the Health Office where I had the pleasure of working with her for this campaign," added Sue. "I cannot thank Mary enough for her assistance with this added challenge this year."

"As much as I enjoy the fast pace environment of Adult Day Surgery, assisting the Health Office with the flu clinics is a welcome change," states Mary. "I get to know a lot of great people who work here, that I would otherwise not get to meet. I really enjoy being given the opportunity to provide this service."

According to Sue, HDGH will be receiving the seasonal flu vaccine from the Windsor Essex Health Unit this week and will begin offering seasonal flu shots before the end of the week. A Seasonal Flu Clinic schedule will be distributed to all departments and posted on the hospital intranet site. That means that Mary will be back out there with her travelling cart, looking for people to immunize. Don't worry about looking for her, she will find you.

Begley Choir to Sing Christmas Carols

The F.W. Begley School Choir will be singing Carols around the Christmas tree in the Goyeau Street Lobby on **Thursday, December 10th at 10:45 a.m.** The students have been practicing and are looking forward to singing some of their favourite Christmas songs. Come join in the Christmas cheer.

Jean Macri Appointed Full-Time Lean Facilitator

Jean Macri, RN, has been appointed to the position of full-time Lean Facilitator, reporting to **Nicki Schmidt**, RN, who is our lead Lean Facilitator.

Jean has worked in our Emergency Department since 1998 as an RN and for the last three years has been heavily involved in our LEAN initiative, first in the ED and for the past year as a part-time Lean Facilitator. She has gained a great deal of Lean knowledge and facilitation experience and has demonstrated a passion for improving our processes for the benefit of our patients and staff.

Together, Nicki and Jean will form our new Lean Core Team, allowing the other former members of our Lean Core team to return to their respective positions on a full-time basis. Jean's telephone extension is 3067.

Please join us in congratulating Jean and welcoming her to her new role and in thanking the other members of the Lean Core Team, **Celia Bell**, **Jeff Booth**, **Rob Moroz**, **Jody Quenneville** and **Sarah Sasso** for their valued contributions to improving our processes and our work over the past 18 months.

Gift Card Program Supports HDGH Foundation

Hôtel-Dieu Grace Hospital Foundation has launched the FundScrip Gift Card Program just in time for Holiday shopping. FundScrip is a fundraising program that provides you with an opportunity to pay for your everyday purchases with gift cards. You can also purchase the gift cards from the Foundation Office and give them as gifts. FundScrip will donate a percentage from every gift card purchased to the HDGH Foundation.

"It's a great way to raise money from the purchases you are already making," states **Kim Dendiuk Winger**, Development Coordinator. "The only difference is that you will purchase gift cards in advance from the Foundation Office for the retailers that you usually shop from. It doesn't cost you anything extra. You don't have to change where you shop, or what you buy, and your everyday purchases add up to make a difference very quickly."

Gifts cards from the following retailers are available from the Foundation Office: Zehrs/Real Canadian Superstore; Sobey's; Price Chopper; Shoppers Drug Mart; Winners/Homesense; Toys R Us; Canadian Tire; Best Buy; Chapters; The Bay; Cineplex Odeon; Block Buster Video; Old Navy; LaSenza; Petro Canada; The Keg; Subway; Pizza Pizza and StarBucks.

To purchase your gift cards please contact **Kim Dendiuk Winger** at ext. 3853 or **Hayley Morgan** at ext. 3859. Method of payment is cash or cheque payable to the Hôtel-Dieu Grace Hospital Foundation.

Our hats go off to...

Dale Bernardes and his team on 6West. A letter was sent to the hospital by a recent post-op patient who wanted to convey just how wonderful and compassionate her post surgery care was from the nurses on 6West. She especially wanted to thank **Jessica Simiganoschi, Julia Forystek, Adina Crozier** and **Kendra Truant.** In her words, "All of the nurses were fantastic! Thank you for the wonderful care I received during my stay at Hôtel-Dieu Grace Hospital. You showed great compassion for my needs. My recovery continues to improve on a weekly basis."

Dr. Arthur Kidd, Chief of Staff, **Jen Trkulja,** Professional Practice Leader ER, **Maureen Collins,** Clinical Coordinator Diagnostic Imaging, **Susan Bastable,** Pharmacy Manager, **Kulwinder Flora,** Clinical Coordinator Nuclear Medicine, **Tracy Henley,** Physiotherapist and **Balsam Al-Balaghi,** third year student, Laboratory for speaking at the Careers in Healthcare Symposium held at HDGH last Tuesday for a group of students enrolled in the International Baccalaureate Program at Assumption High School. At the end of the day, the teachers and students couldn't say enough about how inspiring each of you were and how much they enjoyed each one of your presentations and tours. Hats off also to **Luann Kapasi,** Communications, for organizing the day!

All staff who donated breakfast food items for the food drive for F.W. Begley School. Among the items collected were boxes of breakfast cereals, pancake mix, pancake syrup, peanut butter, jam, oatmeal, fruit salad, pineapple juice, and juice boxes. Thank you to everyone for participating, and for making a difference in the day of a hungry child. It is still not too late to participate and donate a healthy breakfast food item. The items collected will be given to the school when the choir comes to sing on **Thursday, December 10th.** Please contact **Mander Matharu** at ext. 4417 if you wish to donate breakfast items.

Wellness Seminars – Effective Communication at Work

The next Wellness Seminar "**Effective Communication at Work**" will be held on **Wednesday, December 9th from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Learning Centre.**

In order to communicate effectively, individuals have to master the techniques of effective listening and self-expression. These skills involve verbal and non-verbal behaviours as well as the ability to speak with persuasion and confidence.

This seminar looks at both of these essential sides of the communication equation. It addresses key communication elements such as listening actively and presenting messages in a way that is more compatible with the receiver's style.

To register, call **Kimberly Sprague,** Employee Services Coordinator at ext. 3024. Don't delay, participants limited to 30 employees/physicians.

This Wellness Seminar is brought to you by our Human Resources Department and Shepell.fgi – your EAP provider.

SoftMoc Discount Offer Update

Hospital employees who would like to benefit from discounts up to 20 percent at SoftMoc at Devonshire Mall need to present a 12 digit code at the time of purchase. Our Club Card Discount Code Number has changed as of December 1st. The new Club Card Discount Code is **777000012714.** This new number is valid until **July 15, 2010.** This number must now be quoted in store or entered online to redeem the discount.

HDGH Supports Local Christmas Toy Drive

This is the third year that Sparky's Toy Drive, The Salvation Army and the Teamsters Local 880 have teamed up to help ensure that every needy child receives a bag of toys on Christmas morning. Thanks to the generous assistance of staff at HDGH over 3,400 bags of toys were distributed to needy children last year.

It is anticipated that 2009 will bring an increased number of applicants for toys and food due to the extreme economic conditions in our area. Your assistance this year would be greatly appreciated.

Toys can be dropped off in Administration – Room 1-460 (**Peggy Allen's** office) or you can deliver them yourself to: The Salvation Army Windsor Community & Rehabilitation Centre at 355 Church Street.

The age group for toys is birth to 16 years. Please bring new unwrapped toys in as early as possible. The Deadline is **Friday, December 11th, 2009.**

Trillium Gift of Life Registry

It's the Season of Giving...you could give the gift of life by registering your consent to donate your organs. Each year, thousands of Ontarians get a second chance to live life to its fullest thanks to the kindness of people who have given the gift of life by donating their organs and tissue. But many more are still waiting. Today, more than 1,650 people in Ontario are waiting for a lifesaving transplant. We all have the power to save lives, and we can all do something today.

Even if you have signed a donor card, you still need to register your consent and can do so by visiting our table in the Goyeau Street Lobby on **Monday, December 7th, Tuesday, December 8th, or Wednesday, December 9th** from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and join the growing network of people who support organ and tissue donation.

"It's my goal to get everyone talking about organ and tissue donation," stated **Paula Schmidt,** Organ Donor Coordinator at HDGH. "I encourage everyone to register their consent and to talk to their family about their wishes. Your decision could save a life."

Last Chance to Register for Holiday Cheer Challenge

All staff and units/departments who would like to participate in the annual Holiday Cheer Challenge must register by **December 11th.** The Jolly Jangling Judges will travel to your unit/department on **Tuesday, December 15th** in search of the cheeriest of Holiday Cheer.

The Diversity Committee will award a special prize new this year, for the decorations that reflect the holiday traditions and rich culture of our hospital community.

Please call **Helga Schollenberger** at ext. 3370 in the Rehab Department and leave a message with the name of your department, extension number and a contact person who will be available on the date of the judging.

