

December 18, 2013

Name the Newsletter Contest is Still Active!!

By Jim Strader



Thanks for all of the positive feedback about the first issue. It is always good to hear that our efforts are appreciated, no matter where we work or what our role happens

to be in the hospital.

We've had some great name suggestions, including the *Bartlett Buzz*, but we'd still like to tap your creativity before we decide. Entering is simple: just send your name suggestion to me at:

jstrader@bartletthospital.org.

One suggestion per person, please!

As an incentive, HR will offer two Subway gift cards for the winning entry.

Did you know that the Bartlett website has a section listing patient compliments? If you didn't, it's certainly an area you should visit. Here's a direct link:

<http://www.bartletthospital.org/ptfeedback/whatPatientsSay.html>.

Bartlett's Facebook page is continuing to grow and is now just shy of 500 "Likes." Even though the hospital computers block it, Facebook has proven to be a good way to interact with many of you outside of work...and of course with your friends and neighbors. It's lighthearted in its approach and often features pictures of things happening around the hospital. If you haven't checked it out, please visit our page on your personal PC at:

<https://www.facebook.com/BartlettRegionalHospital>

"Like" us and tell your friends!

Due to some holiday travel (mine) the next newsletter will be sent out on January 8th. I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season!



Help Fill the Holiday Food Baskets

By Holly Cockerille, LBSW
Bartlett Case Management

Many of you have seen familiar gift-wrapped boxes throughout the campus with designated signage indicating it's time again for the annual holiday food drive.



Case Management unloads the boxes regularly in the weeks leading up to Christmas, and stores your donations of non-perishable ("shelf stable") items for Helping Hands of Juneau, who comes to pick up the donations for their food bank--which is a significant resource for those in need in our community.

In recent years some employees have also asked to donate their holiday employee grocery gift card to Helping Hands. If you would like to do so, please don't place your gift card in the boxes! Case Management will gladly and gratefully accept these from you to give securely to Helping Hands.

If you would like additional information on Helping Hands, as well as the other emergency food banks in Juneau, send an e-mail to:

hcockerille@bartletthospital.org

We thank you for your continued generosity and wish you each a happy holiday season.

CEO's Corner

By Jeff Egbert



I recently had the privilege of attending and speaking briefly at the Opening of our new neighbor, Southeast Radiation Oncology Center. As many of you know, they are bringing radiation oncology to Juneau and Southeast. For many, this will eliminate the need to travel outside of Juneau to receive cancer treatment. This is a huge win for our patients and our community. We are looking forward to working collaboratively with SE Radiation Oncology for many years to come, and celebrate their arrival.

Further down in this issue, you'll find some information on flu vaccines provided by our Infection Control Coordinator, Kim Vermedal. Please read it carefully. This is truly a patient safety issue and we all need to take it very seriously.

Let me reiterate I would like to answer your questions using this publication. Please send your questions to me at jegbert@bartletthospital.org. If you sign it and give me your permission to use the question, I'll be happy to share my answer with the entire staff.

Great job in reducing the email clutter! We are going to continue to explore ways to communicate important information to those who need it.

Thanks to everyone who attended this round of Employee Forums. I appreciate your interest and your questions. Communication is one of my top priorities and it is extremely important to me to hear your ideas and thoughts on how to make our patients' experience at Bartlett the best it can be.





Notes from Human Resources

By Emma House
CEO Recruitment

begins the week of December 16th, the position will be

available on our website for applications and resumes to be submitted.

Many members in the community have received letters from Airlift Northwest about discontinuing their membership program but they will continue to service the Juneau area. If you are currently covered by our Premera health plan you have emergency medevac coverage included in your medical plan at 80% of allowable amount after meeting your out of pocket limit and you do not need a separate medevac membership. Any questions please call Premera Customer Service at 1-800-508-4722. For those of you not covered by the Premera health plan you may want to explore other options for medevac membership.

• Certification Pay

Per Contract Section 11.13

Certification Pay is available to eligible employees annually, on the first pay period in February. Each year new certifications and those which have changed status will be considered by the

panel of five members. Employee shall provide a copy of certification and/or update their HR Portal certification section prior to January 1st of the first year holding such certification and then only after renewals. This annual certification shall be paid to the employee for the respective length of certification.

Provide copies to HR and enter your Certifications into your HR Portal

The 2014 Payroll Calendar
Go to W: drive Human Resources folder or to the Microsoft Outlook Public Folders Human Resources.

There's now a place for all employees to **post ads** for items in need, or items to buy, sell, or trade. Through Microsoft Outlook Email, Open Public Folders, click on the white triangle next to "All Public Folders", click on Employee Classifieds triangle to get into the Events, Wanted, Sales, or Other posts.

Email reminder – please be sure to check your email messages regularly to stay-up-to-date and insure you're completing tasks and forms as requested by various departments.

CDC Report Highlights Flu Vaccine Benefits

Shared by Kim Vermedal, RN, MSN

A new CDC report released December 12 during National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW) highlights the benefits influenza vaccine can provide, estimating conservatively that flu vaccination prevented 6.6 million influenza-associated illnesses, 3.2 million medically attended illnesses, and 79,000 hospitalizations during the 2012-2013 flu season. The influenza vaccine program impact data was released in this week's [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report \(MMWR\)](#). CDC also reported that despite the benefits of flu vaccination, only 40% of Americans 6 months and older had reported getting a flu vaccine this season as of early November 2013.

The estimated benefits of vaccination for the 2012-2013 season are higher than any other season for which CDC has produced similar estimates. These high numbers are attributable to the severity of the season. The report estimates that last season there were a total of 31.8 million influenza-associated illnesses, 14.4 million medically attended illnesses, and 381,000 hospitalizations in the United States.

According to the CDC report, seasonal influenza activity is increasing in parts of the United States and further increases in influenza activity across the United States are expected to continue in the coming weeks. More than 128 million doses of flu vaccine had been delivered in the United States as of late November with manufacturers projecting total production of approximately 145 million doses this season.



Bartlett Education Services teamed up with UAA Nursing Professor, Justine Muench to host a brunch and social for the nursing students, nursing administration and senior leadership. The graduates had the opportunity to share their goals both in individual conversation and to the group as a whole. We want to congratulate the 2013 UAA AAS Nursing Graduates: Christina Axmaker, Amber Long, Nicole Mothershead, William Metcalf, John Lamantia, Erin Mulkey, Tonya Raney, and Amy Henderson.





New TB Process
By Kim Vermedal, RN, MSN
Effective January 1st a new process will be in place regarding TB testing. The majority of

staff will continue to have TB screening done via tuberculin skin tests (PPD). However for some staff the process will be changing to the Quantiferon blood test to screen for TB. If you meet the following criteria you will be changing to the blood test for your annual TB testing. Some of you already started this process with the PPD shortage that occurred for most of 2013.

- If you are being treated with steroids (long term use), immunosuppressive medications (for example medications for rheumatoid arthritis or for a transplant, etc.) or have an immunocompromised condition. Your condition or medications may cause a decreased ability to respond to the tuberculin skin test. Starting in 2014 you will have your TB screening via the blood test.
- New hires who are recent immigrants or staff who have lived out of the country for the past two years will also be screened via the blood test.

If you are a positive responder nothing will change-you will continue to complete the annual questionnaire.

Any questions?? Please feel free to give me a call at extension 8413 or drop in to chat.

Employee health offers many more services than just your initial employee health assessment. We offer our employees the following services at no cost:

- Ergonomic Assessments
- N-95 fit testing
- TB testing
- And the following vaccines:
- Hepatitis B series
- Tdap and Tetanus
- Influenza
- Pneumovax

Feel free to stop in or call extension 8413 if you have any questions about what is offered. Make your health a priority in the New Year and get up to date with any needed vaccines.

We will look at what we are doing now and how that differs from what we need to be doing in the future.



We will focus on the needs specific to the individual and how we plan our precepting with that individual plan in mind rather than the cookie cutter orientation that fits all.

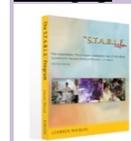
S.T.A.B.L.E. Workshop

February 6, 2014, 0800-1700

Or

February 8, 2014, 0800-1700

This course covers signs and symptoms of the sick neonate and guidelines on stabilization. The S.T.A.B.L.E. course uses the mnemonic to help with the recall of information and organization of care. Attendees will be introduced to the six sections of therapy identifications in the sick neonate: *Sugar/Glucose Management, Temperature, Artificial Breathing, Blood Pressure, Lab Work/Sepsis, and Emotional Support.* The course will use the new 6th Edition of the textbook available from www.Amazon.com or at <http://www.stableprogram.com/catalog/index.php>



The S.T.A.B.L.E. Program, Learner/ Provider Manual: Post-Resuscitation/ Pre-Transport Stabilization Care of Sick Infants- Guidelines for Neonatal Healthcare Providers, 6th Edition

Plan on ordering it early to make sure you have it for the class!

Registration for Bartlett Staff is on SwankHealth. Others can register on the Bartlett Website:<http://www.bartletthospital.org/events/> or email staffdevelopment@bartletthospital.org.

Upcoming Classes

By Dianne Bigge

Preceptor Forum

January 21, 2014

1300-1430

Admin Building Classroom

Why do new grads leave the workforce?

What can we do to make the experience of transitioning from student to staff less traumatic?

This forum will look at the current research for “what works” in transitioning new grads to the workforce.



Pick. Click. Give.



The Permanent Fund Dividend Application filing process begins on January 1, 2014! Please consider a donation to Bartlett Regional Hospital Foundation when you Pick.Click.Give.!

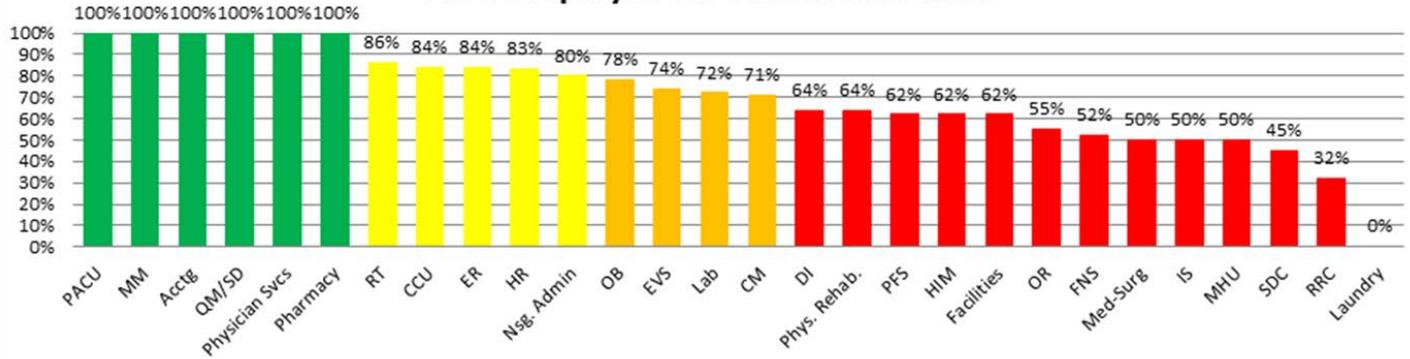
PickClickGive.org

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Together we can make a difference in our community!



2013 Employee Flu Vaccination Rates



Several managers have asked for the breakdown of employee vaccination rates by department, so here it is. Way to go, PACU, MM, Accounting, Quality/Staff Development, Physician Services, and Pharmacy!

Flu shots are still available. If there is a particular tactic that you think would be effective for your particular department in encouraging them to get vaccinated (e.g., coming to staff meetings, coming with a flu shot cart at certain times or on certain days, etc.), please make arrangements with **Kim Vermedal (ext. 8413)**.

demonstrates to employers a significant commitment to career and competence.

ICC Certification for the Biomedical Equipment Technician (BMET) is a formal recognition by the International Certification Commission for Clinical Engineering and Biomedical Technology (ICC) that individuals have demonstrated excellence in theoretical as well as practical knowledge of the principles of biomedical equipment technology.

Please join me in congratulating Michael. There are only 33 CBET's in the entire state of Alaska.



Michael Joern Receives ICC Certification

by Marc Walker



Michael Joern. CBET

In today's healthcare market, technology is paramount. The need for a workforce knowledgeable in the theory of operation, underlying physiological principles, and safe application of biomedical equipment is critical.

Certification demonstrates the employee has the knowledge to ensure a safe, reliable healthcare environment. It also



Bartlett Regional Hospital Foundation Throws Holiday Party for BRH Staff and Families

This year, the Bartlett Regional Hospital foundation brought in Santa Claus and lots of gifts for the kids. The grand prize was a huge teddy bear! Once again the Dietary Staff did an outstanding job!

