

New Director Of Nursing At SCH

Montier Resigns; Pierce Named Interim DON

Sweeny Community Hospital Administrator H.A. Turk has appointed Sherri Pierce, RN, as interim director of nursing for the hospital following the June 1 resignation of Elaine Montier.

Pierce is a graduate of The College of the Mainland in Texas City and has been employed with SCH since 2001, with experience in

emergency, home health and medical/surgical nursing.

She grew up in Colorado and served three years in the U.S. Army in a signal battalion during Operation Desert Storm, attending nursing school after leaving the military. She has been a registered nurse since 1995. She and her husband, Jeff, live in Sweeny and have two sons.



Sherri Pierce, RN

SCH At Phillips Health & Safety Fair

Sweeny Community Hospital participated in the June 21 health fair sponsored annually by ConocoPhillips and ChevronPhillips. The SCH Physical Therapy staff gave hand massages; the weight management program passed out food samples; The Fountains gave away brochures, magnets and animal crackers; Sweeny EMS gave out free Vial of Life decals, and the Heritage program had a display to increase awareness of the outpatient mental health program for seniors.



Assistant Program Manager Marsha McBride gave out information on New Direction Weight Management.



Physical Therapist Grace Hankins with client.



Donna Merrick (left) of Diamond-Heritage and Carolyn McGuire helped promote Heritage at SCH.

Birthdays



June

- 1 Chris Herrera
- Judy Howard*
- 2 Charles Coleman
- Cathy Lopez
- 3 Lisa Brunner
- 13 Rosanna Garcia
- Nannette Baugh
- 15 Doug Dunham**
- 17 Louis Rico
- 18 Larry Fernandez
- 19 Rachel Powell
- Edna Earle Pettigrew*
- 23 Audrey Bess
- James Torres
- 28 Michelle Gonzales

July

- 1 Wayne Thompson
- 3 Sue Wilkes
- 4 Nettie Lewis*
- 7 Bonnie Jones
- 9 Eleanor Adkins
- 11 Dr. Gonzalo Uribe-Botero
- 12 Don Guthrie
- 18 Ruby Lingo*
- 20 Richard Wetta
- James Walger
- 21 J.P. Valadez
- 24 H.A. Turk
- Kenya Jammer
- Margaret Yoakum*
- 26 David Filipp
- 28 Patti Eversole
- 30 Cindy Martin
- Dr. Lonny Montgomery
- 31 Bryan Jones
- Ryan Jones

* Auxiliary **Hospital Board



CALENDAR

**Friday & Saturday,
June 29-30**

Basic Trauma Life Support

Basic and Advanced
Cost for SCH Employees: \$75
\$125 for non-employees.
Preregistration required.
Contact David Filipp at Ext. 1597.
8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
The Wellness Center

**Friday, July 6
Blood Drive**

Sponsored by the SCH Auxiliary.
It's a Lifesaver Day, which means T-shirts and triple points. Call 548-1578 for information.
Noon to 6 p.m.
The Wellness Center

**Tuesday, July 10
ICS 100, 200**

Mandatory inservice for SCH employees.
Pre-register by calling Ex.t 1597.
10 a.m. to noon
ED Conference Room

**Thursday, July 12
Diabetes Workshop**

Open to anyone interested in diabetes.
Call Ext. 1590 for information.
7 p.m.
Main Conference Room

Friday, July 13

Masquerade \$5 Jewelry Sale

The Pink Ladies bring back their wildly popular fund-raiser. All jewelry is only \$5. Cash, checks and credit cards accepted.
7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Main Conference Room

Wednesday, July 18

BBQ For SCH Employees

Meat and meal provided free; you bring a dessert.
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Cafeteria

How To Thank The Person Who Has Everything

The Sweeny Community Hospital Auxiliary has a new fund-raising idea, an "Appreciation Tree" to be on display year-round in the hospital lobby.

The project is the brainchild of Auxiliary member Olga Schulte, who said it's a variation on the annual Tree of Remembrance the Auxiliary sponsors each winter during the holiday season. "It's a nice thing to do for someone, and it helps us raise money for the hospital," she said.

This tree commemorates celebrations of life such as anniversaries, graduation, birthdays, births, weddings, or simply as a way to say "thinking of you" or "thank you."

For a donation of \$10 (or more if you want to help a good cause), the Auxiliary will place an ornament on the tree and send an acknowledgment to let the honoree know about the do-



Pink Ladies (from left) Delta Barnett, Olga Schulte and Mary Christian with the new Appreciation Tree in the front lobby.

nation. Order forms are available in the hospital lobby or from any Pink Lady.

SCH Employees' Payroll Stubs To Be Online

Beginning in July, SCH employees who get their paychecks by direct deposit will stop getting paper stubs and instead be able to access the information online, said Delores Merchant, Director of Financial Services.

Everybody will have to register at a certain Web site and will get an e-mail confirmation, but that's the only e-mail transaction that will occur, she said.

"After that, all you do is log onto the Web site and put in your user ID, then you can see up to 13 months of pay stubs, as well as your W-2 information.

People who do not have direct deposit will continue to get paper stubs for now.



Robot At Work

Becky Erickson (left) and Denna Alexander admire one of two robots used in Dr. Erickson's office to clean floors at the end of the day. The Scoo-ba (above) uses disinfectant and water and cleans one room a night. The other model, similar to a Roomba, vacuums carpeted floor randomly while using ultraviolet light to kill germs. Both units have rechargeable batteries. The Ericksons donated one to their church to cut down on the need to vacuum there.



Metamorphosis In The Lab

As technologists Sue Wilkes (left) and Bonnie Jones look on, Lab Director Frank Knezek holds a jar that was home to one of the ugliest caterpillars he'd ever seen. On a whim, he put it in a jar along with the twig it was on. In due time, the ugly worm wove a cocoon. The lab crew kept it in the jar, curious to see what would happen. Then one day a beautiful butterfly emerged and the Positive Findings photographer was summoned to record the event. No one was sure what kind of butterfly it was. It has since been released into the wild.



Donations Bring Fish To The Fountains

The new tropical fish tank at The Fountains was purchased with donations from staff and residents and added a whole new category to the menagerie of animals that live at The Fountains, says Administrator Crystal Johnson. They include a plump Pomeranian named Sadie; Bridges the cat and two other unnamed-but-notorious cats; and Charlie the cockatoo. A Jack Russell terrier named Jack lives "at large" at The Fountains but all the others are personal pets. Fountains employee Delicia Woodard is seen in the background.



LETTERS TO SCH

Brazoria Mom Thanks EMS For Saving Son's Life

To The Sweeny/West Brazos EMS & Crew:

We offer thanksgiving, gratitude and sincere appreciation for saving my son's life – by your promptness, professionalism, caring, medical training – and all the kindness you showed. He would have died within the hour as an artery had burst inside him. He had 10 units of blood and was in ICU two weeks with no response. The doctors said we lost him twice ... so he is a miracle of God. And had you not heeded me when I said he was critical, he would not be with us today.

The first ambulance we called refused to take him down the stairs and told him he first had the flu.

So ... I, his mom, and all the family can never, ever thank you enough. You also saved him several years ago.

-- Name withheld
to protect patient privacy

Scholarship Winner Says Thanks

Dear Sweeny Community Hospital:

Thank you so much for my \$800 Employee-Funded Scholarship. You cannot imagine how much the scholarship is going to help with college and achieving my goal as a nurse! Once again, thank you so much!

Sincerely,
Katherine Voncannon

Sweeny Community Hospital

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We're on the Web!
www.sweenyhospital.org

CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED: Someone to haul off refrigerator that probably doesn't work anymore (it's been unplugged since it started acting up). Fee negotiable. Contact Mr. Turk at Ext. 1598.

LIGHTED CHINA CABINET for sale. Has glass doors with two drawers below. Oak finish. \$150. Contact Crystal Johnson, Ext. 1525.

NEW HALF HELMET for sale, black leather, size large, helmet bag included. \$15. Contact Kathey at Ext. 1583 or 798-8956.

New Employees

- Veronica Garcia, ED Clerk
- Melissa Sherwood
Dietary Aide, The Fountains
- Shelby Harriest
Dietary Aide, The Fountains
- Courtney Patterson, RN
- Trina St. John, RN
- Thomas Drapela, EMT-B
- Scott Gann, EMT-I



ER Clerk Sonja Clepper (center) recently resigned to concentrate full time on her business, Sunny's Sweets. Pictured at Sonja's good-bye party are, from left, Michelle Gonzales, Cathy Lopez, Sonja, Brenda Rodrigues and Delores Merchant. Sonja said a typical wedding cake costs anywhere from \$400 to \$1,200 these days.

Snoop Scoop

Physical Therapy Assistant **Virginia Tripson** will be out for six weeks with eye problems diagnosed during a routine visit. Virginia works at the Kittie Nash Groce Memorial Rehabilitation Clinic in West Columbia.

SCH employees welcoming new grandchildren include **Pam Schuck**, whose granddaughter **Abby Grace Mathis** was born May 24 weighing 7 pounds, 5 ounces. Abby was 18 ¾ inches long.

Peg Spivey, an occupational therapist at Brazoria Pediatric Rehabilitation, has brand new twin grandsons. **Seth** and **Nathan Kabiri** were born May 16 to Peg's daughter **Laura** and son-in-law **Morad**. Seth weighed 5 pounds, 5 ounces and measured 19 ¼ inches, and Nathan weighed 6 pounds, 1 ounce and measured 19 ½ inches.

The SCH Lab is having a grandbaby boom, too. **Estella Ellis** has a new granddaughter, **Lillian Sophia "Sophie" Rosen**, born May 8 weighing 7 pounds, 10 ounces. And **Rossana Tirado** has a new grandson, **Lucas Esteban Tirado**, born May 17 weighing 7 pounds, 7 ounces and measuring 20 ½ inches long. And finally ... **Sue Wilkes** is looking forward to the July 13 arrival of a new granddaughter to be born in Hawaii.

Social Services Director **Audrey Bess** has reason to brag about her grandson, **Neal Kenneth Bess**, 11 of Plano, for making outstanding scores on the TAKS test. A score of 2100 is standard, but he scored 2400, 2436 and 2460 in three key areas.

Marie Breakiron's daughter, **Ann-Marie O'Callaghan**, has passed her board exams and is now a certified registered nurse anesthetist at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. Ann-Marie and her husband live in The Heights area of Houston and are expecting her first child in September.

One of our new RNs, **Trina St. John**, is also a certified "sexual assault nurse examiner." This is a forensic nursing specialty that requires additional education and skill. SCH is fortunate to be able now to offer our patients this extra level of expertise.

Congratulations to our newly re-elected hospital district board members, **Drew Jolly**, **Lanny Henderson** and **Ernelle Orr**. They will serve two-year terms that are unpaid except in headaches and free cookies at board meetings the last Tuesday of every month.

Paramedic **Ryan Jones** will be getting married July 21 in Wharton and plans to miss a few days work for a honeymoon to Mexico.



Trina St. John