

'Hospital Happenings'
For Release April 27, 2018

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'Hospital Happenings' is a monthly rundown on things happening at Muenster Memorial Hospital, prepared specifically for *The Muenster Enterprise*.

Hospital to Add Private Rooms

Visitors to Muenster Memorial Hospital may notice a few "Wet Paint" and "Pardon Our Dust" signs over the next few weeks as the hospital converts several office spaces back to patient rooms.

Two offices and the ultrasound room on the west side of the main patient hallway are being moved to allow a return to patient use, and spaces formerly housing an old shower and vending machines are being converted to much needed storage space.

The vending machines are now located in the dining room. The ultrasound room will move to the suite housing equipment for stress tests and nuclear scans.

With the conclusion of this project, the hospital will offer 14 private rooms and 2 semi-private.

"This reconfiguring of space will result in a more desirable mix of patient room types, while maintaining our bed count at 18," stated MMH Chief Executive Officer Brian Roland. "It will also provide an environment more conducive to patient privacy and comfort."

Pulmonary Rehab Fills Two Classes

The MMH Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program has completely filled two classes at this date, with a waiting list already activated.

"We are excited about the obvious need for this program in the area," stated Andrea Hendershott, Director of Respiratory Care at MMH. "It confirms our analysis and solidifies our plans for continued growth."

Pulmonary Rehabilitation is an outpatient program to build strength and breathing capacity for those with COPD, emphysema, asthma, chronic bronchitis and other processes affecting the ability to breathe. Call Hendershott at 759-6163 for additional information.

MMH to Implement Better Breathers Support Group

Muenster Memorial Hospital has partnered with the American Lung Association to provide monthly Better Breathers Club meetings to the area. Meetings will be held at 2 p.m. the third Wednesday of each month in the Board Room at MMH, beginning May 16.

The free monthly meetings will provide support, education and socialization for people with COPD and other lung diseases. Smoking cessation information will also be available. Members can provide ideas for meeting topics, organize communication networks and even help plan special events. An American Lung Association staff member will provide ongoing support to the group.

The Better Breathers Club is an outreach program of the Pulmonary Rehab Program at MMH. All are welcome to attend.

Want to Lose Weight For Summer?

If you want to lose weight quickly, yet safely, begin your journey with an information meeting for the MMH Family Health Clinic Ideal Protein program Thursday, May 3, at 5:30 p.m., at the Clinic location, 509 N. Maple Street.

Ideal Protein is a medically managed weight loss protocol that provides you with the education and tools you need to lose weight. It is a 4-phase protocol that focuses on weight loss, stabilization and maintenance, to not only help you lose weight but to keep it off. One-on-one coaching offers accountability and weekly staff contact.

The meeting is no obligation and attendees will get to hear personal testimonials from Ideal Protein participants, as well as sample product. Nurse Practitioner Yvonne Ambrose and Clinic Nurse Stevie Maas spearhead the program.

Hospital Prepares to Celebrate Staff

National Hospital Week is May 6-12 and the hospital staff will enjoy various activities throughout the week to celebrate. Activities include lots of food, games and contests and the annual Employee Picnic and Service Awards on May 11. The staff will also be breaking out of their usual scrub and business attire during the week to relax in jeans and participate in designated dress-up days. So, if you see an MMH employee sporting a cape or 80's fashion, don't fear – they will return to normal the following week!

And, if you get some time and would like to write a note or a Facebook post to express your appreciation to your hospital staff, feel free to do so. It will make their day!

Here is an excerpt from a letter brought to us by a family member just last week:

"I want to express my extreme gratitude to you all for giving me four more years with my dad and my best friend. Without your skill, care and compassion, there's no doubt in my mind that this wouldn't have happened. I am so appreciative to everyone in your hospital from doctors, nurses, therapists, housekeepers, nutritionists, maintenance personnel, radiologists, volunteers, administrative folks and others for your professional efforts and most importantly, your friendship."

Muenster Memorial Hospital certainly has a lot to celebrate.

May 6-12 is also National Nurses Week. MMH appreciates the wonderful care provided by our nursing staff to all our patients – Hospital, Clinic and Home Care.