

INSIDE:



Backus Hospitell

MARCH 21, 2008

VOL. 37, NO. 12

A weekly newsletter for employees, volunteers, patients and friends of The William W. Backus Hospital, 326 Washington St., Norwich, CT 06360. Published by the Public Relations Department, first floor Annex.

'Public reporting' gets real

When it comes to healthcare, "public reporting" and "transparency" are two phrases we've heard a lot recently. Next week, hospitals nationwide take a giant step into making them a reality.

FROM THE
President's Desk



Tom Pipicelli

Starting Thursday, March 27, the results of patient experience surveys will be made public on two government websites. The following day, the secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services will have a press conference to discuss this initiative, called HCAHPS (the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems).

Backus Hospital has been an early leader in this initiative, and I am proud of your role in our efforts. We began participating in the HCAHPS program at the earliest possible opportunity, in October 2006. Since then, we have provided weekly status reports in HospiTell, and quarterly reports are readily available on our Intranet. Although hospitals have been given the chance to "take a pass" at public reporting for this first round by suppressing their scores, we decided to go ahead and make our scores public.

Why? Because participating in a public reporting program is the right

See **PRESIDENT'S DESK**, page 5

Rare surgery saves teen's fingers

Chase Corcoran was working with his carpentry class at a production site in Montville just before noon on March 7. The 17-year old Norwich Technical High School senior and another student were using a circular saw to cut wedges when the blade of the saw hit a knot and became pinched between the wood. The saw unexpectedly kicked-back, coming into contact with Chase's fingers.



Chase Corcoran shows his surgically repaired fingers.

The injury to his fingers was severe – the tip of his index finger was completely cut off. The middle finger was amputated and hanging only by a piece of skin. The ring finger had a good gash and had been broken by the blade. What happened next is a testimony to the teamwork and expert medical care at Backus Hospital.

Chase was transported via ambulance to Backus. Tarik Kardestuncer, MD, See **SURGERY**, page 3

Help desk coming home

Many people are looking forward to March 31 because it is Major League Baseball's Opening Day. But here at Backus Hospital, anticipation is building for that date because MIS will begin the process of bringing the Help Desk back in house.

The first pitch will be with physicians.

Carolyn Conigliaro Ferrara, Manager of Physician Applications for MIS, said they will get the ball rolling March 31 with a dedicated phone line for physicians to call for Backus Online help. The number is 885-6400, or ext. 6400.

"We want to make it as easy and convenient as possible for physicians to get the help they need, when they need it," Ms. Ferrara said, adding that an MIS Physician Support Representative will be assigned to answering the calls, and after hours messages will be monitored by on call staff.

Pam Muccilli, RN, Vice President and Chief Information Officer, said MIS plans to bring the Help Desk in house hospital-wide by late spring or early

See **HELP DESK** page 4

THE WEEK THAT WAS

■ BBRN visited Backus, surveying our progress in meeting national patient safety goals.

THE WEEK AHEAD

■ The Department of Psychiatric Services monthly free educational conference will be held March 27 from 3-4:30 p.m. in the auditorium. "Fibromyalgia – Diagnosis and Treatment" will be presented by Sandeep Varma, MD, Medical Director of Rheumatology at the Backus Outpatient Care Center.

Program objectives are making the differential diagnosis of fibromyalgia and treatment options. Light refreshments will be provided.

■ The Pharmacy Department will be conducting in-services on patient care floors on medication communication to patients.

NUMBERS TO KNOW

■ **Human Resources:**
Ext. 6314 or 2362



■ **Benefits Specialist:**
Ext. 2357

■ **Corporate Compliance:**
Ext. 2740 or 1-888-925-9924

■ **Employee Assistance Program:** Ext. 4294 or 6324



■ **Employee Representative:**
Kelly Schenking,
Ext. 6967



■ **Environmental Health and Safety Director:**
Jim Loughery,
Ext. 6927

ABOUT HOSPI TELL

HospiTell is published each Friday by the Public Relations Department of The William W. Backus Hospital.

- **E-mail:** publicrelations@wwbh.org
- **Fax:** (860) 892-6964
- **Deadlines:** Wednesdays at noon

Auxiliary vendor sale today, March 21

A&S Sales will be on hand for the next Backus Auxiliary vendor sale, **today, March 21**, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the entry level conference rooms.

Items include sneakers "for all seasons" and klogs.

Personal checks, cash and all major credit cards are accepted.



All Auxiliary sales benefit the hospital.

Gift Shop Item of the Week

Spring is here!

To celebrate, we have a selection of new wind chimes. \$19.95 and up



Traffic Advisory

Please be sure not to exceed the 15 MPH speed limit both on campus and at the Matlack parking lot. During all hours of each day on campus we may have patients, visitors and staff walking in crosswalks or even between vehicles. Please use caution. Always drive at a safe speed and even adjust your speed lower than the posted limit when appropriate, especially during inclement weather. Always yield to pedestrians in crosswalks as they have the right of way.



Meet with a Smith Barney Financial Advisor

Elizabeth Linderman will be available March 28 from 12-1:30 p.m. in the cafeteria to discuss retirement planning and the Smith Barney 403(b) account services available to employees. Please contact her at (860) 275-0717 or toll free (800) 248-4499 to schedule an appointment. You can also email her at elizabeth.s.linderman@smithbarney.com.

SURGERY, *from page 1*

an Orthopedic Surgeon on the Backus Medical Staff, had just departed from the Operating Room and immediately responded to the page from the Emergency Department.

Upon initial assessment, Dr. Kardestuncer considered sending Chase to another hospital. However, timing was an issue, as there is a short window for limb reattachment.

"This was a unique case," said Dr. Kardestuncer. "Fingers chopped off are a complex problem. Cases of this nature are usually sent to Boston, or occasionally to Yale."

A Harvard Medical School-trained hand surgeon, Dr. Kardestuncer has performed surgery to reattach fingers to a hand. He knew the extent of injury had the potential to be life-altering for Chase. "The injury occurred on his dominant hand, he was only 17, and it involved three fingers," he said.

Age was also a leading factor. When a young person is involved, as a doctor you know you have to do what it takes," said Dr. Kardestuncer. "The only chance for the patient was to perform the surgery immediately."

Contact with the OR was made and Chase was immediately transported upstairs from the ED. As Dr. Kardestuncer described the quick decision to align resources and operate internally, he was resolute in saying the surgery was something that couldn't have been done alone.

"In order to do a surgery like this, a microscope and physician assistants in the OR are needed, and everything and everyone was there. This was accomplished with no notice at all – everything just came together. The OR staff was phenomenal."

Dr. Kardestuncer and the OR team spent almost five hours working on the hand. They were able to sew back on the middle finger and save the ring finger by fixing the tendons. The index finger, where the tip had been cleanly cut off, could not be saved and was given a skin graft.

Five days after his initial surgery, Chase returned to the OR for routine follow-up. He went in with much uncertainty as he knew there was the possibility that the finger would have to be removed. "Chase went in crying; that Wednesday was a critical day," said his mother, Mrs. Laurie Corcoran.

Dr. Kardestuncer never gave false hope that the finger would not have to be removed again. "But he gave 110% and we appreciated his honesty," said Mrs. Corcoran.

During the five-hour surgery, Dr. Kardestuncer and other OR staff helped spirits by keeping the family informed. Everyone every step of the way was wonderful," said Mrs. Corcoran.

The fingers did not have to be removed after the second surgery, and the chance of survival for the limbs increases each day. If surgery was not successful, the fingers would have been rejected within the first couple days.

While waiting for the ambulance to arrive on scene, Chase recalls his initial reaction being one of anger. "I felt my whole life was over," he said. "I remembered thinking that I was never going to be able to go to college now."

Mrs. Corcoran also remembers thinking about the long-term implications for her son who had been planning on obtaining his journeyman's license to pursue a career in carpentry. "I remember thinking that his whole life is now going to be totally different," she said.

One week after the accident, Chase felt like not that much has changed – because of the excellent treatment he received.

"Dr. K. showed confidence," said Mrs. Corcoran. "He installed confidence in us with his honesty and quick decision-making. He frankly told us that he wasn't sure if Chase would be able to keep any fingers. There was a 70% chance the surgery wouldn't work. We knew the odds were against us."

From his check-in at the ED, to the OR, and then patient floors A-3 and A-4, the family said that everyone – from the RNs, PCTs, to the respiratory therapists – have all been wonderful and made the ordeal easier.

So many friends and community members have been supportive, which has kept the family positive. David Kalla, MD, a close family friend and member of the Backus Medical Staff, took time out of his schedule to check on Chase daily. The staff helped with accommodations and kindness, providing both physical and mental healing.

"This surgery may have been the first of its kind in southeastern Connecticut," said Dr. Kardestuncer. "Backus is not a replant hospital. However, when the replant needed to be done, we pulled together to make it happen. All staff performed like perfectly oiled links on a chain – everyone worked together to do their part. If one link didn't working properly, the fingers could have died immediately following surgery."

After eight days as an inpatient Chase was discharged to the care of his family. He will have to undergo strenuous therapy to work on regaining use of his fingers again. The surgery will take one year to completely heal, and there may be some stiffness or the finger(s) may not have the best function. While Chase and his parents realize he is not out of the woods yet, they know that the first 24-48 hours were the most critical in determining the outcome of the surgery. "We were cautiously optimistic last Friday," Mrs. Corcoran said. "Never did we think things would be so good only one week later. I feel like we are witnessing a miracle."

"Until recently we would have sent this type of injury to another hospital. With Dr. Kardestuncer's expertise and the knowledge and education he has brought to the staff, we now have the ability and are very comfortable handling these cases at Backus," said Bob Boebert, RN, CCRN, CNOR, Administrative Director of Surgical Services. "Because the outcomes for these injuries are significantly dependent on how quickly they can be addressed, transporting them out is not always an optimal alternative. The ability to take care of something like this at Backus increases the chance of a good outcome. What we're able to supply the community... you can't put a value on that."

Relay for Life is a family affair



From left to right, Melanie, Rebecca and Ginnie Leffler.

Raising money for the American Cancer Society is a family affair for the Lefflers.

Ginnie Leffler, Materials Management, along with her two daughters Rebecca and Melanie, join Jessica Vanase, RN, A-2, as co-chairs of this year's American Cancer Society Relay for Life Walk.

Personal loss motivates the family to contribute their time, energy and passion to raising money for the American Cancer Society. Mrs. Leffler's mother passed away from breast cancer 24 years ago. Two of the family dogs, both Boxers from different litters, succumbed to cancer at an early age.

Working closely with a group of like-minded individuals towards a worthy goal is also inspiring. "It's the people, the respect for everyone and the stories," said Rebecca as she described what she likes best about participating. "Everyone understands and has overall respect for the goal."

"We love working with everyone here," said Mrs. Leffler. "The ACS Relay Committee is outstanding. Everyone gives 100% all the time."

Melanie, at 12, looks forward to making new friends as she joins her mother and sister this year. "It's a lot of fun meeting new people."

For Rebecca, 18, a senior at Griswold High School, cancer awareness is not limited to fundraising only. She is planning to study Radiation Therapy at Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences this fall.

She's also a past donor of Locks of Love, an organization that provides

hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children suffering from long-term hair loss.

For their fourth year, the Lefflers will organize the thousands of luminary candles that line the track and bleachers at dusk, honoring individuals affected by cancer.

It's not too early to give a pledge, buy a luminary, or sign-up to walk with Team Backus on June 28 and June 29 at Norwich Free Academy. Contact Ginnie Leffler at ext. 6508 or Jessica Vanase at ext. 2300 for a registration form. The \$10 registration fee will be waived for Backus employees. Family and friends are also invited to join the Backus team.

Stay tuned to future editions of HospiTell for more information about this year's Relay for Life.

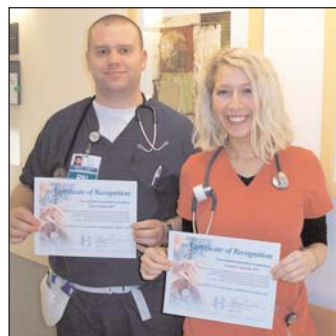
Caregivers recognized for excellent care

Matt Hughes, RN and Lauren Ventrone, RN, of E-4, and Kerry Nawrocki, RN, of A-3, were recently recognized by grateful patients with donations made to the Backus Foundation. We congratulate and thank Mr. Hughes, Ms. Ventrone and Ms. Nawrocki for providing outstanding and compassionate care. Through their dedication to our patients, and to Backus, they help further our mission and inspire a spirit of generosity in others.

The Backus Foundation developed a tribute program called Recognizing Excellent Care to provide grateful patients an opportunity to recognize any member of the hospital staff for providing outstanding care. Recipients of this special tribute, in turn, receive a Recognized for Excellence pin, a certificate and recognition in HospiTell.

Donors may designate contributions to help meet the hospital's greatest needs or to a specific program or department. All gifts benefit the patients we serve in a meaningful way by supporting our mission to provide quality healthcare that is sensitive to the needs of our community.

For more information, call the Foundation at 823-6325.



Left, Matt Hughes, RN, and Lauren Ventrone, RN, both of E-4, and above, staff members on A-3 gather around Kerry Nawrocki, RN, (fourth from right).

HELP DESK, *from page 1*

summer. Currently, an outside vendor takes the calls. "We believe that having staff on site here at Backus will improve communication and response time when people have technical issues they need help with," she said. "This familiarity with Backus information systems – and the culture of the organization – will improve efficiency and staff satisfaction, and hopefully lead to less time worrying about computers and more time caring for patients."

To celebrate the first step in the process, Ms. Ferrara plans to give all physicians squeezable stress relievers in the form of a baseball, with the help desk phone number printed on it.

PRESIDENT'S DESK, *from page 1*

thing to do. Our Mission Statement tells us so: Backus Hospital "is committed to being responsive and accountable to those for whose benefit it exists ..."

So, if you go to www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov or www.medicare.gov late next week and check out our scores, you will see how we are living our Mission Statement. You will no doubt ask, "But how do we compare?" The truth is, we won't know until all the scores are posted. This much, we do know: We have all worked hard on providing our patients with a positive experience. This will always be a focus of ours, and we are always working to improve. I am confident that our patient experience scores will reflect the excellent patient-centered care you all provide to our community.

* * *

For the past several weeks, we have experienced a heavy patient census. During these times when our community needs us most, our resources become the most strained. Providing true patient-centered care would not be difficult if circumstances were always ideal: If ED volume could be predictable, or the number of admissions and discharges could be known well in advance.

Of course, that's not the case. Providing quality care during busy times requires intense teamwork, a commitment to safety and quality, and coordination across all departments and all shifts. I am pleased to say, you have once again met and exceeded expectations. Thank you for all you do.

* * *

In closing, I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank you for your many kind words and expressions of sympathy following the unexpected death of my brother, David, this past week. Your prayers and your support mean so much to me and my family. They remind me of why the Backus family is so special.

It takes a bunch to deliver daffodils!



Left to right are Pauline Marzec, ED, Lisa Pescatello, ED, Karen Bourque, Radiation Therapy and Daffodil Coordinator, Patricia DeRosier, Volunteer, Paula Gauvin, Radiation Therapy, Bonnie Raue, Central Processing, Dru Mitchell, Radiation Therapy, and Barbara Lisee, Volunteer. Captains missing from photo are Rhonda Illinger, A-2, and Donna Swanson, Psych Services.

Poison Prevention for the Whole Family



Join us for a poison prevention seminar in honor of Poison Prevention Week. Poison prevention tips for both young and old, and the family pet, will be given as well as suggestions for safe and proper medication disposal.

Also discussed:
- child-resistant containers
- accidental doses
- safe labeling
- drug interactions
- over the counter and herbal medications

**Wednesday,
March 26
6 p.m.
Backus Hospital
Auditorium**
This seminar is free, but registration is required. For more information or to register call 823-6374.



Choose Wisely. Choose Backus.

The William W. Backus Hospital | Norwich, CT | backushospital.org | 860.889.8331

CHI offers new classes

We are excited to offer Lighten Up! Win at losing; a Dynamic Weight Loss Program with Jane Percy, a Certified Hypnotherapist and teacher, past life regression therapist, empowerment coach, and medical intuitive.

Lighten Up! is a dynamic six-week course designed to help you achieve a healthy relationship with food and exercise through hypnotic relaxation. Release, once and for all, old patterns of craving and overeating with hypnosis which activates your deepest reserves of willpower. Discover the foods which satisfy and nourish you best with the support of the Eat Right 4 Your Blood Type diet and learn a useful form of self-hypnosis. Some past participants have experienced additional health benefits including lowered cholesterol and triglyceride levels, reduced insulin requirements, as well as lowered blood pressure.

Recent research indicates that people using hypnosis lost twice as much weight as those following traditional diets and the hypnosis clients kept the weight off. The American Psychological Association considers hypnosis to be a valuable adjunct for the treatment of obesity.

Lighten Up! will be held on Thursdays, 4:30-6 p.m., April 3, 14, 24, May 8, 15, 22 (no class on April 10 and May 1) at the Backus Hospital Medical Office Building Conference Room. Fee for the six-week program is \$300. Registration is required and space is limited. For more information or to sign up, call the Center for Healthcare Integration at 425-3877 or 889-8331, ext. 2483.

Future Girl Scouts?



In honor of the 97th birthday of the Girl Scouts, members of Junior Troop 3285 presented gift baskets to the two baby girls who also share the same birthday of March 12. The Scouts, all from Juliet Long School in Gales Ferry, hosted a mock baby shower as part of a community project, and were excited to meet recipients of their gifts.



The birthday gifts went to (top) Whitney Bundy, Director of Food and Nutrition, her husband Alan, and newborn Kaylee, and (bottom) new mom Shawna Godfrey and new baby Abigail.

"We were very touched by their cute cards and dedication to community service," said Mr. and Mrs. Bundy.

Junior Volunteer deadline April 1

Students interested in participating in the Junior Volunteer program have until April 1 to apply. The program is open to students who will be at least 15 years old by June 1. Application forms are available on the Backus Hospital website, from Volunteer Services, or by calling Mary Rahaim, CAVS, Director of Volunteer Services, at 823-6320.

Alzheimer's walk

Val Bentley, RN, Emergency Department, and co-workers are looking for walkers and supporters to join their Backus team for the annual Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk on May 3 at Harkness Memorial Park in Waterford. To sign up, call Val at ext. 2392.

White Mass and brunch to be held April 6

The 18th annual White Mass and brunch for health-care workers and caregivers of all faiths will be held Sunday, April 6, at 9 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Patrick. No registration is required to attend Mass, which will be celebrated by the Most Rev. Michael Cote, Bishop of Norwich.

The brunch will follow Mass at the Holiday Inn in Norwich. A donation of \$20 per person is requested for the brunch. Guest speaker will be Lynne Ide of the Universal Healthcare Foundation of Connecticut, who will discuss universal access to quality health-care. For more information, call 887-9294.

Registered Dietitians shine



March celebrates Registered Dietitians during National Nutrition Month. Left to right, Chris Warran, Lauren Burdick, Cathy Schneider and Jennifer Stremcha. Missing are Sarah Hospod, Mary Beth Green, Renee Frechette, Shannon Haynes, Whitney Bundy, director of Food and Nutrition, Wendy Kane and Joan Sommers.

Congratulations!

The entire Surgical Services family would like to extend its congratulations to Shelbye Maynard, Clinical Director, Same Day Surgery and PACU, on receiving her Masters of Science in Nursing and her Masters of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix. Shelbye's continued professional dedication is clearly evident in her pursuit of this degree and her full-hearted and continued support for her staff and for the entire Surgical Services staff. Congratulations, Shelbye, from the entire Surgical Services team!

— **Bob Boebert, RN, Administration Director, Surgical Services and Donna McArdle, RN, CNOR, Clinical Director Operating Room and E-1 Surgical**

A-4 Night Shift Easter Bunnies



Spirited A-4 staff show off their bunny ears. Top left to right are Lisa O'Briskie, GN, Phil Jenkins, PCT, Andrea Kelly, RN. Bottom left to right are Cheryl Klick, RN, Joan Alfred, PCT, and Alison Koval, RN.

Patient experience scores for this week

THIS WEEK'S RESULTS: For the question, "Would you recommend Backus Hospital to your friends or family?" **71.43%** of **98 patients** who returned surveys during the first calendar year quarter answered "definitely." This is slightly below last week's score and our goal of **72.5%** for this survey question.



Make It Happen!

Find out how at a free financial workshop, "Women and Investing," for Backus Hospital employees.



Where are you in your financial life?

- Just starting out?
- Looking to gain control over your finances?
- Ready to begin exploring retirement or estate planning?

No matter where you are, this workshop may help propel you even further toward realizing your own financial success and the future you really want.

Sponsored by



OppenheimerFunds®
The Right Way to Invest

ALL BACKUS EMPLOYEES WELCOME.

Monday, March 24, 2008

Session A: 7:30 a.m.

Location: Conference Rooms 1 and 2

Monday, March 24, 2008

Session B: 9:30 a.m.

Location: Conference Rooms 1 and 2

Monday, March 31, 2008

Session C: 5 p.m.

Location: Conference Rooms 1 and 2

Each session will last approximately 45 minutes and there will be time for a question-and-answer period. Cheryl Blanchard and Linda Waters, Financial Advisors from Dime Investment Services, Inc., as well as Bob Caruso from Oppenheimer Funds, will be available after each session to answer your individual questions.

RESERVE YOUR SPACE TODAY! SEATING IS LIMITED!

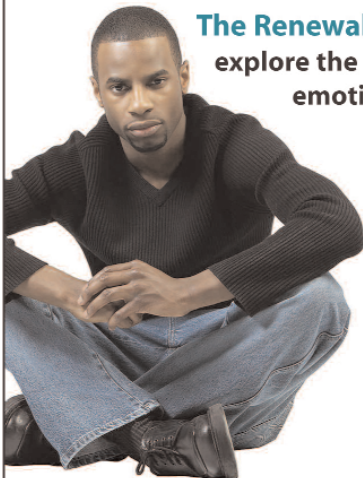
RSVP before noon on Friday, March 21, 2008 to:

Kelly Schenking
Human Resources Department
Email: kschenking@wwbh.org
Phone: 860-892-6967

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renew your spirit.

Spring is a natural time for renewal and new growth. Join Backus Hospital's Center for Healthcare Integration (CHI) as you step back and replenish through these programs.



The Renewal of a Man's Soul:
explore the need for physical, emotional and spiritual restoration

Friday, April 25
7 - 9 p.m.

facilitated by: Paul Dunion, founder of COMEGA, a Connecticut gathering of men

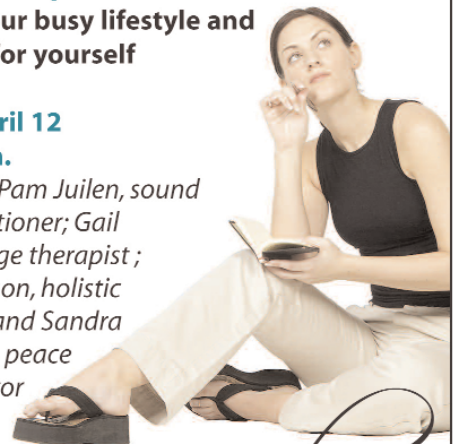
Fee: \$25

Renewing the Spirit for Women:
balancing your busy lifestyle and taking time for yourself

Saturday, April 12
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

facilitated by: Pam Juilen, sound healing practitioner; Gail Greika, massage therapist; Robin Thompson, holistic health nurse; and Sandra Walia Guillow, peace dance facilitator

Fee: \$50



Choose Wisely. Choose Backus.

Registration is required by calling CHI at 425-3877, space is limited.



Thanks for your care

I would like to express my whole-hearted gratitude to my many friends in Surgical Services and the extended Backus family for your thoughts, prayers, phone calls, cards and flowers during my time of illness. Your friendship and love are a most effective medicine. I feel your prayers and continue to thrive on them. I especially want to thank Dr. David Coletti who, in his busy schedule, took the time to be patient and accommodating to my many needs. Thanks to Cindy Stahlinski, Sandy Glenney, and Monica Brewster (who is the best Nurse Anesthetist, as I don't remember leaving SDS or going into PACU) for their wonderful care they provided during my surgery. Thanks also to Lisa Hansen in SDS for her exceptional nursing care and sense of humor, Devon who took care of me in PACU, Claire who took care of me in SDS, Paula for my healing touch and to anyone else whom I may have forgotten. Know that I am grateful for your skills, your sensitivity and dedication. Out of strength, I dreaded all sensation until your healing touch restored my will. There is no gift more precious than one's health.

— Donna McArdle RN, CNOR, Clinical Director
Operating Room and E1 Surgical



Auxiliary scholarships deadline is March 30

The Backus Hospital Auxiliary will award a total of \$6,000 to a minimum of two and a maximum of three qualified applicants.

To be eligible for a scholarship, an applicant must:

- Be an employee or volunteer at Backus or the child, grandchild, stepchild of same
- Be a high school graduate, a former Auxiliary scholarship winner, or a previous applicant
- Enroll in an accredited post-secondary school
- Plan to pursue study in a health-related field
- File an application between Jan. 15 and March 30, 2008
- Provide all required credentials (transcript, letters of reference, essay)
- Appear before the Scholarship Committee for a personal interview
- Agree to verify to the Scholarship Committee how the grant has been used.

Applications are now available in the Gift Shop or by calling 889-8331, ext. 2259.

Hospice course reminder

Hospice Southeastern Connecticut Core Course will be held on April 22 from 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at Hospice in Norwich. No charge for Backus Staff; contact hours available. Call Nursing Education at ext. 2495 to sign-up.

Blood Drive at BOCC

Give blood on April 11 from noon to 4:45 p.m. at the Backus Outpatient Care Center. Call Nancy Burr at 889-8331, ext. 2240, or email nburr@wwbh.org to make an appointment.

Nursing and Community Health Education March 2008 Schedule

March 25 - ACLS Initial Provider Course, 5-10 p.m., conference rooms #1-2-3.

March 25 - Clinical Lecture Series – Topic: "Braden Scale" – conference rooms #1-2-3, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

March 28 and 29 - ACLS Initial Provider Course – 7:45 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the BOCC.



The staff of A-4 recently put together a display as part of Deep Vein Thrombosis Awareness Month. White socks were decorated with illustrations and text to promote awareness of the problem. The display is set up near the nurses' station.

The Backus family offers condolences to:

- Roland Hopkins, Food and Nutrition, on the passing of his father.
- Lowell Yeager, Security, on the passing of his uncle.
- John Feeney, Security, on the passing of his uncle.

'MINK' concert to benefit Backus Foundation

Want to be hip and support a good cause? Attend the concert by the hot band "MINK" at the Hard Rock Café on April 3 at 9 p.m. Tickets are only \$5, with all proceeds donated to the Backus Foundation. Kevin Hogan, WFSB-3 reporter and anchor, will host the concert. Tickets can be purchased at the door or in advance at Foxwoods.com and the Fox Theatre Box Office.

Bowling scores

Week 25

1. Alley Oops
2. 3 Stooges
3. Believers
4. Here Stills

5. Wishful Thinking

High Scratch Game Male
Tryon Lathrop — 187

High Scratch Game Female
Linda Stoddard — 168

Chili Contest

Once again all those of stout taste buds and feeble minds are invited to another chili contest. Last year a newcomer took the road less traveled and produced a tasty chili to claim the coveted chili ladle. This year Maintenance and ESD are determined to bring the ladle back to its traditional home - which is in Maintenance, of course.

Let the peppers begin getting hot and the beans gassy; the annual chili contest is on and will be hotly contested on March 28 at 2 p.m. in the cafeteria. Call Bob Coggeshall at ext. 6384 with questions.

Cafeteria news

New healthy snack items:

- Vanilla Goldfish
- Goldfish Snack Cracker
- Goldfish Pretzel
- Cheese Nip Crackers
- Cookie Lorna Doone
- Cookies Chips Ahoy
- Non-dairy Dole frozen fruit dessert

- 100-calorie mini-bites — Doritos, Cheetos, Sun Chips

Healthy combo meals - coming soon!

Backus Cafeteria Menus

Saturday, March 22 – Friday, March 28, 2008

Saturday: Swedish meatballs, beef barley, broccoli spears, pasta

Sunday: Prime rib au jus, cream of cauliflower, green beans, roasted potato

Monday: Spring brunch: Roasted vegetable and cheese frittata, beef burgundy with wild mushrooms, carved spiral ham with pineapple/raisin sauce, cheese blintz with blueberry sauce

Soups: Cream of asparagus, chicken corn chowder

Sides: Creamed corn, Santa Fe blend, hash brown potato, corned beef hash, sweet potato biscuits

Hot Panini: Chicken feta

Cold sandwich: Santa Fe turkey

Hot deli: Mini corn dogs

Pizza special: Taco

Tuesday: Healthy You: Key West chicken, Caesar wrap, fish nuggets with fries, Blue Plate: Salisbury steak with onions and gravy

Soup: Pasta fagioli, chili con carne

Sides: Honey glazed carrots, brussel sprouts, French fries, cole slaw

Hot Panini: Swiss Alpine ham

Cold sandwich: Croissant roast beef

Hot deli: Jalapeno poppers

Wednesday: Healthy You: Sizzlin chopped salad, carved turkey with gravy, Blue Plate: spaghetti and meatballs

Soup: Chicken wild rice, Santa Fe black bean

Sides: Peas and carrots, green beans, mashed potato, stuffing

Hot Panini: Montana smokehouse

Cold sandwich: Genoa Italian sub

Hot deli: Mozzarella sticks

Pizza special: Bacon mozzarella

Thursday: Healthy You: Eggplant torta, carved pork loin with bourbon sauce, Blue Plate: Sloppy Joe

Soup: French onion, minestrone

Sides: Harvard beets, broccoli/cauliflower, wild rice, steak fries

Hot Panini: Roast beef and blue cheese

Cold sandwich: California Cobb club

Hot deli: Popcorn chicken

Friday: Healthy You: Beef fajitas, fried fish grinder with warm slaw, Blue plate: pulled pork with rice

Soup: Boston clam chowder, cream of tomato

Sides: Corn, onions and peppers, spinach with garlic, Spanish rice, potato wedges

Hot Panini: Three cheese and tomato

Cold sandwich: Roasted vegetable wrap

Hot deli: Onion rings

Pizza special: Spinach and feta



Top to bottom - Paula Provost, Research, and daughter Cassidy meet the Easter Bunny; Diovonnye Pyres-Hill, nephew of Pam Russell, Central Processing, sports some bunny whiskers; left to right, Jack and Hannah Graham, children of Joyce Graham, Diagnostic Imaging, sit with Barbara Kiertianis, EKG, and her granddaughter, Hailey Pomo.

Easter tales

Saturday's temperamental weather did not discourage the 45 children and parents from attending the EAG Easter Party. Held in the conference rooms this year, children and parents alike thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Activities included the Parachute Game, cookie decorating, arts and crafts and coloring. The Easter Bunny stopped in for pictures and to lead the children on an Easter Egg hunt behind the Day Care Center. At the completion of the egg hunt, drinks and snacks were available to all attendees, and the children received goodie bags.

The EAG would like to thank all the parents, volunteers and committee members for volunteering to make this holiday party a success. The Easter Bunny also asked us to share this little message: "Next year I'll be bringing a lot more eggs for all my little friends."

— Thanks again, The EAG



EAG prize winners for March 21

- Sarah Wilcox — Radiology
- Mark Mikkelson — Pharmacy
- Nancy Anderson — Psych

Congratulations!

Call Cathy Saunders at ext. 2105 to collect your prizes.

Book Fair

The Imagine Nation Book Fair will be held on March 27 from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and March 28, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Save the date!

The Spring Craft Fair will be held on May 2. Call Donna Pepper, ext. 3898, with questions.



Birthing Center OPEN HOUSE

**Tuesday, April 8
6:15 p.m.**

**Tours of the Birthing Center:
6:15 - 7 p.m.**

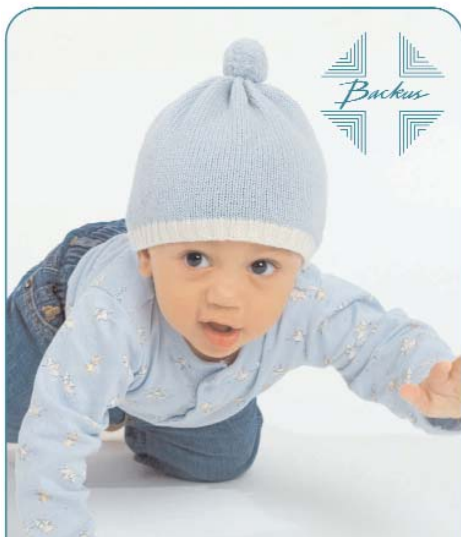
(leaving from the main lobby)

**Informational programs for expectant parents:
7 p.m.**

Backus conference rooms

- Refreshments served -

This program is free but registration is required. For more information call 823-6517.



Community BABY SHOWER

The William W. Backus Hospital invites expectant parents to a Community Baby Shower.

- **Tuesday, April 15**
- **1 - 6 p.m.**
- **Backus conference rooms**

This fun-filled event will include information on the various local resources available for expectant parents, from prenatal yoga to infant safety. Door prizes will be raffled throughout the day, and food and refreshments will be available.

This program is free and no registration is required. For more information call 425-3863.

Welcome

Dr. Priya Tandon

to the
Medical Staff of
The William W.
Backus Hospital

Department: **Internal Medicine**

Priya Tandon, MD
123 Broadway
Colchester, CT
(860) 537-2309

Choose Wisely. **Choose Backus.**

The William W. Backus Hospital | Meriden, CT | backushospital.org | 860.860.8311

GENERAL STORE

General Store is a free classified ad section for the benefit of employees, retirees, medical staff and volunteers.

We welcome your submissions by the hospital Intranet connection, fax (892-6964), mail or by e-mailing publicrelations@wwbh.org. The deadline for submissions to be included in each Friday's *HospiTell* is **Wednesday at noon**. We do not accept ads for real estate, firearms or personal ads. "Services Offered" appear on a space-available basis. Please do not list hospital phone numbers or hospital e-mail addresses for responses. You must submit your item weekly if you want it to appear more than one week.

To have *HospiTell* e-mailed to you, or for questions about the General Store, please call Shawn Mawhiney, Director of Communications, at ext. 2312, or e-mail him at smawhiney@wwbh.org.

FREE — Two red Earslider turtles, about four years old, very sociable. Will give tank, filter and extra food. Please call **377-2046**.

FREE — Truckload of seasoned wood. Needs to be split. Please call **886-6601**.

FOR SALE — Werner aluminum extension ladder, 40', 300 pound load rating. \$350. Please call **376-4506** or **884-0654**.

FOR SALE — Ten month old male Shih Tzu to good home. \$350. Great dog, house-broken, loves kids. Call **908-7305** or **884-0780**.

FOR SALE — Mobile home for sale, three bedrooms, new furnace and hot water heater, new heating tape on water pipes and new 8' x 10' shed. Stove, refrigerator, washer, dryer and miscellaneous furniture included. Located on good size lot near Mohegan Park. Asking \$27,000 or best offer. Call **887-5089**.

FOR SALE — Discovery 14' aluminum boat Model "Voyager". Fully carpeted, 3 swivel seats, 15 HP Mercury motor and a trolling motor, includes trailer, live well, large canvas sun cover, full boat cover, and many extras. Excellent condition. \$3,000. Call **886-6399**.

FOR SALE — Antique Hoosier brand cabinet, 1920's model, white with white porcelain work surface. Full of extras, carousel spice rack, flour bin with sifter head, sugar bin with sifter, cook book holder, change and token tray, tin bread drawer and utility rack. All extras are nice and unusual to find. Original "Hoosier" label. \$650. Call Mark at **884-6833**.

FOR SALE — 1988 Alfa Romeo Spider for sale. Car has always been in a garage and has 76,000 miles. Excellent condition. Beautiful red color. Price is \$5985. Please call **859-1398**.

FOR SALE — Kids skis, boots —Rossignal, good condition. \$75 or best offer. Studded tires low miles, P215/75/R15, \$50 or best offer. Call Dustin at **334-9147**.

FOR SALE — 2001 Layton camper, 37.5' with a fly-out, bunk-beds, master bedroom with full-bath and shower (normal size), A/C, heat, asking price \$12,000. If interested, please call Terry at **887-6949** or **884-1665** to leave a message about camper.

FOR SALE — Pair of brown Dansco shoes. Size 38, unable to wear, \$80 or best offer. Call **608-6707**.

FOR SALE — Two brand new whirlpool tub spas for the bathroom. Therapeutic jet massage units below wholesale at \$600 each. Normally retails for over \$1800 each. Must be seen. Call Dave at **608-5893**.

FOR SALE — Brand new aqua-glass showers and shower tub units for new homes. Bought at close-out and less than wholesale prices. Must see at \$200 per unit. Call Ron at **861-0861**.

FOR SALE — 1993 HD 883 Sportser. Less than 30,000 miles. Screaming Eagle pipes, forward controls. Well maintained. \$5,000 or best offer. Call **537-6751**.

FOR SALE — New scrubs for sale, rock bottom price, tops for \$8, pants for \$8, sets for \$13. All different sizes. Call **(860) 213-1626**.

FOR SALE — Garmin GPS Nuvi 200 navigation system. Brand new, only used a few times. Window mount and charger included. Original price \$299, asking \$100. Call **334-2476**.

FOR SALE — 1999 Grand Am. Asking \$3,400 or reasonable offer. Please call Jen or Craig at **564 4520**.

FOR SALE — Roll top desk, painted white with pastel color stencils (flowers, butterflies), very good condition. \$125 or reasonable offer. Call **(203) 458-2928**.

FOR SALE — Mountain Board by Earthboard, an oversized skate board with bindings and all-terrain wheels to board anywhere. Very good condition. \$150 or best reasonable offer. Call **(203) 458-2928**.

FOR SALE — Nordic Track exercise machine. Skiing format. Strength aerobic model. Tension adjustments for arm conditioning. Excellent condition. \$125 or best reasonable offer. Call **(203) 458-2928**.

FOR SALE — Child Craft Crib and Bed. A crib with chest of drawers which converts to a longer bed and separate chest as child grows. Natural Wood with primary color trim. Very good-excellent condition. \$225 or best reasonable offer. Call **(203) 458-2928**.

FOR SALE — Custom made trout flies for fishing. Place your order to get ready for the season. Call John at **546-9860**.

FOR SALE — Oak dining set, includes table and four chairs with corner hutch. Good condition. \$500 or best offer. Call Ted or Kathy at **546-6086** evenings.

FOR SALE — Brown sofa, plum love seat, one red porcelain kitchen sink and Atlanta wood stove. All used, but useful. Make an offer. Call **887-3896**.

FOR SALE — 2005 Ford Ranger/Edge, 2-door, 6-cylinder, A/C. \$8300 or best offer. Call Al at **204-0478**.

FOR SALE — Yamaha Kodiak 450 ATV, only has 22 hours and 80 miles, comes with 2500 lb winch, Reese receiver hitch (can be removed easily). Has been stored in a shed. Paid over \$6,000, asking \$5,500. Call **625-2298** after 7 p.m., leave a message.

FOR SALE — Bedroom set, black and cherry wood, queen sides with one night stand. Asking \$1300 or best offer. American stove and refrigerator, \$1000 or best offer. Deep freezer, restaurant style, \$150. They must go. Call Christine at **710-0227**.

FOR SALE — Computers, laptops, services visit sethscomputerservices.com or call Seth at **536-4268**.

EVENTS

EASTER MUSICAL — "Believe," an Easter musical created by Steve Moore and David Clydesdale and presented by Christian Fellowship Church at the Windham Middle School, 90 Quarry St. in Willimantic March 21—23. All shows 7 p.m.; Admission is free.

SPAGHETTI DINNER — Sponsored by the Moosup Fire Ladies Auxiliary on March 22 from 5-7 p.m. at the Moosup Fire Department on South Main Street. Adults \$8, \$7/children 5-12 and seniors, and children under 5 are free. Visit moosupfire.com.

BENEFIT FOR ST. JOSEPH'S 8th GRADE CLASS — Spaghetti Dinner on March 29, 5-7 p.m. at St. Joseph's School Cafeteria, 120 Cliff St., Norwich. Tickets are \$6/adults, \$4/children; age 3 and under are free. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

DREAM MACHINE CLASSICS CAR CLUB DANCE — At the Bozrah Moose Hall, March 29, 8 p.m. to midnight. Bring your own snacks. Tickets are \$10 per person; call Debbie at **887-0577** or cell **608-2883**.

PASTA DINNER BENEFIT — For son of Jacinta Blanchette, Food and Nutrition. Evening includes pasta dinner, dancing and cash bar on April 5 from 6-10 p.m. at Bozrah Moose Lodge #95, 115 Fitchville Avenue in Bozrah. Tickets are \$10. Due to her son's extensive needs resulting from Guillain-Barre syndrome, his family is having a fund raiser for assistance with medical bills, DME (durable medical equipment such as a specialized wheelchair and walker), and to build wheelchair ramp.

BOOK SALE — Held by the Friends of Otis Library on April 26 and 27 from 10 a.m. -4 p.m. Saturday and 12-4 p.m. Sunday. The library is currently accepting donations of gently used books.

WOMEN'S CENTER OF SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT — Invites 1,000 men to join together in the battle against domestic violence. To support the campaign, please send a \$10 contribution to the Women's Center of SECT. On Mother's Day, The Day and Norwich Bulletin will publish the list donors. Deadline to submit name and contribution is May 1. Call Marj Taggart Dedrick at **447-0366, ext. 203**.

CREATIVE MEMORIES SCRAPBOOKING EVENT — May 30 from 3— 11:30 p.m., \$35 with dinner; and May 31 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., cost \$35 with breakfast, lunch and dinner. Early bird special, pay \$50 for both days before April 30; after April 30, pay \$60 for both days. Give-aways and demonstrations all weekend. Gales Ferry Fire House on Route 12, across from Dow Chemical. Please contact Bill at **445-9475** or via email billrick96@aol.com.

SERVICES OFFERED

CARPENTRY AND REMODELING — All phases, free estimates and all work done in a timely fashion. Call Joshua at **961-3309**.

HOUSE CLEANING — No jobs too big or small; son has medical problems and trying to make extra. If interested, please call Tori at **823-0079** or **639-3747**.

JOE'S LAWN CARE — Senior discounts, free estimates. Please call **705-5986**.

GAL FRIDAY — For busy professionals, moms, retired or elderly. Will run errands, iron, light housekeeping, grocery shopping, pet care. Excellent work and character references available upon request. Call **889-4007**.

HOUSEKEEPING — For professional singles, couples, or retired; without small children or teenagers preferred. Excellent work and character references upon request. Call **889-4007**.

TRASH TO TREASURE — Furniture of all types and sizes decoratively hand painted by local artist; small upholstering jobs for chair seats, bench seats, etc.; simple hemming of curtains and clothes. Call **889-4007**.

GRAVITY-ONE DJ PRODUCTIONS — Charter member of The American Disc Jockey Association, the nation's largest professional DJ referral network www.adja.org. Offer specialized service at the area's best price. Call **546-9105** or email inquiries to dj-gravity-one@hotmail.com.

TAZMANIAN TREE DEVIL TREE SERVICE — From a branch to a tree, cutting, trimming, removal, stump grinding; insured licensed arborist. Call **564-1936**.

PROFESSIONAL INCOME TAX PREPARATION — Special 25% discount offer for hospital employees and senior citizens; free state return and free e-file. Call George's Tax Service at **885-0800**.

RENEWAL MEDICAL DAY SPA — Hospital discount for employees and volunteers of 20% off all services, including Botox, fillers, laser, and facial treatments, Suite 410, MOB. Call **886-7546** for more info.

WANTED — Seeking handyman for light carpenter/painting/plumbing jobs. Restoring home. Please call **886-6601**.

New ad series debuts next week

The Backus Marketing Department will soon launch a new ad series that features consistent advertising across multiple media platforms — billboards, websites, newspapers, brochures for patients, physician outreach, hospital publications and some radio.

The series, developed in concert with the hospital's Board-approved Strategic Plan, focuses on specific hospital services in certain geographic areas in eastern Connecticut.

It begins with promoting Diagnostic Imaging's new 64-slice CT scanner on a billboard in Plainfield on Route 12 and Green Street beginning on or around March 24, followed by an ad in *Healthy Connections*, in the local newspapers' print and web editions, on the Backus website, in weekly newspapers and a billboard on Route 85 in Waterford near the Crystal Mall.

The ad campaign's design is intended to differentiate Backus in today's cluttered healthcare advertising landscape. The ads, which would appear in color featuring the signature "Backus teal," are simple and straightforward — large headlines, few words and limited but strategic photos. This differs from many of the ads you see today with multiple photos and lengthy messages.

For more information on the series, or to offer your comments, call Shawn Mawhiney, Director of Communications, at ext. 2312.

64-slice CT scanner — see what you've been missing.

Choose Wisely. Choose Backus.
backushospital.org

See what you've been missing.

64-slice CT scanner — see what you've been missing

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www.backushospital.org

Braden Scale lecture March 25

Paula Gruccio, MSN, RN, CWCN, COCN, CCCN, and Lisa Orowson, MSN, RN, CWOCN, present the "Braden Scale" as part of the Medical Staff and Patient Care Services clinical lecture series on March 25 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in conference rooms 1, 2, and 3. Lunch and one contact hour provided.

Backus is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by the Connecticut Nurses' Association.