



# Community Connection

COMMUNITY HOSPITAL OF BREMEN — INDEPENDENT, NON-PROFIT



www.bremenhospital.org • Summer 2011

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## CHB Looking to the Future

*(Linda Barrett, V.P. of IT and Clinical Services, was the keynote speaker at the hospital's annual meeting held Monday, June 20th in the hospital dining area. Linda presented an overview of the technology currently in place at the facility as well as the plans under way for future technology improvements).*

Patients coming into Community Hospital of Bremen for services have long been aware that a computer system is used when collecting their demographic information at registration. They may also see clinical staff entering information into computer terminals or COWS (computerized terminals on wheels) at the time they receive their healthcare service(s). What patients may not be aware of is all the technology and systems that are in place behind the scenes and the planning that is taking place to increase the hospital's technology base. The hospital has a vast array of healthcare information systems to gather, manage and distribute everything from radiology images to vital signs. With new requirements for hospitals and physicians to adopt Electronic Health Records (EHR's) and to develop mechanisms to distribute that information to other healthcare providers, patients will begin to see more information technology in use at the facility.

Why the new requirements for facilities to implement an Electronic Health Record? The

reasons are fairly simple. If information about a patient's visit is recorded and stored electronically, it is easier to share that information with individuals involved in that person's care. Better care is provided when all the providers have access to a complete record of all of the patient's information. For example, if a person has an allergy to a certain medication, that information is maintained by the electronic health record for providers to see, even if that patient omits that information when being questioned by hospital

personnel. Another benefit of an electronic health record is that it allows the physician to track and monitor that patient's care and gather information from other places the patient has been, such as a pharmacy or another hospital. The ability to collect health information electronically and to exchange information electronically with other providers now has an official term, "meaningful use". In order to encourage adoption of EHR's, the federal government is giving provid-

ers incentives if they adopt this technology and become "meaningful users" by 2015. For those that fail to meet the requirements, payments from government payers for healthcare services will be reduced.

Community Hospital of Bremen is working toward the full roll-out of an electronic medical record. The first step will begin this fall, when the hospital upgrades its current information system to a newer platform. This will allow the hospital



*Linda Barrett, V.P. of IT and Clinical Services stands next to the CHB servers.*

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# Get with the Guidelines - Stroke Care Program

Community Hospital of Bremen is participating in the American Stroke Association's *Get with the Guidelines-Stroke* program. The goal of the program is to improve the overall quality of care for stroke patients by improving acute stroke treatment and preventing future strokes and cardiovascular events.

*Get with the Guidelines-Stroke* was developed to help hospitals employ proven science-based treatment guidelines, including those developed by the American Stroke Association, American Heart Association, and Brain Attack Coalition. These guidelines address acute stroke management, primary prevention of cardiovascular diseases, secondary prevention of strokes and the establishment of primary stroke centers.

As a *Get with the Guidelines-Stroke* participating hospital, Community Hospital of Bremen is encouraged to develop a comprehensive system for providing rapid diagnosis and treatment of stroke when patients are admitted to the emergency department. This includes always being equipped to provide brain-imaging scans, making neurologists available to conduct



*Left to right: Presenting the award is Greg Poe, Director, Quality Improvement Initiatives, American Heart Association. Accepting the Award for Community Hospital of Bremen is Barb Scanlon, VP of Quality; Sue Bettcher, Director Med/Surg; Kim Dills, Director of Emergency Department; Andrea Koontz, VP of Nursing Services; Scott Graybill, President/CEO*

patient evaluations and using clot-busting medications when appropriate.

Community Hospital of Bremen is also increasing its efforts to prevent secondary strokes through the aggressive use of medications such as statins and anti-platelets as indicated in the secondary stroke prevention guidelines. Other methods include the treatment of atrial fibrillation and atherosclerosis and management of smoking cessation, weight, exercise, diabetes, and cholesterol.

Through *Get with the Guidelines-Stroke*, the American Stroke Association provides Community Hospital of Bremen training and staffing recommendations, care maps, discharge protocols, standing orders, data-collection

and measurement tools. The program also facilitates creating and sharing best practices among participating hospitals.

The time is right for Community Hospital of Bremen to implement *Get With the Guidelines-Stroke*. The number of acute ischemic stroke patients eligible for treatment is expected to grow over the next decade due to increasing stroke incidence and a large aging population.

According to the American Stroke Association, each year approximately 795,000 people suffer a stroke – 610,000 are first attacks and 185,000 are recurrent. Every 40 seconds, someone in the United States is suffering from a stroke. This deadly condition accounts for 1 out of every 18 deaths in the United States.

Most hospitals implementing the *Get with the Guidelines-Stroke* quality improvement program, realize measurable results. It's a difference that shows in the lives of patients and their families, in the satisfaction felt by caregivers empowered to do their best and in the financial health of participating hospitals.

## *Congratulations!* 2011 Scholarship Recipients



*Rebecca Dumph*

**Bowen Hospital Employee Scholarship Recipient:**

Rebecca Dumph



*Adriana Fernandez*

**Bowen Medical Scholarship Recipient:**

Adriana Fernandez



*Kelsey Stichter*

**Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship Recipient:**

Kelsey Stichter

# CHB welcomes the following physicians to our Medical Staff.

### OSMC Orthopedic Surgeons

**David A. Cutcliffe, M.D.**

- Orthopedic Surgeon
- Joined the OSMC staff in 1997
- Areas of specialized expertise: hand surgery, sports medicine, arthroscopic surgery and general orthopedics



**Scott J. Trumble, M.D.**

- Orthopedic Foot and Ankle Surgeon
- Joined the OSMC staff in 2000
- Areas of specialized expertise: foot and ankle surgery



**Willis W. Stevenson, M.D.**

- Orthopedic Sports Medicine and Arthroscopy Surgeon
- Has practiced at OSMC since 2007
- Areas of specialized expertise: ACL surgery, rotator cuff repair, arthroscopic surgery, shoulder and knee, joint replacements and reconstruction, and work related injuries



**The following physicians are now seeing patients in the CHB Medical Office Suites. Please call (574) 546-8044 to schedule an appointment.**

**Jose Bufill, M.D.**

- Oncologist
- Michiana Hematology Oncology



**Jason Grove, DPM**

- Podiatrist
- Memorial Medical Group



**Jerald Hochstetler, M.D.**

- Urologist
- Urology Associates of Elkhart



## Dr. Reed to retire

John Reed, M.D., has announced his retirement this July from our Emergency Department after 9 ½ years of service. Much of that time Dr. Reed was the Medical Director of the department. His clinical oversight and clinical care will be missed. During his tenure he has mentored many physicians and staff. We thank Dr. Reed for his service to our hospital and wish him the very best in all future endeavors.



# Advanced Computed Tomography System comes to CHB

Computed Tomography (CT) technology, is the diagnostic exam of choice when people are ill or injured, or when a physician suspects a medical problem not easily detectable with a conventional physical examination. Community Hospital of Bremen has added a new GE LightSpeed VCT XTe.



makes it possible to dramatically reduce radiation dose to patients up to 40 percent without compromising the quality of the image. "This is especially beneficial for children and young adults who are more susceptible to harm from excessive radiation exposures," Wolf says.

"The addition of the GE Healthcare LightSpeed VCT XTe complements and extends the range of quality diagnostic services." Deb Wolf, director of Radiology states "It provides a higher level of diagnostic confidence at significantly lower radiation dose with the new ASiR™ technology."

ASiR (Adaptive Statistical Iterative Reconstruction) is a new, advanced image reconstruction technique that

The LightSpeed VCT XTe also provides new in-depth brain and cardiac techniques that make these tests more

reliable and enable doctors to have more confidence in their diagnosis, explains Wolf.

For more information about CT services at Community Hospital of Bremen visit our website at [www.bremenhospital.com](http://www.bremenhospital.com) or call 574-546-2211.

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## Future at CHB continued from cover

to computerize many functions that are now done on paper, such as scanning inpatient orders, electronic charting and medical ordering by physicians and even the use of electronic signature pads at registration. The hospital also has plans to give physicians better access to patient records remotely, whether they are at their office or at home. Another advantage of this upgrade for patients is the fact that they will be able to request an electronic copy of their medical record, which hospital personnel would burn onto a CD or download onto a portable USB drive.

The hospital is also in the process of connecting to the Michiana Health Information Network (MHIN), a local health information exchange. The exchange allows hospitals and physicians a central place to store and send patient information in a secure manner. Data such as laboratory results will be sent to MHIN, which can in turn send the information directly into the ordering physician's electronic medical record. This not only reduces the time it takes a physician to receive results, but it eliminates paper faxes and phone calls to the hospital.

Another project under way is the installation of a new PACS or Picture Archiving system in the radiology department. The use of a PACS system allows x-ray images to be taken and stored digitally, rather than using printed film. This has many advantages, including allowing radiologists and referring physicians the ability to view images from outside the hospital by using a secure connection, rather than having to deliver films. Film images tend to disintegrate or fade over time plus storing

x-ray images provides a space issue for the hospital. The hospital Foundation, through a substantial donation, made it possible for the hospital to purchase this much needed technology component.

In addition, last fall, as part of a statewide grant project, the hospital was able to connect to a high speed fiber optic network. The connection is not only more reliable but also allows for much faster transfer of large files, such as x-ray images. As an added benefit to the community, the fiber network is also accessible to local business and industry to tap into.

Finally, the hospital was one of six (6) hospital pilot sites throughout Indiana: IU Health-Bedford, Community Hospital-Bremen, Gibson General Hospital, Rush Memorial Hospital, IU Health-Tipton and IU Health-Monticello/White County to receive video conferencing equipment at no cost. This gives hospital personnel the capacity to meet with other entities and receive training without the time and cost associated with travel.

The staff at Community Hospital of Bremen is proud of the fact that they work at a small facility that is striving to be as progressive as possible in the use of information technology. They realize that advances made in technology not only helps to improve their work environment and expands the capacity for them to keep up to date on their skills but, it also helps them to provide safer more efficient care for the patients they serve.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**Autumn**  
**Outing**  
 Golf Scramble

**Saturday, Sept. 24, 2011**

Time: Registration 11:00 a.m.  
 Shotgun Start 12:00 p.m.

Place: Sprig-O-Mint Golf Course  
 9425 U.S. 6  
 Bremen, IN 46506

Format: 4-Man Florida Scramble

Entry Fee: \$280 per 4-man team

**For more information contact:**

Lon @ 574-546-0500 or  
 Debbie @ 574-546-8009  
 Make checks payable to:  
 Community Hospital of Bremen Foundation

**Mail to:**

Community Hospital of Bremen Foundation  
 P.O. Box 8  
 Bremen, IN 46506

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ St: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Entry @ \$280 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hole sponsor \$100 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

VISA, MASTERCARD, AMERICAN EXPRESS:

Card # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Community Hospital of Bremen  
 2011 Employee of the Year –  
 Shari Peterson**



*Shari Peterson*

Shari Peterson has been selected as Community Hospital of Bremen's Employee of the Year 2011. Ms. Peterson has been employed at Community Hospital of Bremen in the Environmental Services department since August of 2006. Selected by her peers, Ms. Peterson demonstrates the mission and values of the hospital on a daily basis through her interactions with patients, staff and visitors. CHB is fortunate to have Shari as a member of the hospital family.



*Pictured are CHB Auxiliaries: Delia Pulliam and Kay Schermier.*

**Community Hospital of Bremen  
 Auxiliary Quilt Raffle**

Name: Autumn in the Cabin  
 Size: Queen

Pieced by: Treva Yoder  
 Quilted by: Northwest Sewing Circle  
 Tickets: \$1.00 ea or 6 for \$5.00

Tickets may be purchased from any Auxiliary member,  
 at the CHB Gift Shop, Wooden Peel  
 or Dave Holmes Law Office.

The drawing will be held during the annual CHB Auxiliary  
 Chicken Barbecue on Thursday, August 4th  
 at Sunnyside Park.

*Need not be present to win.*

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS is published as a community service for the friends and patrons of COMMUNITY HOSPITAL OF BREMEN, 1020 High Road, Bremen, IN 46506, telephone (574) 546-2211, www.bremenhospital.org.

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COMMUNITY HOSPITAL OF BREMEN  
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## Mark Your Calendars!

### August

Community Hospital of Bremen  
Auxiliary Chicken Barbecue  
August 4, 2011  
Sunnyside Park

### September



**Autumn Outing (Golf Scramble)**  
September 24, 2011  
Sprig-O-Mint Golf Course

**Prenatal classes** offered first three  
Tuesdays of every month.  
(\$50 fee if not delivering at  
Community Hospital of Bremen)  
Call 574-546-2211 to register.



Join the Bremen Knock-Outs on July 30th  
to help us KNOCK-OUT Cancer in our community.

## Saturday July 30th at Sunnyside Park

- 5:00 pm Charity Walk
- 6:00 pm Cancer Survivor and Remembrance Ceremony
- 6:15 pm Balloon Launch
- 6:30 pm 14-u softball - Bremen Knockouts vs Nappanee Storm

\$10 per person or \$30 per family

\$100 for the Knockout Club (15 bracelets & program recognition)

Proceeds benefit the Community Hospital of Bremen "Digital Mammography Program".

Make checks payable to: Community Hospital of Bremen.

Please write "Knockout Cancer" in the memo .

Participation Bracelets available at the hospital gift shop and Tim Martin Bremen Ford

**For more information call (574) 255-1300 or (574) 546-2211**