



March 22, 2019

New Direction

New HR director completes first month on the job

Ashley Ortego joined the Memorial team in February as our new human resources director and is already hard at work in her first month on the job. Ashley grew up in Lake Charles, LA and has her bachelor's degree in business administration.

To her, choosing Memorial was all about the location and community. "I previously lived in Austin for eight years and enjoyed the time that I lived in Texas and wanted to return," she noted. "Memorial offered the opportunity to join a dedicated hospital family that's supported by the community and ready to move forward."

After completing a very busy first month at the helm of Memorial's HR department, she says with confidence, "I truly feel like I am where I am supposed to be."

Along with spoiling her dog, Pookie, Ashley's hobbies include traveling, camping, grilling and kayaking. Luckily Nacogdoches is the perfect area to keep her busy!



We have a winner! Baby Kason takes title

Memorial's Diaper Derby concluded with the championship round at the Sam Houston SFA rivalry basketball game. Kason Garrett came in first in the diaper derby, beating out his twin brother, Karson, and bringing home the big prize for their whole family. The prize pack included gift cards to Clear Springs and Auntie Pasta's, Cotton Patch, Butcher Boys, Casa Tomas and the Memorial Hospital gift shop, as well as season passes to the SFA sport of the family's choice.



L&D nurse celebrates Sophie the brave

Sophie Skiles was a brave little girl who battled Lymphoma for seven months of her life, ultimately losing her battle in January last year. In honor of Sophie's spirit, her family dedicated a day of spreading kindness to those around them. "Sophie the Brave" Day was March 19, which would have been Sophie's 4th birthday.

In honor of Sophie the Brave Day, Laura Silvas, a labor and delivery nurse at Nacogdoches Memorial Hospital and good friend of Sophie's family, handed out pink and purple sprinkled cupcakes at the hospital.



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Stop by Human Resources or call 936.568.8543

Long-time LVN, Brenda Rowlett, retires from Bomar Rehab

Bomar Rehab recently celebrated the retirement of Brenda Rowlett, an LVN who has worked at Memorial for nearly 20 years. Brenda started her service to Memorial in 2001 and worked in the cath lab for the major extent of her career. In 2017, she moved to the rehab center, where she made lasting connections with her coworkers. Her coworkers describe Brenda as a team player passionate about her patients and loved by everyone she worked with. She will be greatly missed by her Bomar friends and patients for her dedication to her work and her caring attitude.



NMPG providers to take up new residence in Coussons Building location

The University Drive Health Clinic providers, including Dr. Wm. Hairston, and nurse practitioners Carla Hairston, Missy Fitzgerald and Erin Bailey will all be moving into the Coussons Building, on the Memorial Hospital campus. The surgeon, Dr. James Redfield, will also be setting up shop in that location, as will Dr. Jason Suits, a new surgeon joining the NMPG family from the Longview area. All moves will be completed as of Monday, April 1.



Friendly reminders to pay attention to detail, remain vigilant and alert

- The plant operations department requests that everyone fill out work requests in detail. Several recent work orders were received with no phone number, department or location of the problem cited. Understandably, the maintenance crew has found it challenging to fulfill those orders without a contact.
- The admissions department has found it challenging recently to keep their wheelchairs in stock. Please keep your eyes open, try to notice when a wheelchair is out of place and return ASAP. This is an ongoing challenge.
- If any department has an employee that calls in or goes home with a contagious illness like the flu, shingles, meningitis, measles, mumps, chicken pox, conjunctivitis, strep or pertussis, that needs to be reported to our employee health department. Please let Athena Johnson know at ext. 4668. These are illnesses that require a doctor's note to return to work, per hospital protocol. OSHA is also requesting that a log be kept of these illnesses and days lost.
- A silver iPhone 6 with no case was stolen last weekend from one of our nursing units. If found, please contact Ann Scott at ext. 8491 so she can get it to the owner. This is a reminder that there are sometimes unscrupulous characters afoot and we should all remain vigilant for the well-being and safety of our patients and our coworkers.

