

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS FALL



Join us for a health fair and walk

Make plans to attend our annual health fair on Saturday, Oct. 27. This year, we'll also be having a one-mile health/wellness walk. The walk will begin at 8 a.m. on the morning of the health fair and will start at Parker Park in downtown St. Francisville and end on the hospital grounds. Registration is required for the walk. The health fair and walk are designed to promote health and wellness in our community. The theme of the walk is "Walking for a Cure" with a focus on cancer awareness, diabetes and heart disease.

At the health fair, participants can enjoy FREE lab work, diagnostic screenings, radiology exams and health education. Also included is all the free food and fun your heart desires along with activities for all ages. Our motto, "Quality care in your community" is representative of our commitment to achieving and/or maintaining an optimal level of health and wellness for everyone we reach. We're requesting that you register in advance for free lab work and the walk with Ms. Ann Cavalier at **(225) 635-3811, ext. 177.** ♦

The future of West Feliciana Parish Hospital

➔ WEST FELICIANA PARISH HOSPITAL CONTINUES TO GROW TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY

Our hospital leaders have a bold, new vision for our future. West Feliciana Parish needs a state-of-the-art hospital to accommodate rapidly changing healthcare technology and practices. If approved by local voters on Nov. 6, the renewal of the hospital's existing sales tax revenue will allow the hospital to move forward with plans to open a new facility as part of a newly planned medical campus in early-to-mid 2015.

"We have significantly improved the number of specialists and services we offer, but we're currently limited because our facility is too small and too old to safely and effectively renovate," says Lee Chastant, chief executive officer of West Feliciana Parish Hospital.

OUR VISION

The new facility will allow us to provide more specialty services, which may include digestive care, ophthalmology, urology and outpatient surgery. Plans also include an expansion of our diagnostic services: imaging, lab, rehab and the construction of a wellness/fitness center.

OUR PLAN

This new, state-of-the-art hospital, including necessary technology and equipment upgrades, will likely cost between \$17 to \$22 million. Funding will come from a combination of sources but will include approximately 20 to 30 percent from hospital reserves and the remaining 70 to 80 percent from borrowed funds. These borrowed funds will likely be from low-interest government loans and private market sources. We're actively speaking to healthcare experts to best determine the financial strategies necessary to reach our goals and remain financially viable, so that we can continue to serve the parish and fulfill our mission.

The renewal of the sales taxes dedicated to the hospital is on the Nov. 6 ballot.

PLEASE CONSIDER EARLY VOTING

Early voting is Oct. 23 through Oct. 30 at Registrar of Voters Office located at 5932 Commerce St. Office hours are Monday through Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. We hope that you'll vote for the renewal. Access to healthcare is extremely important for our community. ♦



Child safety

➔ WFPH JOINS LOUISIANA PASSENGER SAFETY TASK FORCE

West Feliciana Parish Hospital (WFPH) has been accepted to become a child passenger fitting station by the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission. The fitting station will provide education to anyone in the community about how to fit and secure a car seat or helmet properly for their children. The hospital will provide the appropriate car seat or bike helmets to individuals who are in need in the community. WFPH has a nationally certified child passenger technician, Heather Curter, EMT-B, who is able to educate the community about how to correctly install car seats and can show you how to properly fit a bike helmet.

The Louisiana Passenger Safety Task Force was formed to increase seat belt use and proper use of child safety seats in the state. The focus of this statewide network of child safety seat advocates is to minimize serious and fatal injuries from motor vehicle crashes through education, informa-



Nationally certified child passenger technician Heather Curter, EMT-B (left) and Director of EMS Chris Fitzgerald, EMT-P

tion and standardized training, thus making unrestrained children in motor vehicles unacceptable in Louisiana.

There's nothing more precious and innocent than a child, and we must come together to keep our kids safe. WFPH is dedicated to reaching out to serve our community through safety education. ♦



Breast cancer awareness

The West Feliciana Parish Hospital imaging department is planning to host our first Annual Community Breast Cancer Awareness Seminar on Saturday, Oct. 6. We're asking all women from the community and surrounding areas to join us in this fun and educational day. All proceeds will be donated to the National Breast Cancer Foundation. More information will be coming to you soon. We hope to see you there!

Sincerely yours,

Dakisha Bryant, Imaging Director
LaShonda Sanders, Chairperson
West Feliciana Parish Hospital
Imaging Department

Any questions, suggestions or comments, call **(225) 635-2424**.

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TELESTROKE is put into action

West Feliciana Parish Hospital is collaborating with Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center and the NeuroMedical Center of Baton Rouge to offer TeleStroke. The sooner a stroke diagnosis is made and treatment initiated, the better chance a patient has of surviving and recovering.

Immediate contact with a neurologist allows the hospital to administer tPA, a drug that breaks up blood clots

and reduces the effects of an ischemic stroke. Studies have shown, on a national average, up to 30 percent of the population may be a candidate for tPA treatment.

As pictured, Thelma Layton is very appreciative that she was able to be treated by the emergency room physician and Telestroke neurologist, who collaborated to resolve her symptoms in the right time frame, right here at home. ♦



(Pictured from left to right) Rome Sherrod, M.D., Thelma Layton and Linda Nixon, R.N.

Congratulations!



West Feliciana Parish Hospital recognized the Employees of the Quarters, employees' years of service and volunteers at a banquet on June 8. ♦



◀ **Employees with 10 to 19 years of service with Lee Chastant, CEO**



▲ **Our dedicated volunteers with Lee Chastant, CEO**



▶ **Employees with 20 or more years of service with Lee Chastant, CEO**

AHEC was a success!

West Feliciana Parish Hospital (WFPH) staff, along with East Feliciana Primary Care Clinic, Daniel Clinic, St. Francis Rehabilitation Services, Sullivan Dental Care, Audubon Animal Hospital and Feliciana Chiropractic Center took part in the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) summer program, allowing four West Feliciana Parish High School (WFPHS) students to have a summer to remember. AHEC is designed to



AHEC summer 2012 program students

introduce high school students to different careers in the medical field. After this program, several scholarships are available for participants who plan to pursue some type of healthcare certificate or degree in the future. WFPH would like to thank the parents of Brandon Stewart, Jasmine Whitaker, Jamal Vessel and Keyumbra Roach for allowing them to be a part of such a great program. A big thanks goes out to WFPHS for supplying us with such a wonderful teacher, Ms. Bergeron. This program is truly an eye-opener for children who are interested in a healthcare career.

If your child is interested, please allow them the opportunity to be a part of this program. Students don't forget! You must have good grades and even better attitude. ♦

Scholarships awarded!

Breanna Lawrence and Kimberly Wood are this year's recipients of the West Feliciana Parish Hospital Allied Health Professional Scholarships. They will receive \$10,000 each to apply toward their degree in the healthcare profession. Breanna and Kimberly are 2012 graduates of West Feliciana Parish High School (WFPHS).

Breanna is the daughter of Dennis and Lorraine Lawrence and an honor roll student at WFPHS. She was a member of the Beta Club, Interact Club and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She was also on the cheerleading squad and softball team. From a young age, Breanna has wanted to work as an allied health professional and her ultimate goal is to become a physical therapist. Breanna is attending Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond where she's pursuing a degree in kinesiology.



Breanna Lawrence

Kimberly Wood was an honor roll student at WFPHS. She was a member of the Beta Club and Mu Alpha Theta and was on the dance team. Kimberly decided to be an allied health professional because she believes helping people is the most prestigious job anyone can have. Helping people is what she wants to do with her life and that's why she has decided to become a registered nurse.

Kimberly is attending the University of Louisiana in Lafayette where she's pursuing a degree in nursing. ♦

"All our dreams can come true ... if we have the courage to pursue them."

– Walt Disney

WFPH would like to thank the



Louisiana Medicaid Program Application Center

West Feliciana Parish Hospital is certified as a Medicaid Program Application Center. Jennifer Bonaventure, social worker on staff, is an Application Center Representative and is available by appointment to complete and submit Medicaid applications. Please call Jennifer at **(225) 784-3480** to schedule your appointment. Appointments will be made within five working days of initial contact. Please note: Jennifer can submit applications via the online Louisiana Medicaid website, but can't determine eligibility. To check the status of an application, contact the Louisiana Medicaid Hotline at **(888) 342-6207**. ♦

Come join our diabetic support group!

Everyone's welcome to join us! The support group meets the second Monday of each month from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the hospital cafeteria. Participants enjoy a healthy snack, engage in peer support, participate in fun educational activities and occasionally enjoy a guest speaker. ♦

Employee of the Quarter

West Feliciana Parish Hospital recognizes Cindy Miller as the hospital's Employee of the 3rd Quarter for 2012. Cindy is the admissions supervisor and has worked at the hospital for two years. She's a dedicated and conscientious employee and is always courteous and kind to patients and fellow employees.



Cindy Miller

Cindy is dedicated to making sure the admissions office is always staffed and works extra shifts when needed. She also donates her time to the fun committee and goes the extra mile by helping other departments when needed. She maintains a positive attitude, which shines throughout the facility. We're glad to have such a caring, dedicated employee on our healthcare team. ♦

Quality care at *your* community hospital

West Feliciana Parish Hospital offers:

- inpatient and emergency services
- imaging services: X-ray, mammography, CT scan, MRI and ultrasound
- outpatient infusion therapy
- rehabilitation services, J. Patrick Brumfield, P.T. – owner, St. Francis Rehab: physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, hand specialty and aqua therapy
- respiratory services, including EKG
- social services
- full-service lab, including blood bank
- wound care services
- sleep studies
- dietary instruction
- 24-hour ACLS/PALS ambulance services
- diabetes clinic
- intensive outpatient psychotherapy
- community outreach
- CPR, babysitting and health education
- satellite clinic, including an orthosurgeon, neurosurgeon, cardiologist, podiatrist and obstetrician ♦

Numbers you need to know ...

Keep these numbers handy for quick reference:

+ WEST FELICIANA PARISH HOSPITAL: (225) 635-3811

+ ST. FRANCIS REHAB: (225) 635-2448

+ OUTPATIENT SCHEDULING: (225) 635-2443

+ SLEEP STUDIES: (225) 635-2454

+ EMERGENCIES: 911