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Randy Fathbruckner (left), Director of Medical Center EMS, and Tiffany Merten (right), Communications Specialist, present Ali Deen with a special award for his life-saving use of 911.

First-grader recognized by Medical Center EMS

Medical Center EMS makes regular appearances in the community, educating residents of all ages on the proper way to handle emergencies and the importance of dialing 911. One of their recent presentations made an impact on a young student at Briarwood Elementary School in Bowling Green, who was publicly recognized by EMS for his smart and calm approach during a 911 call.

Several months ago, Ali Deen, an 8-year-old first-grader, was in a group of children led by Medical Center EMS, being taught how to communicate with the dispatcher during a true emergency. Not long after their presentation, Ali's mother fell in their home. Ali, the oldest of four children, began learning English only two years ago after his family moved to the United States from Iraq, and he was able to use his new language skills to translate for his mother and father when they dialed 911.

According to EMS, Ali took the initiative for his family and did exactly as he was instructed.

Medical Center EMS reaches out to the youngest members of the community to educate and prepare them for any emergencies they might encounter. EMS would like to reward children who absorb this knowledge and put it to use in a real-life situation. In Ali's case, he was proudly rewarded in front of his peers at Briarwood Elementary on Thursday, March 17.

Upcoming Events

Ready, Set, Go!

April 7

6 to 8 p.m.

The Medical Center Auditorium

This class will guide you through the paperwork that is required when you are admitted to The Medical Center for delivery. By attending this class, you will be more prepared for your admission and discharge from the hospital. A tour of the OB unit will also be provided. Preregistration required by calling 796-2495.

Grandparents Class

April 12

6 to 8 p.m.

The Medical Center Auditorium

Expectant grandparents are invited to attend class with expectant parents. A pediatrician will discuss newborns and answer questions about caring for an infant. A tour of the OB unit is included. Preregistration required by calling 796-2495.

Nutrition During Pregnancy

April 12

6 to 7 p.m.

The Medical Center Health & Wellness Center

Learn more about nutrition and healthy food choices to ensure your pregnancy is the best it can be. Preregistration required by calling 745-0942.

Vascular Screening

April 15

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Health & Wellness Center at Greenwood Mall

Assess your vascular health with three painless, noninvasive tests: carotid ultrasound, abdominal aortic ultrasound and ankle/brachial index. These tests screen for disorders such as stroke, aortic aneurysm and lower extremity vascular disease. A vascular technologist performs the screenings, results are sent to a board certified vascular surgeon at The Heart Institute and a report is sent to you and your physician. The cost is \$35 per screening or \$90 for all three. Members of Senior Health Network, Men's Health Alliance and The Women's Center can get all three for \$80. Appointments are required by calling 745-0942.

AARP Driver Safety Program

April 20

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Health & Wellness Center at Greenwood Mall

This course is designed to meet the specific needs of older drivers. Graduates of the program are entitled to a premium discount on automobile insurance. Cost of the program is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for nonmembers, payable to AARP. Preregistration required; space is limited. Call 270-745-0942 or 877-800-3824 to register.

Women-In-Charge Luncheon

Fibromyalgia: What Women Need to Know

April 26

Noon to 1 p.m.

The Medical Center Auditorium

If you or someone you know suffers from fibromyalgia, be sure to attend this informative luncheon. Judy Stevens, Nurse Practitioner, will provide important facts and answer questions. Cost is \$8 per person. Preregistration required. For more information, call 745-1010 or visit The Medical Center website at TheMedicalCenter.org.

Save the Date

Air Evac Open House

Air Evac will host a press conference and open house on Thursday, April 7 to celebrate their relocation to The Medical Center campus. The press conference will begin at 11 a.m. followed by the open house scheduled until 1 p.m. Tours of the Air Evac base and aircraft will be provided and refreshments will be served. Medical Center EMS will display emergency response vehicles. Air Evac is located at the EMS headquarters on the 31W Bypass.

Women In The Arts

April 15 – 16

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

April 17

1 – 4 p.m.

**The Medical Center
Auditorium**

A majority of the works will be available for purchase.

For more information,
call (270) 745-1010.

march  of dimes®

March for Babies

April 30

**Phil Moore Park
Bowling Green**

Registration begins at 9 a.m.
Walk begins at 10 a.m.

To get involved, call the
March of Dimes at 746-5411.

New Employees



Standing left to right: Stacey Thacker, 5C; Christy Phelps, 4B. *Sitting left to right:* Pam Tapke, 4B; April Bay, 2B.



Standing left to right: Lisa Hardin, CRSH; Brittany LaRue, MCF Acute Care. *Sitting left to right:* Kayla Rainwaters, 4B; Misti Crawford, 4B.



Standing left to right: Angela Olvera, MCF Patient Registration; Michelle Worrell-Basham, Food Services; Leann Richards, Patient Registration. *Sitting left to right:* Shannon Blomeier, Pathology; Brandon Davis, Rehab; Heather Minix, MCS Food Services.



Flag Raised at Hospitality House

On March 15, members of American Legion Post 23 of Bowling Green raised the American flag for the first time at the Hospitality House. American Legion Post 23 donated \$5,000 for a flagpole that was erected outside the entrance to the Hospitality House. The donation also included the flag and accompanying lighting.

Photo courtesy of Joe Imel, Daily News.

In Memoriam



Michelle Johnston Yokley

The CHC family mourns the loss of Michelle Yokley, who was with CHC for over 18 years and most recently worked as an RN in Open Heart Recovery. Our sincere condolences go out to her family, friends and colleagues.

Patient Safety Task Force

Putting patients first and making sure their care is based on best practices and the latest evidence is something we do every day. The Patient Safety Task Force for Commonwealth Health Corporation is an interdisciplinary group that has met regularly since 1999. The reason for formation of the task force was the Institute of Medicine's report, *To Err is Human*. This landmark report concluded that as many

with other hospitals to help increase the number of patients who receive prophylaxis to prevent potentially deadly deep vein thrombosis or blood clots. This ongoing initiative involves most clinical disciplines and is in addition to several other anticoagulant safety activities.

The task force also serves as a clearinghouse for review of new Joint Commission standards as well as survey

Simple things can go a long way toward preventing potentially serious medical errors.

as 98,000 people die each year in U.S. hospitals from medical errors. Although other researchers have questioned the actual numbers of the report, awareness of medical errors and steps to prevent such errors has made a dramatic impact on patient safety. Our task force is an active group with participation from various departments of all of our hospitals and the Medical Staff. Since 1999, efforts of the task force have led to educational activities, changes in procedures, or the implementation of new processes.

Over the past few years, the group has examined radiation safety for patients undergoing various radiological procedures. Reports in the literature, as well as from The Joint Commission, highlighted several events that occurred at other hospitals causing patients to receive higher than normal amounts of radiation, either through CT scans or radiation oncology procedures. The leadership team from Radiology at The Medical Center evaluated the steps that were in place at our facilities to help ensure patient safety.

Another focus has been on anti-coagulant safety. The Medical Center has been participating in a VTE (venous thromboembolic events) collaborative

preparedness. A learning event held at The Medical Center at Franklin, known as "The Room of Horrors," had staff identify as many potential patient safety issues as possible found in a patient room created for the event. Some of the patient safety issues included an overflowing sharps container, wrong armband on the patient, medications left unattended at the bedside, and dirty gloves on the floor. The fun event was based on The Joint Commission National Patient Safety Goals to help remind staff of the importance of these goals.

Patient safety does not only involve members of the task force, but must be everyone's way of thinking and practicing. Simple things, such as always checking the patient's armband, appropriate hand hygiene, and good communication between providers, can go a long way toward preventing potentially serious medical errors.

*Melinda Joyce, Pharm.D, FAPhA, FACHE
Vice President
Corporate Support Services*



Quick Care Clinic is now on Facebook!

As part of an effort to reach out to the online community, Quick Care Clinic has launched a Facebook page. Quick Care will use Facebook to connect to CHC employees and to others in the community who use Quick Care for fast, affordable care. For interesting health facts, information, and conversation find Quick Care from your home computer at [Facebook.com/QuickCareClinic](https://www.facebook.com/QuickCareClinic).

According to some data, one in three people is on Facebook, and many CHC employees participate in social networking sites. Here are some things to remember when you are on social networking sites:

- You may not use social media sites at work.
- HIPAA policies, workplace harassment, discrimination and other behaviors that are barred by law or CHC policy still apply when you are off work and using social media.
- Employees are strictly prohibited from publishing information or referring to a CHC patient, CHC partner or customer in a personal social media or network site when the reference establishes an affiliation to CHC.
- No CHC logos may be used on personal social media sites.

This list does not cover all of the points covered by the Social Media and Network policy. Employees should refer to page 64 in the Employee Handbook for the complete Social Media and Network policy. The Employee Handbook can be found in the Human Resources folder in iCareCentral or Citrix.