

CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

W O N S S H G I E L S S Y
 C G N L Y T S O R F A E E
 A I W A I W A D F E C I N
 N N V R F A I R R H E K M
 D G E A E R S S E A O O I
 L E P H M A U S E M C O H
 E R T R N I T I A M H C C
 R B E T E N S H T W E G N
 E R A N U S H T I C N N E
 I E R T A O E T L I A A A
 N A S E L C I N K E N K Y
 D D N L G N Y C T G T L E
 E S Y O S N O D E S L O B
 E T R E E T A L N O M S E
 R B L H S L S M J A N A L
 P O R N A M E N T B C D L

ANGELS
 BELL
 CANDLE
 CANDY CANE
 CARDS
 CHESTNUTS
 CHIMNEY
 COOKIES
 FROSTY
 FRUITCAKE
 GINGERBREAD
 HOLLY
 JOLLY
 MANGER
 MISTLETOE

NOEL
 ORNAMENT
 PRESENTS
 REINDEER
 SANTA
 SLEIGH
 SNOW
 STAR
 STOCKING
 TINSEL
 TREE
 WASSAIL
 WISEMEN
 WREATH

To decrease your risk of catching a cold or the flu this holiday season, remember:

You will be in close contact with more people than usual. Anyone you meet, greet, or hug could be the one who carries the germ or virus. That includes people at family gatherings, religious services, and holiday parties.

Getting the flu shot is your first line of defense, and frequent hand washing runs a close second. Other tactics:

Carry your own pen in case you have to sign at a restaurant or at work.

Avoid close contact with those who are sneezing or appear to be ill.

Use alcohol disinfectant wipes on door knobs and drawer handles. Wipe down the steering wheel, gear shift, and window controls if anyone has driven your car even for a few minutes.

If relatives say their child isn't feeling well, suggest they visit another time. Don't go to their place.

A big germ catcher is the phone. We pass it all around. Wipe it often.

Another factor is your own level of resistance to disease. Get enough sleep, exercise, and good food even if you are busy. First things first, especially when it comes to your health.

A recent feature on the *Today Show*, urged viewers to be careful about grocery bags and putting groceries on the floor, etc. The guest suggested that kitchen counters be washed often and that we use hand-wipes on the grocery cart handles and keep all pets out of the kitchen.

Matt Lauer, a self-described germaphobic, thought the advice a bit over-the-top. Use your own judgement for the best way to protect your health and enjoy your family and friends.

TYLER *Times*

A publication for the employees of Tyler Memorial Hospital

December 2006

It's beginning to look like

✓ *it out*

TOYS FOR TOTS
 The Toys for Tots collection box is in the lobby. The deadline to drop off a toy is December 18.

CHRISTMAS PARTY
DECEMBER 9,
6 PM
RAMADA INN



Christmas is officially on-the-way at Tyler. Susan Reese, volunteer director, (*bottom*) assisted by an enthusiastic group of teen and adult volunteers, including Alfreda Mowry, (*above*) trimmed the lobby tree last week, setting the mood for the annual Holiday Dinner on December 9, sponsored by the Medical Staff and the Volunteer Christmas Party scheduled for December 12.

In addition, the Executive Board of the Tyler Auxiliaries is sponsoring the Tree of Hope project. For a donation of \$5, an angel or dove ornament will be placed on the hospital Christmas tree in memory, or in honor of, a loved one. Forms are available in the Kozy Korner, the Volunteer Office, or from any auxiliary member. ornaments will be returned to the donor after the holidays.

Need a baby fix?



Rebecca Grimaud Chilson, MD, Tyler pediatrician, poses with patients, four-month-old twins, Will and Drew Atherton. Drew is on the left; no, that's Will. Anyway, the gorgeous twins, minus the spit-up, will be featured on a billboard debuting this winter.

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NURSES' NOTES

Denise Gieski, RN, MHA, director of nursing

I know that this is a busy time of year for everyone, on a personal level, and, professionally as we implement some exciting initiatives to improve patient safety.

Medication Reconciliation is in full swing, our formal Hand Off communication method – SBAR - has been implemented, Pyxis is in the process of going live, and our electronic charting (ClinDoc) has started in Med/Surg and ICU. That is certainly enough to keep everyone's plate full.

I truly appreciate the effort that has been put into all of these patient safety initiatives. Our staff has, as usual, come through like champions.

I would like to especially thank Darlene Drake, Judy Tylutki and Gerri Zionkowski for all of their hard work with the ClinDoc implementation. Judy has become our ClinDoc expert – she knows the system inside and out, backward and forward.

I would also like to thank Gerri for her hard work and perseverance with the Medication Reconciliation process. From tool development right

through education and implementation, Gerri has been right on top of things.

"I truly appreciate the effort that has been put into all of these patient safety initiatives. Our staff has, as usual, come through like champions."

Denise Gieski

I feel truly blessed to work in a hospital like Tyler, where we have such dedicated, caring staff, who give such wonderful care to our patients, and who are so concerned about patient safety. I am grateful for all of you every day, and I want to wish you a wonderful holiday season!

PATIENT SAFETY

Please welcome these new Tyler employees:

Vanessa Rosengrant & Rebecca Dilmore, Dietary

Paul Fassett
David Dymond & Joseph Tripp, Maintenance

Ruth Lechlitter & Lynne Smith, ICU

Sherry Denton & Janice Auchter, Housekeeping

Shawn Jerauld, Alma Shingler, & Tammy Gruber, Med/Surg

Rhonda Hannigan
Central Supply

Jonathan Trexler
OR



Congratulations to the following employees who were CAUGHT IN THE ACT:

November:

Wendy Fetterman, LAB
Katrina Papichok, Imaging
Ed McGowan, Security
Kristen Dudley, Bus. Office ✓
Ron Baker, Security

✓ Denotes winner



RISKY BUSINESS

Kathy Ritter, ICM and Risk Manager

On November 9, 2006 I received a health advisory from the PA Department of Health, stating that a case of Influenza B was confirmed by the state laboratory in Lionville.

The specimen was collected from a 20 month old girl from Philadelphia. Since then, the CDC Influenza web site has categorized flu activity in Pennsylvania and eleven other states as sporadic. Several of those states are located around Pennsylvania including New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maryland and Virginia.

INFLUENZA UPDATE

The highest level of A flu activity was found in North Carolina and was classified as regional. Local activity was noted in Florida and Louisiana. Thirty four states reported no flu activity.

For those of you who have been procrastinating, the hospital still has flu vaccine available. I urge you not to be caught unprepared.

The majority of flu cases in the country have been Influenza A (type H1). This type of flu is one of the three present in this year's vaccine. So, please get your flu vaccine in the ER. If you have a lot of problems getting

to the ER during a slow activity time, call ext. 242 and we can arrange an appropriate time.

Thank you. Stay healthy and use good hand hygiene. That's the best way to protect yourself and those around you.



STAFF EDUCATION

ACLS Class

December 7, 2006

Call Joyce Enders to Register Ext 270

STRESS PROGRAM

LORETTA LAROCHE

"How to Prevent Hardening of the Attitude"

DECEMBER 5, 2006 9 & 10 AM, 1 & 2 PM,

MANDATORY FOR ALL STAFF
DRUG & ALCOHOL POLICY & PROCEDURE
Blue Room

December 8, 11 & 22, 2006

7:30, 8:30, 9:30 & 10:30AM.

1:00, 2:00 & 3:00 PM

January 11, 2006

7:30, 8:30, 9:30 & 10:30AM

1:30 & 2:30PM

HOSPITAL WIDE ORIENTATION

December 12, 2006 Blue Room

8:30 AM- 4:00 PM

December 14, 15, 16, 17, 2006

Safety "MEET"

will be available in Blue Room
LAST CHANCE TO COMPLETE

May your blessings be many.

MERRY CHRISTMAS &
HAPPY NEW YEAR

From the Education Department