



Left to right: Connie Mitchell-Gustafson, director of nursing, Lexee Gustafson, dietary aide, Marcy Haase, LPN, Crystal Stoller, lab director, and Angie Pruitt, CNA.

Give from the heart Feb. 9

Give from the heart on Giving Hearts Day Feb. 9 and help Jacobson Memorial Hospital Care Center fund its renovation project.

On Thursday, Feb. 9, the Jacobson Memorial Hospital Foundation (JMHF) will participate in Giving Hearts Day, a 24-hour online fundraising event.

With your generosity, the JMHF hopes to raise funds during Giving

Hearts Day to support the vital, life-saving mission of Jacobson Memorial Hospital Care Center (JMHC) and help fund the Foundation's "Share the Gift of Life" campaign.

To make a secure online contribution to the Jacobson Memorial Hospital Foundation, simply go to www.givingheartsday.org on Feb. 9.

You may also donate by sending a

check dated Feb. 9 to: JMHF, PO Box 367, Elgin, ND 58533.

Those who do not wish to participate in Giving Hearts Day, but who want to donate to this vital project, are welcome to send a check at any time to the Foundation, with a note that the donation is for the renovation project. All donations of \$1,000 or more will be

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JMHC Lifelines • Winter 2017

JMHC
601 East St. North
PO Box 367
Elgin, ND 58533
701-584-2792
www.jacobsonhospital.org

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Giving Hearts Day

← FEBRUARY 9TH →

givingheartsday.org

recognized on a plaque in the newly renovated area.

This year, all funds donated through Giving Hearts Day will be dedicated to the “Share the Gift of Life” fundraising campaign to offset costs of JMHCC’s renovation project.

Last fall, the Foundation launched its “Share the Gift of Life” capital campaign to help fund the remaining costs of the renovation project. With a \$100,000 goal, the campaign has raised more than \$50,000 so far. All Giving Hearts Day donations will be directed to the “Share the Gift of Life” campaign to help reach the \$100,000 goal. The Elgin Lions Club has donated a \$10,000 match to the Giving Hearts Day event.

The renovation project included:

- Phase 1A - CT scanner: This phase renovated an area in JMHCC to house a new 32-slice CT scanner inside the facility. The scanner is operational and has already helped to save lives.

JMHCC received a \$380,387 grant from The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust’s Rural Healthcare Program to access the latest CT diagnostic technology and purchase the 32-slice CT scanner.

Previously, the hospital had leased an eight-slice CT scanner that was housed in a mobile unit. Patients had to go outside to enter the unit.

“Having a 32-slice CT scanner inside the facility has created a higher

level of patient care at JMHCC,” said JMHCC CEO Theo Stoller. “Having this technology close to home has saved lives.”

- Phase 1B – Lab: This phase moved the lab into another area to make room for additional exam rooms in the Elgin Community Clinic.

A waiting area has been added to the lab for patient privacy. The new lab is located in the lower level of JMHCC, just down the hall from the Elgin Community Clinic.

“The main additional feature of the lab is the waiting area that allows for more patient privacy,” Stoller said.

- Phase 2 - Portion of the Elgin Community Clinic: This phase remodeled the radiology department and

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Welcome!

Welcome to Lifelines, a newsletter which is published quarterly by the Jacobson Memorial Hospital Care Center and the Jacobson Memorial Hospital Foundation, serving the region.

The mission of Jacobson Memorial Hospital Care Center:

To advance the health of patients and communities with respect, integrity, quality, commitment and accountability to accomplish peace of mind close to home.

The mission of the Jacobson Memorial Hospital Foundation:

Jacobson Memorial Hospital Foundation, in support of Jacobson Memorial Hospital Care Center, is to engage and foster health care philanthropy, and provide funds, support and programs to enhance continuous health care excellence for our region.

provider offices, and added four exam rooms in the clinic. The number of clinic exam rooms expanded from three to seven. More privacy is offered in the radiology department, with a waiting area for patients.

“This phase helped us reach a goal of adding more exam rooms,” Stoller said. “The clinic now has seven exam rooms, rather than three, so JMHCC will be able to accommodate visiting specialists. Allowing patients to receive more specialized care close to home is extremely important to our elderly patients.”

• Phase 3 - Elgin Community Clinic: This phase finalized the clinic improvements, by updating the clinic reception area and waiting room, the existing exam rooms and the nurses’ station. One of the rooms will be used as a consultation room for specialists JMHCC will be partnering with to serve patients locally. Watch for announcements of those specialists, who will either be visiting JMHCC or who will be available through telemedicine. Telemedicine services will offer increased opportunities for patient care close to home.

Provider offices have been relocated to one area so providers can communicate better with each other and have more privacy for patients visiting with them in their offices.

“This entire renovation project will bring more services closer to home for our patients, advancing the mission of JMHCC,” Stoller said.

The renovation project has been partially funded with a U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development Community Facilities Loan.

The “Share the Gift of Life” campaign will help offset remaining costs of the project.

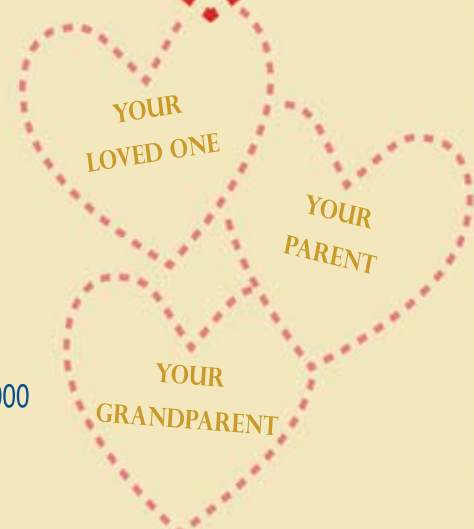
Giving Hearts Day is an annual event coordinated by the Dakota

Honor a loved one with your gift!

As part of the “Share the Gift of Life” fundraising campaign, donors of \$1,000 or more will be recognized on a plaque within the renovated area of Jacobson Memorial Hospital Care Center and Elgin Community Clinic.

Honor a parent or grandparent, or other loved one, on a permanent plaque.

Families can join together to donate \$1,000 or more to honor a loved one.



Send your donation with the names of those you wish to honor to:

JMHCC • PO Box 367 • Elgin, ND 58533



Medical Foundation, the Impact Foundation and the Alex Stern Family Foundation to help raise funds in a 24-hour period for deserving entities.

This is the third year that JMHCC has participated in Giving Hearts Day.

“We encourage our supporters to go online during Giving Hearts Day to help support JMHCC,” Stoller said.

“Any donation amount is certainly welcome and appreciated.” ■

To donate:

Anyone with questions or who wishes to donate may contact CEO Theo Stoller at 584-2792 or tastoller@primecare.org.

Donations may be mailed to:

JMHF
P.O. Box 367
Elgin, ND 58533

Community needs assessment completed

Community members from throughout Grant County participated in a community health needs assessment (CHNA) with Jacobson Memorial Hospital Care Center to gauge overall health needs and identify health concerns of Grant County. A survey was distributed throughout the county last fall, with 100 surveys completed.

As a result of the process, the following needs were identified as the most pressing concerns in our county:

- 1) Access to exercise and wellness activities
- 2) Youth alcohol use and abuse

3) Attracting and retaining young families

4) Availability of specialists

In the coming months, JMHCC will be creating its implementation plan to address these needs.

A sincere thank you from JMHCC to all those who participated in the community health needs assessment. JMHCC received assistance in conducting the assessment from the Center for Rural Health at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Community members from throughout Grant County volunteered their time to provide their input through one-on-one interviews and by partici-

pating in community meetings. Your participation helped make this process collaborative.

“This community health needs assessment is important to JMHCC in identifying what is important to the service area and where JMHCC can help,” says JMHCC CEO Theo Stoller.

A report detailing the findings is available on JMHCC’s website at www.jacobsonhospital.org and clicking on “About Us.”

A periodic community needs assessment is a federal requirement. Part of the cost of the assessment is offset by the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility (Flex) Grant Program, a project of the Center for Rural Health. ■

Shopping supports JMHCC

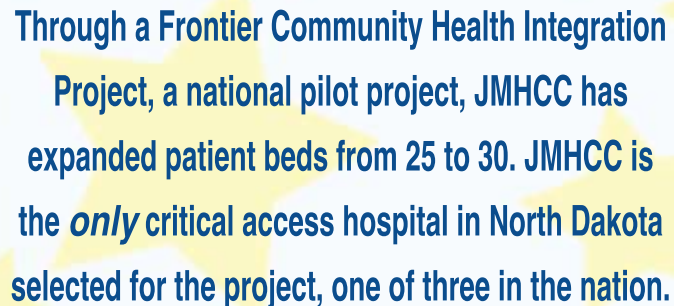
Jacobson Memorial Hospital Foundation (JMHF) now participates in AmazonSmile, a program in which Amazon donates 0.5 percent of the purchase price of eligible products to charitable organizations selected by customers.

“We encourage shoppers to first support our local businesses whenever possible,” says JMHCC CEO Theo Stoller. “But we encourage you to support JMHF through this opportunity when purchasing products you cannot find locally.”

When customers shop at www.smile.amazon.com, JMHF is now one of the charitable organizations. When they go to the website, customers can pick Jacobson Memorial Hospital Foundation” and click on the “search” button. Then follow the instructions as you proceed to the site. ■



Your local hospital
JMHCC is leading
the nation.



Through a Frontier Community Health Integration Project, a national pilot project, JMHCC has expanded patient beds from 25 to 30. JMHCC is the *only* critical access hospital in North Dakota selected for the project, one of three in the nation.

Jacobson Memorial Hospital Care Center, Elgin, ND • “Because We Care”



JMHCC now ready to treat strokes

Jacobson Memorial Hospital Care Center has been designated as an Acute Stroke Ready Hospital, which means it has the capability to diagnose and treat acute stroke patients.

WHAT IT MEANS

JMHCC now has the equipment to diagnose a stroke and medication to reverse the effects of a stroke.

Hospitals with this designation have a CT scanner, and the ability to perform the CT and have the results read within 45 minutes of a test.

JMHCC has also acquired a blood analyzer in its lab to assist in treating a stroke.

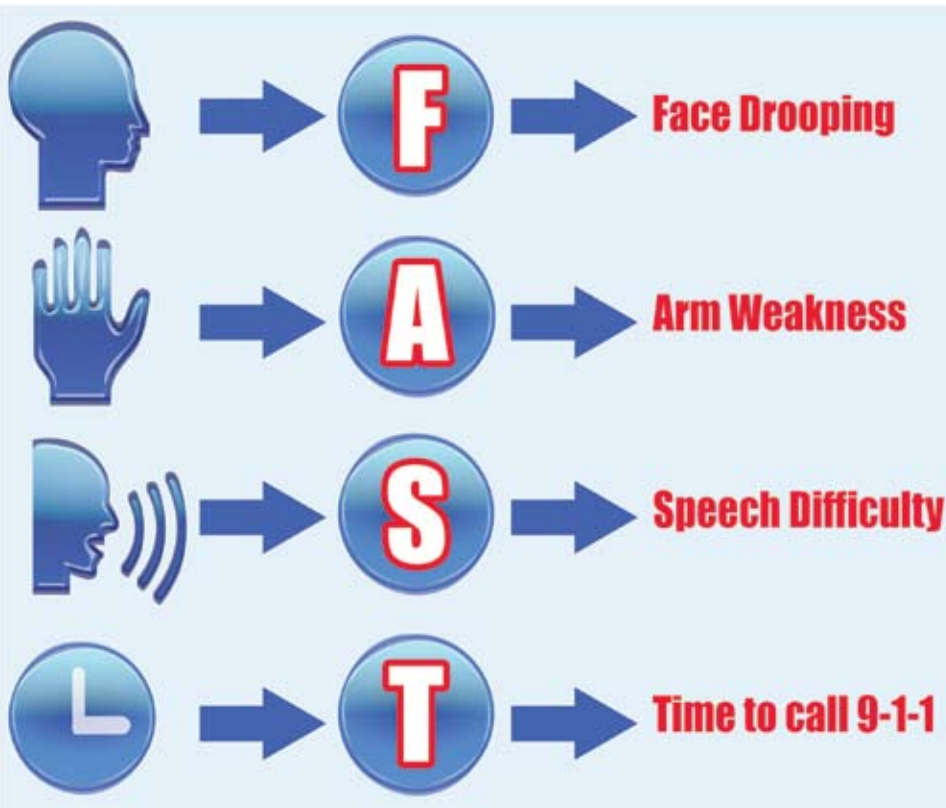
Once a stroke is diagnosed, JMHCC now has the ability to administer an intravenous tissue plasminogen activator, or “tPA.” With certain types of strokes, tPA can aid in reversing the effects of a stroke if administered within an hour.

Acute Stroke Ready Hospital designation is granted by the N.D. Department of Health upon application by the facility.

EARLY DETECTION AND TREATMENT ARE KEY!

Be aware of stroke symptoms, outlined in the graphic here, and call 9-1-1 immediately. Stroke symptoms can be reversed in certain instances if treatment is given immediately.

“Now that JMHCC has the proper equipment to diagnose a stroke, and the medication on hand to treat a stroke, we can better care for stroke patients within that timely window of treatment,” says JMHCC CEO Theo Stoller. “This is just one more step we’re taking to offer better patient care close to home.” ■



THINK YOU ARE HAVING A STROKE? CALL 9-1-1 IMMEDIATELY!

F.A.S.T. is an easy way to remember the sudden signs of stroke. When you can spot the signs, you’ll know that you need to call 9-1-1 for help right away. F.A.S.T. is:

Face Drooping – Does one side of the face droop or is it numb? Ask the person to smile. Is the person’s smile uneven?

Arm Weakness – Is one arm weak or numb? Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

Speech Difficulty – Is speech slurred? Is the person unable to speak or hard to understand? Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence, like “The sky is blue.” Is the sentence repeated correctly?

Time to call 9-1-1 – If someone shows any of these symptoms, even if the symptoms go away, call 9-1-1 and get the person to the hospital immediately. Check the time so you’ll know when the first symptoms appeared.

Beyond F.A.S.T. – Other Symptoms You Should Know

- Sudden NUMBNESS or weakness of face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body
- Sudden CONFUSION, trouble speaking or understanding speech
- Sudden TROUBLE SEEING in one or both eyes
- Sudden TROUBLE WALKING, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
- Sudden SEVERE HEADACHE with no known cause

40 Years or more of serving JMHCC

One knows all the boiler's quirks and the other knows every patient's preferences.

Marcy Haase, a licensed practical nurse, started working at Lorenzen Memorial Hospital March 4, 1971, and remembers giving tours in 1977 of the newly constructed Jacobson Memorial Hospital Care Center (JMHCC).

Plant Operations Director Mel Bruhn's first day at JMHCC was April 1, 1977, when the facility was just a month old.

Today, Mel can detect a defect just by the sound of the boiler system, and Marcy knows exactly which blanket is a long-term patient's favorite.

The two are solid fixtures at JMHCC who have served for 40 or more years.

Marcy Haase

Raised on a dairy farm near New Leipzig, Marcy completed a one-year LPN program in Wahpeton and Fargo, then started her nursing career in Elgin after she and her husband, Morris, returned to New Leipzig to take over the family farm in 1971.

"We both really liked the rural life," she says. "I am a country girl."

Marcy worked the first night shift at the newly opened JMHCC.

"It seemed so huge," she says, vividly remembering the advancements at the new facility.

"At the old hospital, we did not have oxygen piped in and we did not



Marcy Haase and Mel Bruhn

have bathrooms in every room," she remembers. Nurses had to go outside to a storage building to lug huge oxygen tanks inside.

"It was a different world," she says, describing all the changes in nursing over the years. Through all the changes, computers and cellphones have been the largest impacts on nursing today, she says.

For a time, JMHCC also regularly delivered babies at the facility.

"I loved labor and delivery and newborn babies," she says. She even delivered a baby by herself.

The late Margaret Boyer was a mentor to Marcy, and she now tries to serve as a mentor to younger nurses.

"Margaret Boyer was the most wonderful teaching person you ever met. She had such love and compassion for everybody. She was amazing," Marcy says.

"I like the one-on-one with my residents. I love elderly. I have compassion and respect for them," she says.

She sees the compassion and love expressed by all the nurses as JMHCC's greatest asset.

"I think that's something that's very

strong," she says.

Wanting to represent the staff and continue to help the hospital, Marcy is serving her second term on the JMHCC board and has served on the Jacobson Memorial Hospital Foundation board for two years.

"I've learned to look at things from a different angle," she says.

Marcy now works two days a week, and plans to retire in two years. She and Morris have three children: Misty and Matt in New Leipzig and Miracle in Fargo, along with their spouses and children.

A good day at JMHCC is when patients bring a smile to her face.

"I had one patient say, 'It's so nice to see an old nurse again.' I said, 'Oh, thank you,' " she says with a laugh.

Mel Bruhn

Working for a local rancher, Mel had completed a three-year stint with the U.S. Army and had hopes of becoming a rancher himself. But needing extra cash, he took a part-time job at JMHCC, building shelves and installing flooring at the new hospital in 1977. Then JMHCC offered him a full-time position in maintenance. Forty years later, Mel is a fixture at the hospital.

Today, as director of plant operations, he walks through the building three times a day to listen and look for any malfunctioning equipment. He

continued from previous page
also completes scheduled maintenance, and fixes anything that's broken. He also handles snow removal and yardwork on the grounds, working with Tim Pruitt and Jeff Wruck.

"We probably have about 150 operating valves in here we try to maintain," he says.

"I know every corner of the building, but there's a lot of stuff that you run into that leaves you scratching your head," he said.

He describes trying for years to find a shutoff to an outside valve. Only during the recent renovation project was the shutoff unveiled behind sheetrock in a storeroom ceiling.

"We would never have found that," he says with a laugh.

He credits local plumber Kevin Hertz and electrician Paul Wutzke, who are called upon for more involved plumbing and electrical work.

"That's a real plus for us in a small town, to have those people to support us. Otherwise, it would be a scarier job than it already is," he says.

On call at a facility that's open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year means he'll receive calls at 3 a.m. when something breaks or malfunctions. It's those phone calls he probably won't miss when he decides to retire.

"You're always waiting for the next call when something goes wrong,"

he says. "You never get caught up. I've never been bored here, that's for sure."

"But it's been good," he says. "That satisfaction of doing something and doing it right and making something work again."

He and his wife, Gen, have four children: Thad and Keith in Rapid City and Sherri and Melanie in Elgin, along with their spouses and children.

"Elgin was a great place to raise kids," he says.

And Mel enjoys the day-to-day interaction with the staff.

"The staff works well together," he says. "We all kind of work for the same ends." ■

Carrie Gerving to provide care at JMHCC

A nurse practitioner, Carrie Gerving has joined the medical staff at Jacobson Memorial Hospital Care Center (JMHCC) in Elgin. She will be the primary provider at the Glen Ullin Family Medical Clinic, one of two clinics affiliated with JMHCC.

"I was always a people person," she says. "I like seeing patients and building a relationship. I like solving that puzzle and making somebody feel better."

Gerving received a four-year degree as a registered nurse from the University of Mary. She's worked in the intensive care unit at CHI St. Alexius, as well as in home health care. She worked at JMHCC for two years as the director of nursing, then followed her career as a director of nursing at the Elm Crest Manor in New Salem.

"Then one day I felt like there should be more than doing a schedule and I missed the hands-on aspect, so I applied for the nurse practitioner program," she says.



Carrie Gerving

With three young children at the time, she completed nurse practitioner school at the University of Mary. Her career then took her to a Bismarck clinic for three years, then she started working with a long-term care program that included eight different facilities in Bismarck and New Salem.

"I did that and just loved it, but then

the opportunity came up for me to come home," she says about her current opportunity.

Originally from Mott, she lives in Glen Ullin with her family. Her husband, Mike, farms and ranches and the couple has three children: Michaela, a freshman at the University of North Dakota studying occupational therapy; Mason, a sophomore at Glen Ullin High School; and McKenzie, who is a seventh-grader.

Her family spends summers at Lake Tschida, and Carrie enjoys following her kids in school activities and being involved in the community.

"It's fun to be a part of whatever is going on in the community," she says.

"We're pleased to have Carrie join our team to continue to provide the best patient care possible at the Glen Ullin clinic and the hospital," says JMHCC CEO Theo Stoller.

At JMHCC, she joins Dr. Alan Lindemann, chief of medical staff, PA Art Renner and DNP Carey Rivinius. ■

**February is
American Heart
Month.**

**Do you
know your
numbers?**

**Discounted
lipid profile**

(LDL and HDL cholesterol and triglycerides)
Fasting for eight hours is recommended
for accurate results. Water or coffee
can be consumed.

\$40 cash basis

Feb. 13-17 only!

**Elgin Community
Clinic**

8:15 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. MT

**Glen Ullin Family
Medical Clinic**

8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. CT

Call today!

Elgin clinic: 584-3338

Glen Ullin clinic: 348-9175

