

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

Volume 43, Number 11

March 15, 2013

WHA Calendar:

Flex Planning Meeting Casper	4/2
WHA Board Meeting Riverton	5/16
Trustee Education Program Riverton	5/17

Other Events:

HFMA Spring Meeting Casper	3/20-3/22
WSHE Spring Meeting Casper	5/22-5/24
NE Wyoming Skin and Wound Symposium Sheridan	6/7-6/8

Wyoming Hospitals Make Top 100 List

Four Wyoming hospitals have been named as top-100 critical-access hospitals for 2013.

Memorial Hospital of Converse County in Douglas; Platte County Memorial Hospital in Wheatland; Star Valley Medical Center in Afton; and Washakie Medical Center in Worland have all been named to iVantage Health Analytics' HealthStrong Top 100 Critical Access Hospitals for 2013.

The recognition comes via

the company's Hospital Strength Index, which examines 4,400 U.S. general acute-care hospitals, including more than 1,300 rural and critical access hospitals to evaluate hospitals on a matrix of eight major criteria subdivided into 56 performance metrics ranging through market strength, value and finance health.

The list does not specify ranking beyond achieving a top-100 designation, so hospitals don't know exactly

how high they rank.

"Rural hospitals play a critical role in providing needed care to communities across America, yet the challenges are completely different while being as complex as urban hospitals," said John Morrow, executive vice president of iVantage Health Analytics. "The need for enhanced performance and a framework for success are equally important as hospitals prepare for the impact of health reform."

Healthcare Careers Summer Camp

The Wyoming Area Health Education Center (AHEC) is pleased to announce its third annual Healthcare Careers Summer Camp at the University of Wyoming.

Due to an overwhelming response from interested students, they are adding a second camp session. Session I (July 7-12th) is for current 8th and 9th graders. Session II (July 14-19th) is for 10th and 11th graders. Applicants should have an interest in a potential future healthcare career.

This career exploration camp is part of the Wyoming Area Health Education Center's (WY AHEC) mission to improve the supply and dis-

tribution of the Wyoming healthcare workforce by providing this opportunity for students to learn about the numerous career options available in the healthcare field.

The Wyoming Department of Health, Office of Rural Health is a sponsor in the Healthcare Careers Summer Camp.

Current need and predicted shortages in medicine, nursing, dentistry, pharmacy, and a wide variety of ancillary medical positions require that we identify early and help support students interested in healthcare careers. Applicants from communities throughout Wyoming are encouraged to apply.

All applications must be received by May 1st. The Selection committee will review completed applications and select students based on the application materials including student essay and reference form.

Application and reference form are available on the web at: <http://www.uwyo.edu/ahec/health%20careers%20summer%20camp%202013.html>

Interested students should view the camp web site to see what past campers have to say about the program. If you have any questions, please contact Marivern Easton, AHEC Director at 307-766-6751 or measton3@uwyo.edu.



Don't forget to send us a story about your hospital so we can feature you in our Member Spotlight



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MHSC Gets \$3.1M Cancer Grant

Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County (MHSC) is the latest Wyoming recipient of a major cancer grant from the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust.

The news is a \$3.1 million grant to aid in purchasing state-of-the-art cancer radiation equipment. The equipment will be part of the hospital's \$16.1 million, 80,000-square-foot new full-service cancer center, what the company touts as a re-

gional first.

"The opportunity to acquire such an amazing piece of equipment - this really paves the way for cancer diagnosis, treatment and full-blown radiation therapy right here in Sweetwater County," said Al Harris, president of the Memorial Hospital Foundation Board in a release.

Perhaps the greatest impact will be less driving time on I-80 for patients undergoing treatment.

CEO Jerry Klein said in a release he sees the new equipment as a way to fulfill a mission to provide local health care.

"This piece of equipment allows us to treat all but a small minority of patients that will require cancer radiation therapy in the cancer center," he said, also voicing his "awe" over the generosity of the Helmsley trust.

"Their legacy is helping save lives and change communities," he said.

WSHE Spring Meeting to be Held in Casper

The Wyoming Society of Healthcare Engineering (WSHE) will hold their spring meeting/seminar May 22, 23, 24; at the Casper Parkway Plaza.

This is an opportunity for anyone involved with healthcare engineering to get valuable education and training. The seminar is free to all members of WSHE.

The education to be provided includes segments on refrigeration,

med-gas codes, air-cooled chillers, life safety code, boiler chemistry/maintenance, legionella treatment, and many other topics. Besides education, there is a vendor booth area. "The education is invaluable, but I get a huge amount of knowledge talking to the vendors" according to Rob Forister (Sheridan Memorial Hospital Facility Manager).

In addition to the scheduled classes, and vendor booths, the ability to net-

work with your peers is invaluable.

There will be a change in the agenda for the education sessions this year. The education classes presented on Thursday May 23rd will have a technician level focus. If you are a maintenance technician you should attend Thursday's classes. The sessions on Wednesday and Friday will be focused at the engineering management level.

More information is available on their website at www.wshe.us/

MPQH Hospital Quality Awards Overview

Mountain Pacific Quality Health (MPQH) will be hosting a WebEx on March 28 from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

This event is to provide an overview of the MPQH Hospital Quality Awards criteria and requirements, such as how to calculate your ACM performance score.

The presenter for this program will be Shanelle Van Dyke. Ms. Van Dyke is

the Analyst/Quality Improvement and Reporting Project Manager.

The teleconference number is 866-612-6838 and the code is 542613.

To participate on the WebEx log on to: https://qualitynet.webex.com and locate the event you wish to join. Click on "Join Now" and enter your name and email

address. The password is AWARD.

If you have any questions or problems accessing the meeting, please call the Buceaneer WebEx Helpline at 540-347-7400, ext. 390.

