



Kraig Ruth, Customer Service Award Winner

Kraig Ruth was no stranger to the Newport lab when he took over recently as core lab supervisor for the first shift. He had been supervising the second and third shifts for years, and doing a great job of it; yet he stepped into his new daytime

role both willing and eager to make changes and better serve colleagues and patients.

“In the short time he has been in this position, Kraig has shown such dedication and enthusiasm for creating a better work environment for employees while always making the quality of patient care his top priority,” reads his nomination for this month’s award. “He is very pleasant and easy to approach; he takes immediate action to help answer questions and ease concerns. He has truly made the core lab a better environment for many of us.”

His co-workers echo those comments on his professionalism and prompt handling of any issue that arises. “Kraig does everything possible to ensure the lab is running smoothly,” says one. “He addresses any and all concerns immediately and has improved communication between shifts greatly, making it much easier to care for patients.”

In addition, Ruth has continued to work as the second and third shift supervisor until his replacement can be hired, effectively taking on responsibilities for all three shifts. As his nomination puts it: “Kraig is an exemplary example of a team player.”

Fun and Fundraising at the Pell Bridge Run

Newport Hospital was well represented at this year’s Pell Bridge Run/Walk, a charity event that benefits local non-profits. Numerous hospital employees completed the four-mile course, including a group of colleagues from the Behavioral Health Unit, who ran in memory of a former co-worker, Sarah Wood. Others simply ran or walked with friends and colleagues. In addition to those pictured, participants included Alicia Segerson, Hilary Byrne, Kristin Currey, Erin Behan, Valerie Kelley, Gail Jackson and Carol Meehan.



Pell Run 2013 (L to R): Elizabeth Sessa, Emily Balchunas, Shay Iasimone, Denise Barrese and Lori Allan.



Pell Run 2013 (L to R): Theresa Hayes, Chris Paiva, Sharon Gendron-Petroff, Bethany Diedrich and Heather Hall – all from the Behavioral Health Unit—ran in memory of a former co-worker, Sarah Wood.



Gifts from the Giving Tree

Make sure to visit the Autumn Giving Tree, which has taken root outside the gift shop this month. Organized by the Rewards and Recognition team, the tree is decorated with “Holiday Wish” hands, each listing a gift idea for a needy child or adult in our local community. Take a hand, purchase the gift, and drop off the unwrapped item (with hand attached), at the library by December 5. The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center is providing the wishes and will distribute the gifts.

Hats off

Congratulations to Mark Marsden, RRT, who earned his advanced respiratory care practitioner credential, registered respiratory therapist, in October. Marsden joined the Newport Hospital staff in March 2012 as a per diem

respiratory therapist and accepted his current position in September 2013.

Newport Nursing News

Christine Hanover, RN, BSN, of Turner 2 recently earned her medical/surgical nursing certification. She joined the Turner 2 staff nearly two years ago, after working at Rhode Island Hospital.

Two Turner 4 nurses—Alyssa Marquez, RN, BSN and Natalie Pike, RN, BSN—have achieved Clinical Nurse II status. Both began at Newport Hospital as student nurse associates in the last three years.

Director of medical/surgical nursing Marc Kalapos, RN, BSN, MS, says these nurses “have done a great job and are great resources.” Congratulations to all three.

Food Drive Feeds Our Neighbors

In an outpouring of generosity, canned goods and stuffing mix, Newport Hospital employees donated 17 shopping carts full of food to be distributed to needy families by the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center. People throughout the hospital participated in the food drive, organized by the hospital’s Rewards and Recognition team. Much of the food will be distributed to families before Thanksgiving.

Once delivered to the center, sorted and counted, the final tally hit 2,435 items of food, up almost 30 percent over last year. The verdict from the center’s director of development, Alyson Novick: “Newport Hospital is amazing!”



Newport Hospital staff and volunteers with the 17 carts of food collected during this year’s drive.

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