

# SCOPE

SPRING 2022

**St. Mary's Breast Center  
now offering Genius  
3D Mammography**

**CHH earns ACR  
accreditation in  
breast MRI and CT**



**Mary T. Legenza, MD, FACS**, Breast surgeon  
Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center at Cabell Huntington Hospital  
Assistant Professor, Chief, Breast Oncology,  
Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine





## St. Mary's Medical Center acquires Scott Orthopedic Center

Scott Orthopedic Center (SOC) has joined St. Mary's Medical Center (SMMC), a member of Mountain Health Network (MHN). The acquisition was completed March 31, 2022.



"We are pleased to welcome Scott Orthopedic Center and its outstanding team of physicians to Mountain Health Network," said Kevin Yingling, RPh, MD, CEO, MHN and president of Cabell Huntington Hospital and SMMC. "From the time Dr. Francis Scott first began his practice in Huntington in 1929 through today, Scott Orthopedic Center has been a leader in providing for the orthopedic health needs of the Tri-State. We look forward to continuing that outstanding care through this important partnership."

SOC will maintain its name and SOC physicians will continue to provide services at their current location on the fourth floor of the Highlawn Medical Building at 2828 First Ave., Huntington.

"Scott Orthopedic Center and St. Mary's Medical Center have had a positive relationship for many years as we have worked together to provide quality orthopedic care to the patients of the Tri-State," said Angie Swearingen, chief operating officer, SMMC. "We look forward to working with the entire SOC team."

"Our founders helped establish outstanding orthopedic care in the Huntington community," said Dr. Luis Bolano, president of Scott Orthopedic Group. "We have had the privilege to partner with all Mountain Health institutions and physicians over the past 93 years of our existence and we will continue to serve the Tri-State region with pride and commitment through this partnership. We are excited about this formal affiliation with St. Mary's and Mountain Health."

SOC specializes in orthopedic care for seniors, hand and upper extremity care, sports medicine, orthopedic trauma and foot and ankle conditions. For local high schools, SOC offers ImPACT, an outreach and screening program for high school students to identify conditions, and provides many schools with fulltime certified athletic trainers. For more information, visit [www.scottorthopedic.com](http://www.scottorthopedic.com).

# Mountain Health Network and Marshall Health join Peak Health



Marshall Health and Mountain Health Network (MHN) have joined the West Virginia University Health System (WVU Medicine) as owners of Peak Health, a West Virginia-based health insurance company formed in 2021 with the mission of making health care more accessible, understandable, and collaborative. Peak Health's goal is to build an inclusive, provider-led health plan to help West Virginians live healthier and fuller lives.

"Marshall Health, Mountain Health and WVU Medicine share the common vision of creating a healthier West Virginia," Ben Gerber, president of Peak Health, said. "Peak Health really is about empowering people to reach new heights with their health, and they will be able to do so through the community-based, provider-led model of care we are building. We are excited for other health systems to collaborate with us as well."

"In meeting our mission of improving the well-being of all we serve, we are pleased to join West Virginia-based Peak Health to drive better outcomes for patients," Kevin W. Yingling, RPh, MD, FACP, CEO, MHN and president of Cabell Huntington Hospital and St. Mary's Medical Center, said. "While we will continue to work with many outstanding third-party administrators, we are pleased to participate in this dynamic program that is designed to help our families, neighbors, and friends. Together with our academic partner,

Marshall Health, we look forward to collaborating with Peak Health to achieve measurable outcomes for patients."

"Joining Peak Health is a tremendous opportunity to begin turning the tide on health outcomes in West Virginia," Beth L. Hammers, MBA, CEO, Marshall Health, said. "Peak Health's home-grown approach is an excellent opportunity to create jobs and keep more of our economic resources here in West Virginia and will allow us to reinvest in our communities across the state."

"We have some hard work ahead of us in getting West Virginia healthier, and we're excited and honored to have Marshall Health and Mountain Health Network – both outstanding healthcare providers and West Virginia staples – join our efforts," said Albert L. Wright, Jr., Peak Health's board chair and president and CEO of the WVU Health System. "Through Peak Health, we have the opportunity to change the health trajectory of the state, and we invite other hospitals and health systems to join us."

Peak Health will begin serving as a benefit administrator for approximately 30,000 WVU Medicine employees and dependents on January 1, 2023. Peak Health expects to enter the consumer market in 2024 with low-cost Medicare Advantage products as well as innovative solutions for self-funded employers.

# CHH receives federal funding to expand telehealth services at Mountain Health Network hospitals

Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH) has received \$493,888 from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) COVID-19 Telehealth Program to expand telehealth services. The funding announcement was made earlier this month by U.S. Senators Joe Manchin (D-WV) and Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), members of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

“Due to the nature of services provided by our hospitals and the regional coverage of 23 largely rural counties, telehealth and virtual care are essential to better serve the needs of individuals who cannot (or choose not to) travel for care,” said Kevin Yingling, RPh, MD, FACP, CEO, Mountain Health Network and president, CHH and St. Mary’s Medical Center (SMMC). “We are extremely grateful to Sen. Manchin and



Sen. Capito for their work to help us secure this important funding.”

The funds were awarded to purchase equipment and software, improve network security and expand telehealth services. These upgrades will aid in providing health care access for rural and underserved parts of the hospital’s service area and to address treatment hesitancy due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



“Both Cabell Huntington Hospital and St. Mary’s Medical Center experienced a substantial increase in the utilization of telehealth services as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, many patients were unable to have full video and audio telehealth visits due to poor connectivity or equipment issues,” said Christy Franklin, MS, RN, CNRN, director of telehealth, MHN. “These funds will allow us to upgrade our technical infrastructure and enhance our ability to provide both COVID and non-COVID telehealth services to our patients.”

Funds will also be used to enhance telehealth services at SMMC and Pleasant Valley Hospital, which has a management agreement with MHN.

# MHN and Marshall Health join West Virginia Health Network

Mountain Health Network (MHN) and Marshall Health have joined The West Virginia Health Network (WVHN), a clinically integrated network (CIN).

CINs provide, manage and coordinate care, including primary care, for a defined population focusing on patient engagement, evidence-based medicine, cost and delivery to patients. Placing the patient at the center of care, CINs strive to deliver the right care at the right time and by the right provider.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, West Virginia has seen a decline in patients receiving preventive services such as annual wellness visits, routine vaccinations and cancer screenings. Routine chronic disease management also has been impacted due to the hesitancy of people to seek non-urgent primary care.

In addition, West Virginia’s rural population is impacted by many social determinants of health such as lack of transportation and food deserts that

create barriers to seeking out health care and maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

“The key to success in improving care to our patient population will be continued innovations that bring health care closer to the patient by partnering with community providers and improving access,” said Michelle Coon, president, West Virginia Health Network.

“Mountain Health Network is pleased to join this outstanding group of physicians, hospitals and health care facilities to enhance care for central and southern West Virginia,” said Larry Dial, MD, chief clinical officer, MHN. “Our patients will benefit tremendously from all of us working together to improve the overall quality of care, making sure patients are getting the care they need when they need it.”

“This effort seamlessly complements Marshall Health’s mission to ‘build a healthier tomorrow’ for patients throughout central and southern West Virginia,” said Joseph E. Evans, M.D.,

chief medical officer for Marshall Health and vice dean of clinical affairs for the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. “Access and continuity of care are critical, especially among at-risk populations in our rural communities. By working together as a CIN, we can collectively make data-driven decisions that lead to higher quality, more efficient care of West Virginians particularly in the areas of preventive care and management of patients with chronic health conditions.”

The West Virginia Health Network was initiated by Charleston Area Medical Center and includes Thomas Memorial Hospital, Community Health System, Princeton Community Hospital, Roane General Hospital, Montgomery General Hospital and Mon Health System, in addition to several physician practices and community health centers across West Virginia. For more information, visit [wvhealthnetwork.org](http://wvhealthnetwork.org).

# CHH receives federal funding to connect community organizations

Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH), a member of Mountain Health Network (MHN), has received \$267,000 in federal funding as part of the fiscal year 2022 appropriations omnibus package. The funding recently was announced by U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), member of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

"The mission of Mountain Health Network is to improve the well-being of all we serve through understanding, respecting and meeting their health needs," said Kevin Yingling, RPh, MD, FACP, CEO, MHN and president, CHH and St. Mary's Medical Center (SMMC). "We are so grateful to Sen. Capito, U.S. Senator Joe Manchin, and Congresswoman Carol Miller for their continued commitment to our community by supporting that mission."

The hospital will use the funds to purchase software that will enable FaithHealth Appalachia and other community organizations to connect through a shared technology platform that enables them to send and receive electronic referrals to address people's social needs and improve health across communities.

"From its beginnings, FaithHealth Appalachia has existed to be a conduit of transformation by connecting faith communities, social service organizations and medical facilities to improve the total health of our neighbors," said Rory Chapman, executive director of FaithHealth

Appalachia. "Too often, we hear about folks falling through the cracks, or not getting the help they need simply because they lack information. We want to ensure people get the right information, so they access the right door at the right time."

The software platform, called Unite US, is a national technology infrastructure with a presence in West Virginia that standardizes how health and social care providers communicate and track outcomes together.

"Unite West Virginia, and the entire Unite US platform, will be incredible tools that will assist us in our mission of connection in the Huntington and greater Tri-State community," Chapman said. "It will enable us to better streamline our efforts in getting people the help they need, when and where they need it most. We hope to further our mission to better bridge the gaps within our communities and see less people falling through the cracks."

The software will allow MHN member hospitals to join other community organizations to address social determinants of health such as food insecurity, transportation and other issues that impede their ability to thrive.

Community and social organizations that would like to connect with FaithHealth Appalachia may contact Rory Chapman at [rory.chapman@chhi.org](mailto:rory.chapman@chhi.org) or 304.416.2098.



## St. Mary's Pharmacy opens public pharmacy in new location

St. Mary's Medical Center opened its public pharmacy Monday, Nov. 8. The new St. Mary's Pharmacy, located on the first floor of the Highlawn Medical Building, 2828 First Ave., Huntington, features a drive-thru and retail items.



The new pharmacy is open to patients, employees and community members. Personalized pharmacy services offered include prescription filling for most insurances, immunizations, a selection of over-the-counter medications, a wide range of educational/counseling services and disease management support.

In addition to a drive-thru window, the new location has designated parking for pharmacy customers, same-day service for new prescriptions and expanded hours, including weekends.

The pharmacy is open Monday – Friday 7 a.m. – 10 p.m. and Saturday – Sunday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

For more information, visit [www.st-marys.org](http://www.st-marys.org) or call 304.526.8905.



# Hoops Family Children's Hospital, Marshall Health help children with acute kidney injury

Pediatric continuous renal replacement therapy (CRRT), a continuous form of dialysis for infants and children with acute kidney injury, is now available to patients at Hoops Family Children's Hospital at Cabell Huntington Hospital (HFCH).

CRRT works by continuously circulating blood from the body through a circuit that performs the functions usually carried out by the kidneys. It is often the preferred form of dialysis in critically ill children because CRRT offers several advantages over conventional dialysis, which is typically performed in three- to four-hour daily intervals. By delivering 24-hour a day dialysis, CRRT more effectively cleans the blood of substances that can accumulate in patients with acute kidney injury.

"Having CRRT available at HFCH means

children and their families can remain here in our facility when this treatment is needed, instead of being transferred even farther from their homes and support systems," said Melanie Akers, director, HFCH.

Pediatric nephrologists Rose M. Ayoob, MD, and Edward Nehus, MD, who joined the care teams of Marshall Health and HFCH last year, are working to expand nephrology care to pediatric patients throughout the region.

"This life-saving dialysis device provides such a benefit to our regional hospitals who may need to transfer a child with acute kidney injury to HFCH. They can take comfort in knowing the child is receiving outstanding treatment by our experienced care team," said Ayoob, associate professor of pediatrics at the Marshall

University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine.

Children with acute kidney injury often develop fluid overload, which is associated with increased risk for mortality. Using CRRT, fluid overload can be prevented and treated by providing a way to continuously remove fluid.

"Kidney injury occurs in about 25 percent of critically ill children, with the severe cases requiring CRRT," said Nehus, an associate professor of pediatrics at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. "By offering CRRT, we are now able to provide children with severe kidney injury the care they need closer to home, and CRRT is often safer and better tolerated than conventional dialysis in children who are critically ill."

## Music Therapy Pilot Program offered at HFCH

In addition to the tones of monitors and equipment that are expected in hospitals, a new sound can be heard on the floors of Hoops Family Children's Hospital – music.

HFCH has partnered with Aspire! Conservatory of Fine & Performing Arts in Ashland to introduce music therapy to pediatric patients and their families.

Music therapy is an established health profession in which music is used within a therapeutic relationship to address physical, emotional, cognitive and social needs. Following an assessment, a qualified music therapist creates a treatment plan that can include creating, singing, moving to, or just listening to music.

"Music therapy helps create surroundings that can often support children and their families while receiving medical care," said Carleigh Cazad, MT-BC, board-certified music therapist with Aspire! Conservatory. "Music therapy provides opportunities for the patient and their family to express their feelings toward illness, while also



supporting the goals set by their treatment team. Often times, this can improve their overall outlook and optimism."

Cazad meets with patients to provide emotional support, facilitate movement and engage patients in an outlet to express their feelings.

"We started the pilot in December with funding from donations to the Cabell Huntington Hospital Foundation, so there is no cost to patients," said Melanie Akers, HFCH director. "The reviews from the patients, families and staff have been overwhelmingly positive already." "We have a patient whose family speaks

Spanish and Carleigh learned to sing 'Feliz Navidad' before the patient was scheduled to come back for his next treatment," said Brooke Bella, APRN, FNP-C, who works in Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at the Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center. "When he returned, she sang the song to the family, and they were in tears. These are the moments that make our patients' days a little better."

"It is so rewarding to know that in some way we can use music to make the hospital stays and treatments a little more comfortable," said DeNeil Hartley, administrative director for Aspire! Conservatory. "If we can provide any level of comfort and hope for these special children, then we have fulfilled our ministry. My heart is full!"

Anyone wishing to support the music therapy program through a donation can do so by visiting <https://mountainhealthfoundations.org/giving/> or calling 304.399.4685.

# Do you have questions about Amwell?

Mountain Health Network (MHN) and Marshall Health (MH) have implemented a new telehealth platform, powered by Amwell. Amwell on Converge for scheduled visits is a web-based, HIPAA-compliant and secure platform to allow quick and easy audio/visual visits initiated from the provider to the patient through a text message or email. Patients may use a compatible smart phone, tablet, laptop or personal computer with audio/visual capability. Providers may access the system either through Amwell Now on Converge or Amwell on Converge for HER.

## **Q. What is Amwell Now on Converge?**

**A.** Amwell Now is a web-based standalone platform. It can be utilized by any approved MHN or MH provider who creates an account using the secure link to the platform. This version, which is not integrated into the EHR, became available January 1, 2022, and is currently in use.

## **Q. What is Amwell on Converge for EHR?**

**A.** Amwell on Converge for EHR is integrated into Cerner Millennium. It offers the same functionality for scheduled telehealth visits as Amwell Now, but with the convenience of being integrated into Cerner for easier access. This version allows initiation of a telehealth visit from inside the patient record, with an invitation from the provider sent to the patient by text or email. Microphone and camera availability on the device used is required.

## **Q. How do I document telehealth visits?**

**A.** There is no documentation in Amwell for scheduled visits. All documentation is in the current EHR.

## **Q. How is the patient invited to the visit?**

**A.** You can choose to send the patient an invitation through a text message to their smart phone, or through an email. The patient activates the visit by clicking on the link, entering their name and phone number and acknowledging the visit. Patient handout instructions are available.

## **Q. Does it show my personal phone number?**

**A.** No. A generic phone number/email appears as the patient invitation. The text will state that you are inviting them to a secure telehealth visit. The same number appears each time (617.819.0951). The system does not share your personal information and saves nothing on your phone or computer.

## **Q. Is there a Dialer that disguises my phone number with Amwell Now?**

**A.** No. Amwell Now is designed for telehealth visits. A Dialer function is not available at this time.

## **Q. Can I text the patient through Amwell?**

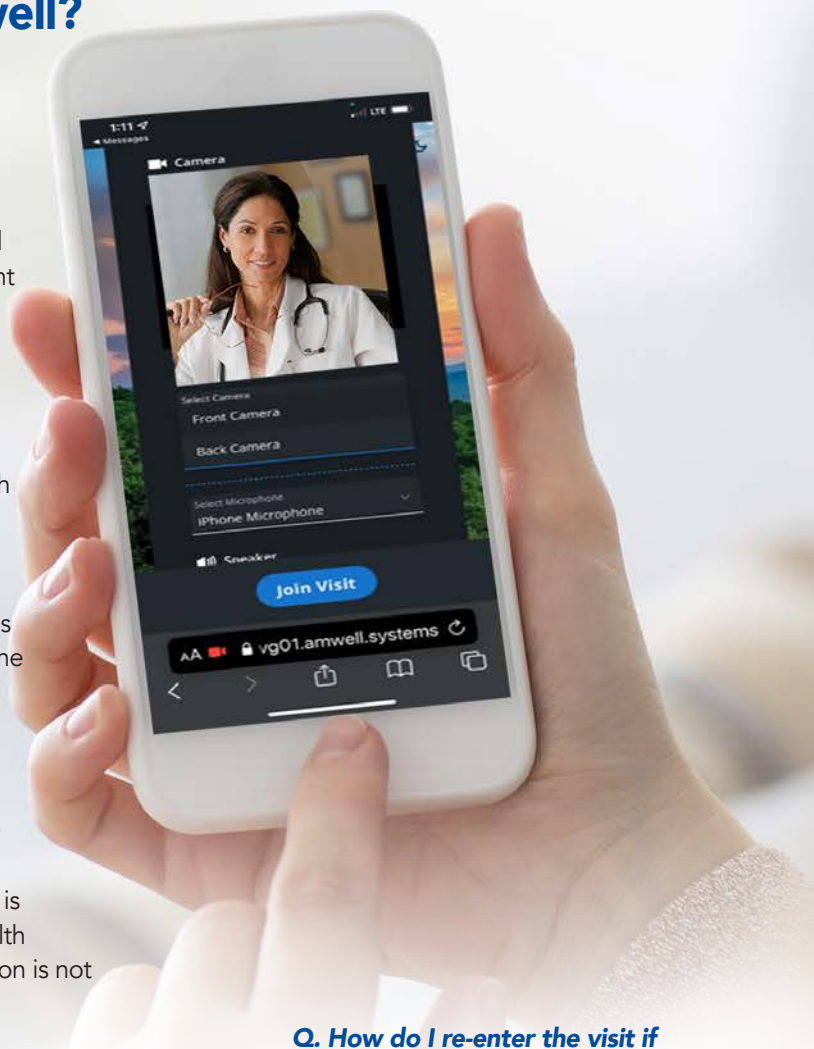
**A.** There is a chat feature that can be used while the visit is in session. These chat messages are not saved.

## **Q. Can I add other people to the visit?**

**A.** Yes. Additional participants can be added by both the provider and the patient when the visit is initiated and during the visit. Limit 15 participants.

## **Q. Does Amwell keep track of my time for the visit?**

**A.** A timer appears at the top of the screen during a visit, however, it is up to you to note the time before disconnecting. The timer does not save and disappears when you disconnect. Additionally, an email is sent to you at the beginning of the visit, which will provide the start time. It is up to you to track your time, however these resources are available to assist.



## **Q. How do I re-enter the visit if connection is lost?**

**A.** The provider can return to the visit through the auto generated email sent at the start of the visit. The patient can reenter through the text or email invitation originally used to join the visit.

## **Q. Who do I call for assistance or to sign up for Amwell Now?**

**A.** Information about Amwell Now and sign up has been provided to office managers/coordinators. The Telehealth Department is also available to assist. If your office would like assistance, please contact:  
**Christy Franklin**, director of telehealth, MHN  
Christy.franklin@st-marys.org  
304.526.1184

**Sarah Clark**, telehealth coordinator  
304.526.1899  
sarah.clark@st-marys.org

Or, Telehealth.support@mhnetwork.org

# Lung Cancer Screening Eligibility Expanded

Smokers age 50 and older can now be screened for lung cancer. The Edwards Comprehensive Cancer Center (ECCC) and St. Mary's Regional Lung Center (SMMC) offer screenings to eligible patients without a physician referral.

Patients can call either facility to speak to a nurse navigator who will evaluate patients for eligibility and schedule the screening. In addition, the ECCC offers a cancer screening clinic the third Monday of each month from 8 a.m. to noon.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently expanded the eligibility criteria for patients to receive low-dose computed tomography (LDCT) lung screenings to detect lung cancer. The criteria now include people between the ages of 50 and 77, who do not have symptoms of lung cancer, but have a history of smoking at least one pack of cigarettes a day for 20 years, are currently a smoker or have quit smoking within the last 15 years.



"Low-dose CT scans are recommended for current or former heavy smokers who are at high risk of lung cancer, based on the results of a study that found a

20 percent reduction in deaths among those who had low-dose CT scans rather than chest X-rays," said Molly Brumfield, RN, BSN, MBA, OCN, manager of medical and surgical programs at the ECCC.

"We developed these screenings to help qualifying individuals be screened without an initial physician referral."

According to CMS, the risk of developing lung cancer is largely driven by age and smoking status, with smoking estimated to account for nearly 90% of all lung cancer cases.



"This potentially life-saving opportunity begins with a phone call to the nurse navigator," said Laura Ferguson RN, MSN, FNP-BC, patient navigator,

SMMC. "The navigator will evaluate patients for eligibility and schedule an appointment. We encourage former and current smokers to get screened early, as symptoms of lung cancer often don't appear until the disease is already at an advanced stage."

At both ECCC and SMMC, the provider conducts a patient exam and provides smoking counseling, if applicable. The patient is then scheduled for a low-dose lung screening CT. Once complete, the provider follows up with the patient to go over the results and develop a plan of care.

Lung cancer screening is covered by Medicare and by many private health insurance plans. Additionally, SMMC also provides a self-pay option of \$75 for patients without insurance coverage.

To refer a patient for a low-dose CT lung cancer screening, please call the ECCC at 304.399.6770 or SMMC's Regional Cancer Center at 304.399.7457.

# Marshall Health first in region to complete new minimally invasive procedure known as postless hip arthroscopy



Dana Lycans, MD, of Marshall Orthopaedics, recently completed the Tri-State's first postless hip arthroscopy to repair hip impingement and labral tear. The procedure took place at Three Gables Surgery Center, an ambulatory surgery center managed by St. Mary's Medical Center (SMMC), a member of Mountain Health Network.

Hip arthroscopy is a minimally invasive way to perform hip surgery. It uses a small arthroscope or camera to look inside the joint while the repair is made with small instruments. Traditionally, a padded post is used in the perineal area to ensure the hip joint stays open during the procedure. Postless hip arthroscopy is a new, cutting-edge technique that eliminates the need for a post by using a special surgical

table to create the pull traction on the leg required for the surgery. "My goal as a surgeon is to provide relief for the patient while minimizing the risk of complications," said Lycans, an assistant professor at the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and orthopaedic surgeon at Marshall Orthopaedics. "Eliminating the post allows for decreased pain post-operatively, less risk for nerve damage and numbness and the potential for a faster recovery when compared to traditional hip arthroscopy."

Other postless hip arthroscopy advantages include decreased nerve and soft tissue complications, decreased muscle shutdown related to compression against the post, more thorough visualization of the hip joint, and the option for bilateral hip arthroscopies in the same surgical setting, allowing for a quicker recovery.

All the same procedures that traditional hip arthroscopy is used for can be performed without the post.



"To receive this type of surgery, previously, a patient would have to travel to a larger metropolitan area," said Ali Oliashirazi, MD, professor and chair of the department of orthopaedic surgery at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine.

"As an academic medical center, we strive to bring the latest technology to the Tri-State so patients do not have to leave the community for the highest quality care."

To refer a patient, call the Marshall Sports Medicine Institute at 304.691.1880.

## CHH Opens New Clinical Observation Unit to Bridge Outpatient and Inpatient Services



Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH), a member of Mountain Health Network (MHN), has opened a new 18-bed Clinical Observation Unit (COU) to provide continued observation and treatment of patients whose care begins in the Emergency Room (ER). Located on the first floor of the hospital near the ER, pharmacy, radiology and laboratory services, the COU provides short-term treatment and observation of patients who need additional care, but not admission to the hospital. The specialized unit was developed to enhance patient access to the most frequently used outpatient services at CHH and provide more timely care for patients requiring short-term observation or treatment.

"Patients will experience a true benefit from the timely, personalized care this new dedicated unit provides," said Hoyt Burdick, MD, chief medical officer, MHN. "The Clinical Observation Unit is modeled after a very successful Clinical Decision Unit at St. Mary's Medical Center and is another example of how Mountain Health is expanding shared best practices and delivery models throughout the network."

The unit is staffed with an experienced team of nurses and advanced practitioners supervised by hospitalist physicians. The COU will continue care and treatment initiated in the ER for patients with symptoms or diagnoses that typically respond to appropriate therapy within hours. This includes low-risk patients with chest pain as well as patients with minor exacerbations of chronic disease. Patients who do not respond quickly or who require more extended evaluation and management will be admitted to the appropriate inpatient hospital unit to continue their care.

## CHH Occupational Medicine joins SMMC Occupational Medicine



The occupational medicine services at Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH) and St. Mary's Medical Center (SMMC) have joined together and are now both located in St. Mary's Urgent Care and Occupational Medicine, 2827 Fifth Ave., Huntington.

The integration of the two facilities provides a number of new benefits to CHH occupational medicine clients, including a more streamlined approach to the examination process with on-site X-rays and labs, as well as an expansion of exam testing capabilities.

Jason Southall, MSPA-C, MBA, joins Allen Young, MD, at the combined location. Southall is a graduate of Mountain State University with a master's degree in business administration. He is a certified medical examiner for FMCSA/DOT physicals, a Certified Occupational Hearing Conservationist (CAOHC) and a member of the American Academy of Physician Assistants. Dr. Young is a graduate of the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. He is a certified medical review officer and certified medical examiner for FMCSA/DOT physicals. St. Mary's Occupational Medicine is a full-service facility for occupational health, providing treatment of work-related injuries and illnesses, pre-employment physicals and drug screens and a number of other job-related screenings and exams. For more information or to refer a patient, call 304.399.7850.



Jason Southall,  
MSPA-C, MBA



Allen Young, MD



## St. Mary's Breast Center now offering Genius 3D Mammography



St. Mary's Breast Center is now offering Genius™ 3D Mammography™ exams, adding to the 3D mammography options St. Mary's has provided since 2012.

Utilizing advanced breast tomosynthesis technology, Genius exams are clinically proven to significantly increase the detection of breast cancers and are also decreasing the number of women asked to return for additional testing.

"In the nearly 10 years we have been offering 3D mammography, we have seen a significant difference in the detection of breast cancers," said Anne Hammack, clinical coordinator, St. Mary's Breast Center. "We are very excited to be able to add the latest 3D technology of the Genius exam to our early detection and treatment tools."

In conventional 2D mammography, overlapping tissue is a leading reason why small breast cancers may be missed and normal tissue may appear abnormal, leading to unnecessary callbacks. A Genius exam includes a three-dimensional method of imaging that can greatly reduce the tissue overlap effect. An X-ray arm sweeps in a slight arc over the breast, taking multiple images. A computer then converts the images into a stack of thin layers, allowing the radiologist to review the breast tissue one layer at a time. A Genius exam requires no additional compression and takes just a few seconds longer than a conventional 2D breast cancer screening exam.

Researchers have found that:

- Genius 3D Mammography finds 20-65% more invasive breast cancers compared to 2D alone, an average increase of 41%.
- Only the Genius Mammography exam is FDA-approved as superior for women with dense breasts compared to 2D alone.
- Genius 3D Mammography reduces callbacks by up to 40% compared to 2D alone.

For more information, call St. Mary's Breast Center at 304.526.8221.

## MHN names Blevins Chief Pharmacy Officer



Aaron Blevins, PharmD, MHA, has been named Chief Pharmacy Officer for Mountain Health Network (MHN).

As Chief Pharmacy Officer, Blevins is responsible for the leadership and management of the system pharmacy team, leading them in the use of evidence-based clinical decision making for drug use while controlling pharmaceutical expenses and maximizing patient benefit.

"There are patient care needs across the region, both in hospital and in the community, for which pharmacists can improve health care. Mountain Health addressing those needs by advancing pharmacy services is incredibly important," said Kevin W. Yingling, RPh, MD, FACP, CEO of MHN and president of Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH) and St. Mary's Medical Center (SMMC). "I am pleased to have someone with Aaron's extensive pharmacy experience leading those efforts."

Blevins previously served as Pharmacy 340B Program Director for MHN and Director of Pharmacy at SMMC. He received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from West Virginia University and his Master of Science in health care administration from Marshall University.

## SMMC opens new Cath Lab



St. Mary's Regional Heart Institute, a MHN Center of Excellence, has opened its new cath lab, offering the latest technology to cardiovascular patients.

# WELCOME NEW PHYSICIANS



**Khalid Abozguia, MD** – Cardiology  
(Electrophysiology)  
**Medical School:** University of Tripoli, Tripoli, Libya  
**Residencies:** University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff, UK; Raigmore Hospital, Inverness, UK; West Cumberland Hospital, Whitehaven, UK; Wansbeck General Hospital, Ashington, UK; Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK  
**Fellowships:** University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK; University of Oxford and University College of London; Metro Health Medical Center, Cleveland Clinic-Cardiac Electrophysiology and Device; Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, UK; Russell Hall Hospital, Dudley, UK; Walsall Manor Hospital, Walsall, UK



**Catherine Adams, MD** – Internal Medicine  
**Medical School:** University of Kansas School of Medicine, Salina, Kansas  
**Residency:** Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine



**Jason Adams, MD** – Neurology  
**Medical School:** Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine  
**Residency:** Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine



**Paul Adedoyin, MD** - Oncology  
**Medical School:** University of Central Florida College of Medicine, Orlando, Florida  
**Residencies:** Orlando Health General Surgery, Orlando Florida; State University of New York (SUNY) Downstate, Brooklyn, New York



**Dhvani Amin, DDS** – Dentistry  
**Dental School:** University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine, Buffalo, New York



**Clare Bajamundi-Plyer, DO** – Psychiatry  
**Medical School:** Lincoln Memorial University, DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine, Harrogate, Tennessee  
**Residency:** Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine  
**Fellowship:** Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine



**Christopher Luke Damron, MD** – Pediatrics  
(Neonatology)  
**Medical School:** Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine  
**Residency:** Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine  
**Fellowship:** Indiana University, Indianapolis, Indiana – Neonatal/Perinatal Medicine



**Hassan El Hassan, DDS** – Dentistry  
**Dental School:** Novogrod State University, Novogrod, Russian Federation  
**Residency:** Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine – General Practice



**Michelle Hudson, PsyD** – Neurology  
**Doctorate:** Adler University, Chicago, Illinois  
**Internship:** Eastern Kansas VA Medical Center, Topeka, Kansas – Psychology  
**Fellowship:** University of Toledo Medical Center, Toledo, Ohio – Neuropsychology



**Beth Emrick, MD** – Pediatrics (Developmental-Behavioral)  
**Medical School:** West Virginia University School of Medicine  
**Residency:** Charleston Area Medical Center  
**Fellowship:** Akron Children's Hospital



**Kristyn Ford, PsyD** – Neurology  
**Doctorate:** Marshall University



**Tejas Joshi, MD** – Internal Medicine (Hepatology)  
*Medical School:* University of Medicine and Health Sciences, Basseterre, Saint Kitts and Nevis  
*Residency:* Louisiana State University, New Orleans – Internal Medicine  
*Fellowship:* Baylor College of Medicine, Houston – Hepatology and Liver Transplantation



**Jacob Lyon, DO** – Family Medicine (Addiction Medicine)  
*Medical School:* West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, Lewisburg, West Virginia  
*Residency:* Community Health of South Florida, Inc., Miami, Florida. – Family Medicine  
*Fellowship:* Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine



**Jacob Kilgore, MD** – Pediatrics (Infectious Disease)  
*Medical School:* Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine  
*Residencies:* Duke University Health System, Durham, North Carolina – Quality & Safety; Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine – Internal Medicine – Pediatrics  
*Fellowship:* Duke University Health System – Infectious Diseases



**Matthew Krantz, MD** – Surgery  
*Medical School:* Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine  
*Residency:* Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine – General Surgery  
*Fellowship:* Cleveland Clinic Foundation – Vascular Surgery



**Diane Krutzler, MD** – Surgery  
*Medical School:* Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, New Brunswick, New Jersey  
*Residency:* Morristown Medical Center, Morristown, New Jersey  
*Fellowship:* University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, Iowa



**Jason Mader, DO** – Cardiology  
*Medical School:* West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, Lewisburg, West Virginia  
*Residencies:* Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine; CAMC, West Virginia University  
*Fellowship:* Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine – Interventional Cardiology



**Jennifer Mills Price, PsyD** – Family Medicine  
*Doctorate:* Marshall University



**Shylah Napier, DO** – Pediatrics  
*Medical School:* University of Pikeville, Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine  
*Residency:* Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine



**Linda Njoroge, MD** – Cardiology  
*Medical School:* University of Nairobi, Nairobi, Kenya  
*Residency:* Vidant Medical Center, Greenville, North Carolina  
*Fellowships:* Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center



**Ahmad Nusair, MD** – Internal Medicine  
*Medical School:* Jordan University of Science & Technology, Ar-Ramtha, Jordan  
*Residency:* Western Reserve Care System, Youngstown, Ohio  
*Fellowships:* University of Nebraska, Omaha, Nebraska – Infectious Disease



**Dustin Peterson, DPM** – Podiatry  
*Medical School:* Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine at Rosalind Franklin University, Chicago  
*Residency:* Ascension Macomb-Oakland Hospital, Warren, Michigan



**Heather Pinckard-Dover, MD** – Neurosurgery  
*Medical School:* University of Arkansas, Little Rock, Arkansas  
*Residency:* University of Arkansas – Neurological Surgery  
*Fellowship:* University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida – Stereotactic and Functional Neurosurgery



**Tarun Popli, MD** – Internal Medicine (Infectious Disease)  
*Medical School:* Armed Forces Medical College, Pune, Indiana  
*Residency:* Prince Georges Hospital Center, Hyattsville, Maryland – Internal Medicine  
*Fellowship:* Westchester Medical Center, New York Medical College, Valhalla, New York – Infectious Disease,



**Parthavkumar Patel, MD** – Pathology  
Medical School: B.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad, India  
Residencies: B.J. Medical College, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee  
Fellowships: University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, University of Miami



**Srivani Punna, MD** – Internal Medicine  
Medical School: Sri Venkateswara Medical College, Tirupati, India  
Residency: Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia



**Dale Robertson, DO** – Urology  
Medical School: West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, Lewisburg, West Virginia  
Residency: Charleston Area Medical Center – Urologic Surgery



**J. Tyler Rosier, PsyD** – Neurology  
Doctorate: Georgia School of Professional Psychology, Atlanta, Georgia  
Residency: UPenn Medicine/Lancaster General, Lancaster, Pennsylvania  
Fellowship: Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University, Augusta, Georgia



**Stacy Saunders, PsyD** – Internal Medicine (Psychology)  
Doctorate: Marshall University  
Internship: Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine



**Kasey Stickler, MD** – Family Medicine  
Medical School: Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine  
Residency: Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine  
Fellowship: Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine – Sports Medicine



**Kyle Tackett, PsyD** – Internal Medicine (Psychology)  
Doctorate: Marshall University



**Christine Titus, PsyD** – Psychiatry  
Doctorate: Medaille College, Buffalo, New York  
Internship: Marshall University



**Adam Van Horn, MD** – Surgery (ENT)  
Medical School: Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine  
Residency: University of Kentucky  
Fellowship: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan



**Troy Wallace, MD** – Internal Medicine/Pediatrics  
Medical School: Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine  
Residency: Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine – Pediatrics



**Yinan Wei, MD** – Surgery  
Medical School: Wayne State School of Medicine, Detroit, Michigan  
Residencies: Michigan State University, Lansing, Michigan; Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine



**Courtney Wellman, MD** – Family Medicine  
Medical School: Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine  
Residency: Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine  
Fellowship: Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine



**Michelle Worthy, MD** – Internal Medicine  
Medical School: Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine  
Residency: Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine – Internal Medicine – Pediatrics



**Kamran Zaheer, DO** – Internal Medicine  
Medical School: West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, Lewisburg, West Virginia  
Residency: Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine

# CHH emergency physician completes Executive Leaders Program at Naval Postgraduate School



Dominique Wong, MD, an emergency physician at Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH), has completed the Executive Leaders Program (ELP) at the Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security (NPS-CHDS).

During the 12-month program, Wong collaborated with homeland security officials from across the nation on current policy, strategy and organizational design challenges. The NPS-CHDS students represent a snapshot of the homeland security enterprise, including professionals from the fields of emergency management, education, law enforcement, fire service, homeland security, public

health and city/county government. In addition to completing the program, Wong was the recipient of the Ellen M. Gordon Award, which is voted on by the ELP cohort. The Ellen M. Gordon awardee is selected based on their ability to seek knowledge beyond what is commonly known, to challenge the status quo and to look beyond standard practices and procedures to expand existing viewpoints in the homeland security enterprise.

Dr. Wong is chair of CHH's Medical Readiness Committee with responsibilities including emergency medical care, disaster preparedness, EMS medical direction, law enforcement first aid and mass casualty training. She is an active member of the Cabell/Wayne Homeland Security Group

and the Cabell/Wayne Local Emergency Planning Committee. She received her Doctor of Medicine from the Ohio State University College of Medicine and her Bachelor of Arts in biology from Cornell University.

Located at the Naval Postgraduate School, CHDS is the nation's homeland security educator. The ELP develops critical thinking, leadership, and policy skills during a rigorous 12-month program. CHDS is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), National Preparedness Directorate, within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). For information, visit [www.chds.us](http://www.chds.us).

## Marshall Health expands pediatric care in Teays Valley

Expanded pediatric specialty care is now available at Marshall Health – Teays Valley. Pediatric allergy and immunology, endocrinology, nephrology and developmental-behavioral pediatrics will outfit a new pediatric sub-specialty clinic on the second floor of Marshall Health – Teays Valley, located at 300 Corporate Center Drive in Scott Depot.



"The growth of these services is critical for our patients," said Susan L. Flesher, M.D., professor and chair of pediatrics at the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine. "In most cases, we're talking about chronic conditions that require ongoing care and management that improve quality of life. The closer to home these services are, the less time our patients spend out of school traveling to and from doctors' appointments."



The new clinic includes the following existing specialty providers:  
Rose Ayoob, MD, a double board-certified, fellowship-trained pediatric

nephrologist, specializes in high blood pressure, acute and chronic kidney disease, urinary tract disorders, kidney stones and metabolic bone disease.



Amanda Dye, MD, a double board-certified, fellowship trained pediatric endocrinologist, specializes in diabetes, thyroid disease and disorders of puberty and growth.



Mary Beth Hogan, MD, a board-certified pediatric allergist and immunologist, specializes in asthma, allergic rhinitis, anaphylaxis, atopic dermatitis and food allergies.



Meagan Shepherd, MD, a triple board-certified pediatric allergist and immunologist, specializes in food allergies, asthma, contact dermatitis and primary immunodeficiency disorders.

Marshall Pediatrics also added Beth Emrick, MD, to its team of specialists.

Emrick is a fellowship-trained, board-certified developmental-behavioral pediatrician. She specializes in diagnosing and treating ADHD, autism spectrum disorder, learning disorders and developmental delays. Emrick earned her medical degree from West Virginia University in Morgantown, West Virginia, followed by a residency at Charleston Area Medical Center in Charleston, West Virginia, and a fellowship at Akron Children's Hospital in Akron, Ohio. Emrick is an associate professor of pediatrics at the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and board certified by the American Board of Pediatrics with subspecialty certification in Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics.

Marshall Pediatrics has been caring for general pediatric patients, newborn through 18 years of age, in Teays Valley since 1997. Marshall Health - Teays Valley opened in 2017, bringing together Marshall Health services in cardiology, dermatology, internal medicine, lab/X-ray, mammography, neurology, obstetrics and gynecology, orthopaedics and pediatrics.

For more information or to refer a patient, call Marshall Pediatrics at 304.691.8901.

## Wagenaar receives honor as he retires as St. Mary's ER-Ironton Medical Director Hutchison named medical director; Mack named assistant director

James Wagenaar, DO, was honored by the Lawrence County Commissioners for his years of service to the county. He retired as the medical director of St. Mary's ER-Ironton, a member of Mountain Health Network, a position he held since 2016.

Dr. Wagenaar was presented with a plaque by Ben Mack, MD, the medical director for Lawrence County Emergency Medical Services and the Lawrence County Coroner.

"Dr. Wagenaar helped build St. Mary's ER-Ironton into what it is today," Dr. Mack said. "He has done a great job leading his team. He will be greatly missed."

In his comments at the meeting, Dr. Wagenaar praised his staff for their hard work during his tenure.

"The Emergency Department is only as good as the people who work there and we have one of the best," he said. "Most of our staff is from Lawrence County. They take great pride in the facility and they love to take care of patients and love the people of Lawrence County."

Larry Hutchison, MD, has been named the new medical director for St. Mary's ER-Ironton. Dr. Hutchison will also continue



(L-R) Dr. Bradley Reinke, regional vice president, U.S. Acute Care Solutions; Dr. Larry Hutchison, medical director, St. Mary's ER in Huntington and Ironton; Dr. James Wagenaar, retiring medical director, St. Mary's ER-Ironton; Dr. Ben Mack, assistant medical director, St. Mary's ER-Ironton.

as the medical director for St. Mary's ER in Huntington. Dr. Mack, who also serves as an emergency department physician at St. Mary's ER, will serve as the assistant medical director in Ironton. "Dr. Wagenaar has assembled a great team in Ironton," Dr. Hutchison said. "I look forward to

working more with them to continue to provide high quality emergency services to the people of Lawrence County."

For more information about St. Mary's ER-Ironton, visit [www.st-marys.org](http://www.st-marys.org).

## Willis relocates to St. Mary's Women and Family Care



Erick Willis, MD, and the staff of St. Mary's Pediatrics have joined the team at St. Mary's Women and Family Care and relocated to their facility at 143 Peyton Street, Barboursville.

The move has increased patient access with a number of new amenities, including expanded space and convenient parking.

Board certified in pediatrics, Dr. Willis is currently accepting patients from newborn to age 18. He received his medical degree

from the Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine, where he also completed his residency.

To refer a patient to Dr. Willis, call 304.697.2035.

## Garces now accepting patients in Ironton

Juanita Garces, MD, neurosurgeon with St. Mary's Neurosurgery, is now accepting patients at St. Mary's Ironton Campus, 1408 Campbell Drive, Ironton.

Treating a variety of brain and spine conditions, with a special interest in adult



scoliosis, Dr. Garces is board certified in neurological surgery. She received her doctor of medicine with distinction in research from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. She

completed her fellowship in complex spine at the University of Virginia and her residency, including a stint as chief resident, at Tulane Medical Center and Ochsner Medical Center in New Orleans, Louisiana.

To refer a patient to Dr. Garces, call 304.525.6825.

# St. Mary's School of Nursing awarded more than \$508,000 through Gov. Justice's Nursing Workforce Expansion Program



St. Mary's School of Nursing has been awarded \$508,663.82 through West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice's Nursing Workforce Expansion Program. The program is designed to address the state's nursing shortage through a multifaceted approach to attract, train and retain nurses in the Mountain State.

The award program was established to fund nursing program expansion projects at colleges, universities, schools of nursing and career technical education centers across West Virginia.

St. Mary's School of Nursing plans to utilize the funds to renovate current space to create larger classes and provide additional academic support rooms, as well as upgrade equipment and classrooms. The investment is expected

to support up to 20 new nursing students at St. Mary's School of Nursing.

"We are extremely pleased to receive this award to expand our program and allow for more students to achieve their dreams of becoming a nurse," said Joey Trader, EdD, MSN, RN, CNE, vice president, Schools of Nursing and Health Professions at St. Mary's Medical Center and director, St. Mary's School of Nursing. "We are so appreciative of Gov. Justice for taking this important step to support nursing education."

The nursing program expansion awards are administered by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission and Community and Technical College System. Twenty-six funded projects across the state were announced by Gov. Justice on March

17. Approved projects required a focus on increasing enrollment in pre-licensure nursing programs through innovative approaches focused on timely degree completion and licensure for graduates.

"We are tremendously grateful to Gov. Justice for providing this historic funding to support the expansion of nursing education programs across West Virginia," said Dr. Sarah Armstrong Tucker, West Virginia's Chancellor of Higher Education. "Through these new projects, our postsecondary education community will be better positioned to help shore up West Virginia's nursing workforce – which, in turn, will help support our nurses working tirelessly on the front lines right now."

Gov. Justice announced the West Virginia Nursing Workforce Expansion Program in December 2021 by dedicating \$48 million to support new and expanded initiatives that will train new nurses, fully fund the West Virginia Nursing Scholarship Program, value nurses already practicing in the state and recruit nurses into West Virginia.

Founded in 1926, St. Mary's School of Nursing is the oldest nursing program in West Virginia. For more information about the school, visit [www.st-marys.org](http://www.st-marys.org).

## MHN launches nursing tuition assistance award program

Mountain Health Network (MHN) has launched a nursing tuition assistance award program to help students pursue a career in nursing.

The MHN Nursing Tuition Assistance Award Program covers the cost of nursing courses, books, resources and fees for students admitted to St. Mary's School of Nursing. The program also provides up to \$5,000 per semester for four semesters to selected students admitted to another participating nursing school. Other participating schools include the Marshall University School of Nursing, Ashland Community and Technical College and Ohio University-Southern.

In order to qualify for selection, students must:

- Have a 2.5 overall GPA
- Agree to work as a registered nurse at Cabell Huntington Hospital or St. Mary's Medical Center for five years, upon graduation

Students must maintain a 2.0 overall GPA to remain in the tuition assistance program.

"We know that the cost of education can often be an obstacle for students wishing to pursue a career in nursing, so we are excited to be able to offer this opportunity to area students to help them achieve their goals," said Susan Beth Robinson, Chief

Human Resources Officer for MHN.

Opportunities at participating nursing schools are available for graduating high school students accepted into a participating nursing school as well as students who are already enrolled in and attending a participating nursing school. To apply for the program, students will need to follow the scholarship application guidelines for their selected school.

For more information, visit [www.mountainhealthnetwork.org/futurenurses](http://www.mountainhealthnetwork.org/futurenurses) or email Chris Mokas, director of human resources at St. Mary's Medical Center, at [Christopher.Mokas@st-marys.org](mailto:Christopher.Mokas@st-marys.org).

## St. Mary's School of Nursing and Mountwest CTC offering minority nursing scholarship

St. Mary's School of Nursing and Mountwest Community and Technical College are now offering a scholarship for a minority/person of color to attend nursing school.

The St. Mary's School of Nursing/ Mountwest CTC Scholarship provides waived tuition at Mountwest CTC for general education courses required for St. Mary's School of Nursing and full tuition, fees and books for all courses at St. Mary's School of Nursing. The scholarship is an initiative of the St. Mary's Medical Center Diversity Committee.

"Tuition costs can be an obstacle keeping minority students from pursuing their career goal of becoming a nurse," said Joey Trader, EdD, MSN, RN, CNE, vice

president, Schools of Nursing and Health Professions at St. Mary's Medical Center and director, St. Mary's School of Nursing. "We are extremely pleased to be able to partner with Mountwest to help eliminate that obstacle and welcome more nurses into our workforce."

*To be eligible, a student must:*

- Be Asian, Black/African American, Hispanic, Native American, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander
- Be a resident of one of the following West Virginia counties: Cabell, Lincoln, Mason, Putnam, or Wayne
- Have a 3.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) in high school and must be graduating from high school in May/June of the current application year.

A student must remain continuously enrolled and maintain an overall 2.5 GPA for ongoing eligibility.

"Mountwest is committed to helping students find their path, so we are thrilled to be able to offer this scholarship to assist someone who has chosen a path of caring for others by becoming a nurse," said Joshua Baker, PhD, president, Mountwest. "We appreciate the partnership with St. Mary's to make this happen."

For more information about the scholarship, including how to apply, students should contact their high school guidance counselor or email Dr. Trader at [jtrader@st-marys.org](mailto:jtrader@st-marys.org).

Founded in 1926, St. Mary's School of Nursing is the oldest nursing program in West Virginia. For more information about the school, visit [www.st-marys.org](http://www.st-marys.org). For more information about Mountwest, visit [www.mctc.edu](http://www.mctc.edu).

## St. Mary's Medical Center appoints new positions

St. Mary's Medical Center (SMMC), a member of Mountain Health Network, has announced three new appointments for the medical center.

Todd Booton has been named Director of Facility Operations, after serving as the interim director for the past four months. Booton has worked in facility operations at St. Mary's for more than 30 years, including serving as the manager of in-house construction for more than 25 years.

Angie Martin, MSN, RN, CAPA, has been named Director of Surgical Services. A 38-year employee of SMMC, Martin most recently served as the Assistant Director of Surgical Services. She holds a master's degree in nursing administration and leadership from Aspen University, a bachelor's degree in nursing from Ohio University, and a bachelor's degree in health care administration from Kennedy-Western University. Martin is also a graduate of the St. Mary's School of Nursing.

Andy Mullins, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, CNL, has been named Assistant Director of Surgical Services. A 17-year employee of SMMC, Mullins most recently served as the Nurse Manager/Clinical Nurse Leader of the Operating Room. Mullins received his Doctor of Nursing Practice-Clinical Nurse Leader and Master of Science in Nursing-Family Nurse Practitioner from Ohio University. He received his bachelor's degree in nursing from Marshall University.

## MHN names Aziz VP of Revenue Cycle Management

Fareed Aziz has been named Vice President of Revenue Cycle Management for Mountain Health Network.



Aziz is responsible for providing direction and support to the department leaders for Business Services, Health Information Management, Patient Access, Financial Counseling, Pre-Certification, Billing, Follow-Up, Credit/Collections, Charity Care Write-Offs and Medicare Eligibility to support customer service and performance goals for MHN. With more than 16 years of revenue cycle leadership experience in large health care

systems, Aziz previously served as the director of Patient Business Services and the Enterprise Manager, Standards and Performance at Trinity Health System in Livonia, Michigan. He has also worked at Prime Healthcare in New Jersey and Conifer Health Solutions in Detroit, Michigan.

Aziz received a bachelor of computer applications from Osmania University in Hyderabad, Telangana, India and a certificate in Medical Terminology from Davenport University in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He is an executive MBA candidate with the Quantic School of Business and Technology in Washington, D.C.



## St. Mary's Medical Center names Swearingen Chief Operating Officer

Angie Swearingen has been named Chief Operating Officer (COO) for St. Mary's Medical Center (SMMC).



As St. Mary's COO, Swearingen leads the operational activities of SMMC and serves on the MHN senior

team. She will help drive the operational goals for SMMC; ensure compliance with regulatory agencies and accrediting bodies is maintained; oversee hospital properties and construction; collaborate with physicians, staff, and the community; and work with MHN and Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH) leadership to advance the Mission and Vision of MHN. She succeeds Todd Campbell, who announced his departure in November and completed his 20-year service to St. Mary's on Jan. 21.

"Angie's experience, organization, and financial acumen have been and will continue to be tremendous assets to St. Mary's," stated Kevin W. Yingling, RPh, MD, CEO, MHN and president of CHH and SMMC. "Angie is well prepared for her new role, and I look forward to her contributions to both St. Mary's and Mountain Health."

Swearingen has served as the SMMC Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer for the past 11 years. She has more than 25 years of health system and hospital experience through positions with Tenet Healthcare in Hilton Head, South Carolina; Greenbrier Valley Medical Center in Lewisburg, West Virginia; St. Francis Hospital in Charleston; and Raleigh General in Beckley.

Swearingen received her master's degree in healthcare administration and her bachelor's degree in accounting from Marshall University. She is a member of the West Virginia Healthcare Financial Management Association and West Virginia Chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives and serves on the board of the West Virginia Hospital Association. Swearingen is active in the community as she serves on the Marshall University College of Business Advisory Board and Executive Committee, the Provider Response Organization for Addiction Care and Treatment (PROACT) Board and Executive Committee, the Huntington Regional Chamber of Commerce Board and Executive Committee, the Keith-Albee Performing Arts Center Board and the West Virginia Neighborhood Investment Program Advisory Board.

"St. Mary's is a special place built upon a foundation of faith by the Pallottine Missionary Sisters," Swearingen said. "It is exciting, as we approach the 100-year anniversary of St. Mary's, to be leading this organization to further the Mission of the Sisters and continue our work with Mountain Health leadership on creating a regional health care destination."

Rob Kaczmarczyk now fills the Vice President of Finance role for SMMC. After joining SMMC in 2015, Kaczmarczyk served as the Director of Decision Support and, most recently, the Director of Finance. Prior to joining SMMC, he served as the Director of Decision Support for Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital in Kentucky; and worked in health care finance positions in Michigan.

## Cabell Huntington Hospital earns ACR accreditation in breast MRI and CT



Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH), a member of Mountain Health Network (MHN), has been awarded a three-year term of accreditation in breast magnetic resonance imaging

(MRI) as the result of a recent review by the American College of Radiology (ACR). MRI of the breast offers valuable information about many breast conditions that may not be obtained by other imaging modalities, such as mammography or ultrasound.

CHH has also been awarded a three-year term of accreditation in computed tomography (CT).

The ACR gold seal of accreditation represents the highest level of image quality and patient safety. It is awarded only to facilities meeting ACR Practice Parameters and Technical Standards after a peer-review evaluation by board-certified physicians and medical physicists who are experts in the field. Image quality, personnel qualifications, adequacy of facility equipment, quality control procedures and quality assurance programs are assessed. The findings are reported to the ACR Committee on Accreditation, which subsequently provides the practice with a comprehensive report that can be used for continuous practice improvement.

The ACR, founded in 1924, is a professional medical society dedicated to serving patients and society by empowering radiology professionals to advance the practice, science and professions of radiological care. The College serves more than 37,000 diagnostic/interventional radiologists, radiation oncologists, nuclear medicine physicians, and medical physicists with programs focusing on the practice of medical imaging and radiation oncology and the delivery of comprehensive health care services.

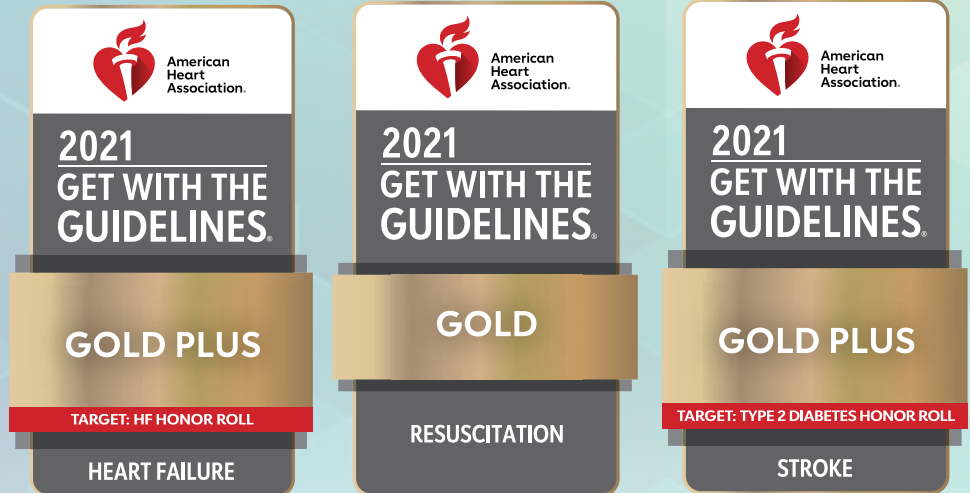
# MHN hospitals earn national recognition for efforts to improve cardiovascular treatment

St. Mary's Medical Center (SMMC) and Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH) have received three American Heart Association Achievement Awards for implementing quality improvement measures that ensure cardiovascular patients receive efficient and coordinated care, ultimately leading to more lives saved, shorter recovery times and fewer returns to the hospital.

SMMC received the Get With the Guidelines®-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award for the 11<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, while CHH received the award for the eighth consecutive year. In addition, both hospitals received the Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll Award, while CHH also received the Target: Stroke Honor Roll award.

SMMC, home of the MHN Cardiovascular Center of Excellence, also received the Get With the Guidelines®-Heart Failure Gold Plus with Honor Roll and Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll Award and the Get With the Guidelines®-Resuscitation Gold Award.

"Mountain Health Network is honored to be recognized by the American Heart Association for our dedication to helping our patients have the best possible survival rate and recovery time after cardiovascular events," said Hoyt Burdick, MD, chief medical officer, MHN. "The Get with the Guidelines program helps put proven knowledge and guidelines to work on a daily basis to provide highly reliable care and consistently improve outcomes for cardiovascular patients."



Nearly half of all adults in the U.S. have experienced some form of cardiovascular disease, including heart attack, stroke and heart failure. For patients with conditions that are severe enough to be transported or admitted to a hospital, time is critical.

The American Heart Association's Get With the Guidelines program helps reduce barriers to prompt treatment for cardiovascular events. As participants in the Get With the Guidelines program, CHH and SMMC applied for the award recognitions by demonstrating how their organizations have committed to improving quality care for patients.

"We are pleased to recognize Mountain Health Network for its commitment to cardiovascular care," said Lee H. Schwamm, MD, national chairperson of the American Heart Association's Quality Oversight Committee and executive vice chair of neurology, director of Acute

Stroke Services, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts. "Research has shown that hospitals adhering to clinical measures through the American Heart Association's quality improvement programs often see fewer readmissions and lower mortality rates."

SMMC was named a MHN Cardiovascular Center of Excellence in October 2019. To be named a MHN Center of Excellence, the clinical area must be recognized by the medical community, the public and accrediting bodies as providing the most expert and highest level of compassionate and innovative care.

For more information about the MHN Cardiovascular Center of Excellence at SMMC, visit [www.st-marys.org](http://www.st-marys.org). For more information about CHH stroke care, visit [www.cabellhuntington.org](http://www.cabellhuntington.org).

# MHN wound centers receive quality and service awards

St. Mary's Wound and Hyperbaric Center (SMMC) and the Center for Wound Healing at Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH), members of Mountain Health Network, have received quality and patient satisfaction awards in wound care from RestorixHealth, a leading wound care management company, as part of its Clinical Distinction Program.

SMMC is the recipient of the Wound Center of Excellence Award, RestorixHealth's highest achievement. This award distinguishes centers that have demonstrated exceptional success by meeting or exceeding clinical and operational benchmarks in different categories, including healing outcomes, assessment and care processes and patient safety, along with a patient satisfaction rate of 96% or higher.

CHH is the recipient of RestorixHealth's Clinical Distinction Award. Recipients of



this award meet or exceed national quality benchmarks over a set period of time.

"Mountain Health Network is dedicated to providing highly reliable care to our patients on a daily basis," said Hoyt Burdick, MD, chief medical officer, MHN. "These awards confirm that dedication by our wound centers and we are grateful and proud to be recognized."

RestorixHealth launched its Clinical Distinction recognition program to recognize centers that have demonstrated success by meeting or exceeding patient safety goals along with a 90% healing rate.

The SMMC and CHH wound centers are dedicated to optimizing outcomes and preventing lower limb loss in those patients with non-healing wounds. The approach to wound care is aggressive and comprehensive, coordinating traditional and advanced therapies and techniques that are proven to reduce healing time and improve healing rates. The centers are staffed with a multidisciplinary team of physicians along with nurses and technicians with advanced training in wound care and hyperbaric medicine. Integrating a team of wound care professionals optimizes patient care, while offering the most advanced healing options.

For more information about St. Mary's Wound and Hyperbaric Center, visit [www.st-marys.org](http://www.st-marys.org) or call 304.399.7450. For more information about the Center for Wound Healing at Cabell Huntington Hospital, visit [www.cabellhuntington.org](http://www.cabellhuntington.org) or call 304.399.3510.



## Mountain Health Network Hospitals Receive Gold Honors for Quality and Safety

Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH) and St. Mary's Medical Center (SMMC), members of Mountain Health Network (MHN), have been recognized by the West Virginia Hospital Association (WVHA) with Gold Honors in the WVHA's Commitment to Excellence Honors Program.



"Our staff and physicians are committed to providing highly reliable care with the best possible outcomes for the patients we serve and we thank the WVHA

for recognizing that commitment," said Hoyt Burdick, MD, chief medical officer, MHN. "We thank our physicians and staff for their diligence in achieving and exceeding these important quality benchmarks leading to this special recognition by the WVHA."

The West Virginia Hospital Association recognized CHH and SMMC for outstanding work in the following topic areas:

- Alliance for Innovation on Material Health (AIM)
- Antibiotic Stewardship
- Care Transitions
- Emergency Department Information Exchange (EDIE)
- Hospital Quality Improvement Contract (HQIC)
- Influenza Vaccination
- Opioid Stewardship
- Patient Family Engagement
- WVHA Discharge Data Program

The Honors Program was conceived and developed by the WVHA Quality Committee and approved by the WVHA Board of Trustees. The objectives of the

Honors Program are to reward successful efforts to develop and promote quality improvement activities; inspire hospitals to be leaders in improving the health of West Virginians; and to raise awareness of nationally accepted standards of care that are proven to enhance patient outcomes.

The WVHA is a not-for-profit statewide organization representing 59 hospitals and health systems across the continuum of care. The WVHA was founded in 1925 to serve as the collective voice of the state's hospital community. Today, the mission of the WVHA is to support its members in achieving a strong, healthy West Virginia. Members of the Association envision a strong health care system that supports optimizing the health status of West Virginians served by hospitals and improving the economic condition of the state.



Cabell Huntington Hospital | St. Mary's Medical Center | HIMG

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Huntington, WV

## COVID-19 Drive-Through Testing Location Closes

The COVID-19 drive-through testing location at Marshall University Medical Center/Cabell Huntington Hospital (CHH) as well as Marshall Health's COVID-19 hotline concluded operations on April 22. Testing is now transitioned to a clinic-based model at Marshall Health and Mountain Health Network.

COVID-19 testing is available for Marshall Health and Mountain Health Network patients by appointment at primary care locations throughout the region. Testing is also available for patients with symptoms

at Marshall Pediatrics NowCare at 5170 U.S. Route 60, Cabell Huntington Hospital Family Urgent Care at 2 Stonecrest Drive and St. Mary's Urgent Care at 2827 Fifth Ave., all in Huntington.

Pre-operative testing at Cabell Huntington Hospital will now be done at Pre-Admission Testing (PAT) on the ground floor of the hospital. Testing is still required for inpatient procedures but is no longer mandatory for outpatient surgeries if the patient is not experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19.

Free drive-thru community testing remains available from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Cabell-Huntington Health Department, 703 Seventh Ave. in Huntington.

Marshall Health and CHH first offered drive-through COVID-19 community testing in March 2020 and have conducted more than 70,000 tests since that time. The collective effort has included individuals across multiple departments at both organizations, including family medicine, pathology, the CHH laboratory and more.



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