When their deliveries didn’t go as planned, neonatology was here for them.

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A Message from the President

February was my one-year anniversary as president of Memorial Hospital. It certainly has been a memorable first year. Two weeks after assuming my new role, Memorial treated its first COVID patient, and it has been nothing like I expected.

While it is common with anniversaries to highlight accomplishments of the past year and offer words of wisdom, I have decided instead to reflect on what we have all experienced during 2020 with these thoughts:

• COVID impacted all of us individually. I suspect there is not one person reading this who does not know someone who has passed away from COVID. Fortunately, I have not lost anyone in my immediate family, but I have several acquaintances who succumbed to the pandemic this past year. It is sad and sobering, and the sense of loss is a common bond we all share.

• The difference in health disparities based on socio-economic conditions became more evident than ever. Where we go from here as a society will be interesting. I hope the focus does not fade into the background and that we look at new, creative ways to address health status.

• The adaptability of humans is immense. Look at how we have changed our lifestyles or work life in the past year. Of course, this has not happened without some bumps and a lot of angst in our society, but overall, I think we have endured and adapted well.

I am so proud of our team at Memorial Hospital Belleville and Memorial Hospital Shiloh. Our team has taken care of more COVID patients than all the other hospitals in our five-county region combined. In reflecting on the past year, it became very clear that our caregivers got their resilience from our patients and families. The gratitude from them, along with the support of our community is a testament to that fact. The donations of food, snacks, beverages, cards, and words of encouragement made a tremendous impact on our staff. I can’t thank you enough for your kindness and generosity.

In this issue of Insights & Outlooks, you will read more about Memorial’s response to the pandemic. In addition, we will take a look at how Memorial Hospital Shiloh (and the first baby born there) has grown in the past five years along with information about some new services being offered, the Rehabilitation Institute under construction, some patient testimonials about Memorial’s lung cancer screening program, and the convenience of having Washington University pediatric specialists conveniently located in Shiloh.

Obviously, this past year did not go as I expected just like it did not go as you expected. But we certainly endured and rose to face the challenges together. To quote John Lennon (and others), “Life is what happens when you are busy making other plans.”

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Mike
Kacie Monson, clinical pharmacy specialist, was named the 2019-2020 Memorial Employee of the Year during a virtual live-stream event last September.

Monson specializes as an internal medicine/cardiology pharmacist ensuring the appropriate and safe use of medications, patient education, performance improvement projects, cost-saving initiatives, student education, and formulary review/restrictions. She also serves as a resource for physicians, nurses, and patients.

Her supervisor, Ryan Birk, PharmD, MS, BCPS, said Monson has done an outstanding job of integrating and evolving clinical practices in this area. She focuses on aligning patient care with best practice guidelines, medication transitions of care, and teaching pharmacy students how cardiology care continues to be redefined. She is also a clinical adjunct professor with the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville School of Pharmacy.

Other candidates for Employee of the Year were Alicia Shaffer, Riley Wallace, Caroline Dorion, Victoria Hilmes, Teresa Black, Michelle Johnson, Chris Griebel, Renee Wilson, and Nakia Thomas.

**First Outstanding Leadership Award Winners**

In 2020, Memorial introduced the Outstanding Leadership Award to distinguish one outstanding nursing/clinical leader and one outstanding leader from the non-clinical/support services areas.

The Outstanding Leadership Award is intended to recognize directors, managers, and supervisors at Memorial Hospital Belleville, Memorial Hospital Shiloh, and Memorial Care Center who are role models and consistently exceed expectations.

For the first Outstanding Leadership Award, there were 11 nominees in the nursing/clinical category and five nominees in the non-clinical/support category.

Lindsey Wilson received the first Outstanding Leadership Award in the nursing/clinical category, and Lisa McDonald received the first award in the non-clinical/support category.

Wilson received numerous nominations, all which spoke of her strong leadership characteristics as well as her compassion. She is an effective communicator and listens to her staff.

McDonald is described as the best combination of an effective leader and wonderful human being. Another nominator described her as being an effective communicator; future focused; and having a confident, composed, and courageous leadership presence. It also is noted that McDonald is results oriented, holding herself and others accountable.
COVID-19 RESPONSE

Healthcare Heroes, Devoted Fighters, Dedicated Professionals... phrases commonly used to describe Memorial Hospital staff members who are unwavering in this unprecedented time.

As we reflect on the past year, it becomes increasingly evident that Memorial’s mission of “Providing exceptional healthcare and compassionate service” remains intact. Reviewing this journey leaves us awestruck by the power of illness and the resiliency of our patients, families, and caregivers.

History of COVID-19
COVID-19, caused by the SARS-CoV2 virus, was first identified in Wuhan, China, in December 2019 and was initially described as a pneumonia of unknown origin. Within four weeks, this virus demonstrated that it had no borders by appearing in 21 countries, including the United States. The initial U.S. cases were connected to overseas travel, cruise ships, or contact with someone who had been overseas. However, very soon, devastating outbreaks verified community spread. A global emergency was declared by the World Health Organization on February 11, 2020, and on March 11, COVID-19 became the first documented coronavirus pandemic in history.

This virus has impacted the lives and health of more than 80 million people worldwide. At the end of 2020, the U.S. accounted for over 20 million of those cases with Illinois seeing over 900,000 cases and more than 1,000 deaths.

Locally, St. Clair County has seen 16,684 cases with 280 deaths, and Memorial ended 2020 caring for 1,934 patients with 133 deaths. This unprecedented crisis has overwhelmed healthcare systems and placed a burden on all care providers.

Local response
Memorial’s local response to this virus focused on providing the best care for community residents and supporting the healthcare providers entrenched in the work. Memorial’s journey began March 11, 2020, when we cared for our first positive COVID-19 patient. Currently in wave three, Memorial has pushed forward through many challenges in medical management and care of COVID-19 positive patients.

Challenges in providing competent, compassionate care for these patients has proved to be multifaceted. Medical management, patient care, laboratory testing capabilities, regulatory reporting, supply gaps, financial strain, and staff burnout were all areas of great concern. Healthcare workers can attest to the warp speed in which COVID-19 evolved. Memorial Incident Command Center, in cooperation with BJC HealthCare Incident Command, led the efforts for the pandemic response.

One of the earliest barriers Memorial Hospital faced was the inability to test for the virus. Initial testing constraints included testing through the state of Illinois and only if very stringent criteria for testing were met. While testing continues to be of concern,
the initiation of multiple COVID-19 testing methods has allowed for a more comprehensive testing program. Memorial forged ahead early and trusted that the collaborative effort with BJC would bring testing capabilities in a short time. Priority was given to opening a testing site to serve the community and Memorial employees. Ultimately, Memorial became the first in the BJC system to open a drive-through testing center, which continues to operate today.

Proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE) was challenging as the recommendations changed quickly and were often in opposition to previous recommendations. Initial guidelines provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) were not to wear a mask. Those who had respiratory symptoms and those caring for patients with respiratory symptoms needed to mask, otherwise it was felt unnecessary. By mid-April 2020 the spread of COVID-19 from patients and staff with no symptoms or just prior to symptom onset was recognized as a major contributor to the spread of COVID-19, and universal masking began to take shape. Memorial became an early adopter of universal masking but also recognized the perils of aerosol-generating procedures when an outbreak occurred among staff and patients on a nursing unit. Masking recommendations at Memorial were modified to include respiratory protection appropriate for these types of concerning treatment modalities; BJC soon followed suit.

Memorial was not immune to the national PPE shortage. The materials management team worked continuously to secure adequate PPE for all staff. Lack of protective gowns meant that nurses used the same gown from one COVID-19 patient to the next prior to removing. Lack of masks required staff to place their mask in a paper bag and reuse it for several shifts. BJC was able to do mask decontamination for a short period of time, and this helped alleviate some concerns in mask reuse. Several local businesses assisted by printing and donating 3D face shields. Cleaning supplies dwindled, requiring staff to use alternative products, which took a substantially longer time to attain proper disinfection. Donations from the community and other medical providers also helped bridge the gap.

Patient care looks and feels different during a pandemic. Providing care for these patients has required flexibility and resiliency. Until very recently, ambulatory patients entered the hospital through a tent and were triaged as “potentially infected or no infection concern.” Many were treated and discharged directly from the tent and never entered the facility. While this process has moved indoors, it continues to be a mainstay of limiting patient congregation in the emergency department. Care teams were challenged by the severity of the illness as those arriving through ambulance services tended to have a more severe illness as patients delayed seeking care in fear of entering a hospital.

Early in the pandemic, many local nursing care facilities experienced outbreaks of COVID-19 leading to increased patient volumes that put strain on the staffing pool. Late in the year, the care center population has continued to present; however, a younger population of patients infected through community spread has now added to the patient volume.

Dedicated COVID-19 units were designated within the hospital and at Memorial Care Center to limit exposures and concentrate resources. Staff nurses from both hospitals staffed the COVID-19 units, while staff from various other areas were redeployed to these units to assist the nursing staff with tasks and assure PPE was applied and removed correctly.

Facilities management supplied filtration systems for individual rooms to scrub the air, thereby decreasing the likelihood of staff becoming ill. To limit staff exposures to ancillary departments, nursing took on all tasks in the care of patients including drawing labs, respiratory treatments, delivery of food trays, and daily cleaning of the room.

Nurses quickly learned new medications and treatment modalities. The dedicated COVID-19 floor staff became the experts in COVID-19 care and can attest to how quickly this virus can cause patient conditions to deteriorate.

Following CDC recommendations, visitors were significantly reduced and at times not permitted at all. It became common for patients and families to communicate through media resources. Many goodbyes occurred with a nurse at the bedside holding an iPad.

Triumph over the disease is declared with each patient downgrade in level of care and the victory march of a discharge will forever be a part of the Memorial family. Journey’s “Don’t Stop Believin)” plays throughout the house as COVID-19 patients are discharged from the hospital.

Support from the community
The community rallied around Memorial’s staff throughout the pandemic. Donations, prayers, and well wishes were abundant. Staff participated in prayer gatherings to maintain their resiliency. There was a flyover by Scott Air Force Base to recognize the work of our healthcare providers. Many yard signs and social media posts were shared saluting healthcare workers. Staff received many home-cooked meals, bakery items, and treats from community members or local businesses. Personal handwritten thank you cards were received from multiple schools and churches. Staff received much-needed neck and back massages by local chiropractic clinics, giving them a moment to be still and a few minutes of respite. They also enjoyed musical instruments and singing by other Memorial employees as they arrived to work or during their shifts within their units/departments. Memorial’s staff have supported, assisted, and befriended each other through this difficult time.

Memorial Hospital staff know what resiliency looks and feels like as they continue to provide exceptional healthcare and compassionate service. The World Health Organization declared 2020 as “The Year of the Nurse and Midwife.” It certainly has proven to be the year that all caregivers have risen heroically and collaboratively to serve the community.

As the vaccine is administered, it is with optimism that all of us continue to push forward.
Celebrating One of Memorial’s Military Heroes

PENNIE PAVLISIN

STAFF NURSE

She dreaded the thought of spending her entire career at one hospital. So after 10 months of working as a nurse in Kearney, Nebraska, Pennie Pavlisin, MS, RN-BC, joined the Air Force, hoping to see the world.

“I was intrigued with the Air Force recruiters when I was in college,” Pavlisin said. “The Air Force looked exciting—it allowed me to serve my country; offered an opportunity to travel; and if I made it a career, I could retire when I was in my early to mid-50s.”

Now, working nights as a staff nurse at Memorial Hospital Belleville, Pavlisin reflected on a 27-year Air Force career that saw her stationed in Germany and deployed to Iraq, among other places; flying throughout the European theater of operations and to the U.S. as a flight nurse; earning a master’s degree in health services administration and completing advanced military education; serving as a squadron commander (the Air Force equivalent of a CEO/CNO) for several military medical facilities; and reaching the rank of colonel. She accomplished all of this while also raising a family, being active in her church, and getting a private pilot’s license.

Talking to the recruiters sparked Pavlisin’s dream to work as a flight nurse, a goal she accomplished early in her career. While based in Germany, she experienced a career highlight—being chosen for the high-profile mission of helping bring Thomas Sutherland, an American professor kidnapped by Lebanese militants, home after his release.

Another highlight came in 2003. “Deploying to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom was a wonderful opportunity, and the great things we were able to do for the Iraqi people were extraordinary,” Pavlisin said. “It was quite humbling to see moms trying to give us their kids, so they could have a better life.”

Pavlisin, who is also a mom, found herself at one time working her clinic job during the day; taking grueling master’s classes at night (bringing along a new infant daughter when necessary); and juggling family life with her husband, a fellow Air Force officer with a long commute to his Pentagon job.
“We made it happen,” she said. As a family with two officers in different career fields, they worked through challenges that fit their family.

For Pavlisin, even the tough times in the military were an honor. She is proud, she said, of “meeting and working with outstanding people at every assignment; being selected for the Thomas Sutherland mission; meeting my husband and supporting him in his various positions as he supported me; achieving the rank of colonel before retiring; raising our children in the Air Force; and living by the core values of Integrity, Service Before Self, and Excellence in all we do.”

She’s now proud of working at Memorial and being seen as “a team player and resource.” Working for an organization that values veterans as BJC does is gratifying, she said.

“I value my military service, and I’m honored that BJC values veterans,” Pavlisin said. “My service to our nation is truly an honor!”

Last Veterans Day, BJC thanked healthcare heroes like Pavlisin, who serve in all roles across the system, for having served their country. Team members who have served in the military and those who are currently serving gathered for a virtual celebration on Wednesday, November 11. Each hospital and service organization also thanked veterans locally.

BJC is grateful to the military veterans who now serve patients and families. These employees bring unique experiences and perspectives to BJC’s team of 31,000 caregivers and are an asset to BJC’s mission and fulfilling our BJC Values of Compassion, Respect, Excellence, Safety, and Teamwork.

“I VALUE MY MILITARY SERVICE, AND I’M HONORED THAT BJC VALUES VETERANS.
My service to our nation is truly an honor!”

– PENNIE PAVLISIN
We're glad to announce that Memorial Care Center has once again been named one of the top performers in the country for Short-Term Rehabilitation. This is the 11th consecutive year that Memorial Care Center has received a top ranking from U.S. News & World Report.

Memorial Care Center was ranked among more than 15,000 facilities in the country, and only 21% of U.S. nursing homes earn recognition. The rankings are based on U.S. News’ in-depth analysis of publicly available data as well as information from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the federal agency that sets and enforces quality standards for all homes enrolled in Medicare or Medicaid.

Memorial Care Center is licensed and certified by the Illinois Department of Public Health and is connected to Memorial Hospital Belleville. The facility offers high-quality nursing and rehabilitative services for post-operative or short-term rehabilitative care as well as wound care and intravenous therapy services.

For more information about Memorial Care Center, call (618) 257-5060.

Michael McManus, president of Memorial Hospital, has been elected to the Illinois Health and Hospital Association’s (IHA) 2021 Board of Trustees. The board of trustees is the policymaking body for the IHA, which represents more than 200 hospitals and nearly 40 health systems across Illinois. McManus will serve a three-year term.

McManus was named Memorial’s president in February 2020 after serving as chief operating officer since 2012. Prior to joining Memorial in 2012, McManus was chief operating officer at Touchette Regional Hospital in Centreville, Illinois. He also held positions with Kenneth Hall Regional Hospital in East St. Louis, Illinois; HBE Corporation in St. Louis, Missouri; Moses Cone Health System in Greensboro, North Carolina; Unity-St. Clement Health Services in Red Bud, Illinois; and ASC Health System in O’Fallon, Illinois. He began his career as assistant director of the Hospital Council of Western and Central Michigan.

He currently serves on the board of the Esquire Line at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows and is a member of the Leadership Council of Southwestern Illinois. McManus is past chair of the Saint Louis Metropolitan Hospital Council and has served on various Saint Peter and Paul Catholic Church boards and committees. He is also a past chair/member of the Gibault High School board and 2019 Greater Belleville Chamber of Commerce board chair. McManus is a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

This improvement was the result of multiple factors, which include:

- Strong mortality and safety performance driven by collaboration with revenue cycle to ensure we are capturing accurate severity of illness for our patients.
- Continued excellence in infection prevention.
- The dedication of local quality improvement teams to focus on these metrics and achieve better outcomes.

vizient.
In battling the COVID-19 virus, BJC HealthCare workers embody the essence of heroism.

Through the eyes of the BJC patients, families, and teammates who post thank you messages to BJC.org/HealthCareHeroes, we see that there are several traits common to our frontline caregivers. BJC healthcare heroes are hardworking, dedicated, courageous, tireless, selfless, compassionate, kind, and caring. They show up day after day to bravely fight the coronavirus, often at great risk to their own health and that of their families. In short, they embody the essence of what constitutes being a hero.

Take the example of Brandi Caponi, a social worker at Memorial Hospital Belleville, who was recently recognized by a patient family through a BJC.org/HealthCareHeroes submission. Caponi did her best to keep Jennifer Whitter and family members informed on the condition of her father, who was under care at Memorial Hospital Belleville for a brain injury and COVID-19. When he arrived at Memorial, he didn’t have his phone or iPad with him and was too disoriented to work the phone in his hospital room.

Keeping family updated
“Since the family couldn’t visit, I spoke with Jennifer as often as I could, on the phone and through email,” Caponi said. “I tried to take some of the stress off of her shoulders by reassuring her and her family that her dad was in good hands at Memorial Hospital Belleville.”

Caponi provided Whitter’s family with a continuous stream of information on her dad’s status. “My mom was so appreciative of Brandi’s level of communication and the kindness she showed during every phone call,” said Whitter.

Caponi also helped Whitter’s family complete forms to give the Veteran’s Administration (VA) permission to share medical information with her mother and to set her dad up through the VA so that caregivers could come to his home after he returned from rehabilitation.

When asked whether her role had changed over the past year, Caponi said, “I’m still able to give the same amount of care behind my mask as I could without it. I try to advocate for my patients and their families to the best of my abilities and to help educate them so that they make the right decisions for their loved ones. There are still tough cases, and there have been plenty of tears shed over the past year, but if I know one thing, it’s that humans are resilient.”

“My mom was so appreciative of Brandi’s level of communication and the kindness she showed during every phone call” – Jennifer Whitter, daughter of the patient
Partnership Creates Opportunities to Advance Careers in Healthcare

Recognizing the need to provide convenient healthcare training opportunities to its employees, Memorial partnered with Midwest Career Source Vocational School (MCS) and St. Clair County’s Intergovernmental Grants Department (IGD) to create a unique opportunity to grow its direct patient care team and help reduce turnover in entry-level roles.

“Our intent is to offer this class to our internal employees looking for career progression,” said Terri Halloran, vice president of patient care services and chief nursing officer at Memorial. “The ability to have the class on site was a plus due to transportation concerns of employees in getting to an off-site class location or clinical rotation.”

After discussing this concept with others and learning from the experiences of colleagues across BJC where similar programs are in place, Halloran said Memorial decided to partner with MCS because they offered a personalized training and an on-site class schedule. In addition, St. Clair County’s IGD administers the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act services, and through this program, provides the funding necessary to complete the CNA (PCT) portion of the program.

IGD has enjoyed a long-term relationship with Midwest Career Source and is pleased to be able to share in the support of BJC’s worker training efforts,” said Rick Stubblefield, executive director of St. Clair County Intergovernmental Grants and Economic Development Departments. “Right now, it is very difficult for employers to attract new workers so the concept of advancing the skills of existing employees and moving them to more complex better-paying positions with opportunity for promotion makes perfect sense.”

MCS was established in 2012 by the Reset to Success Foundation and is a 501(c)(3) established in 2006 with the vision of providing educational programs/job readiness training, life development skills, career mentoring, tutoring, case management, and job placement services.

About the program

The program is targeted at employees working in other hospital departments who have a passion for a role in direct patient care. Currently, MCS offers a patient care technician (PCT) program at Memorial; however, there is a desire to expand program offerings in the future to include other roles in direct patient care.

The eight-week program is a blend of theory, classroom learning, and clinical hours. Upon successful completion of the program, students can take the state examination. Participants who complete the program are registered through the Department of Labor as registered apprentices. The related training for CNA/PCT Apprentice is performed by MCS with Memorial providing on-the-job training.

MCS was established in 2012, RN, MSN, PhD, program administrator for MCS, said this program utilizes a best practice consultative case management approach focused on one year of monitoring performance for each student completing the program.

“Through this model, MCS works in collaboration with Memorial Hospital leadership to enhance job performance and work ethic,” Day said. “MCS works closely with the apprentice to help employees navigate challenges and barriers that could impact employment thereby reducing turnover and improving retention.”

Memorial’s goal was to implement this training opportunity as a pilot for other healthcare career needs, Halloran explained. If there are not enough internal candidates to fill the class, we take referrals from our employees or from a list of applicants who have applied to work at BJC but needed additional training for the role.

“MCS has exceeded our expectations in providing a quality product to our employees,” Halloran added. “They have been an excellent partner in soliciting feedback as well as providing feedback on how to be successful with each individual hire. Sulbrena has developed relationships with our talent advisor for hiring, the hiring managers, and internal clinical resources to support the students throughout the program and beyond—having these key connections is a plus.”

Geneva Fox said she has always wanted to work in the medical field.

A mother of two young boys, she worried about cutting hours to go back to school.

“Growing up I wanted to be a nurse, but the older I got the more I realized how many more roles and options there were,” said Fox, who worked as a supply distribution tech at Memorial Hospital Shiloh for a year before transferring to the patient care technician (PCT) program, a collaborative offering through Memorial, BJC, Midwest Career Source, and St. Clair County Department Intergovernmental Grants Department. She is now a PCT on a medical/surgical unit at Memorial Hospital Shiloh.

Fox calls this program “unbelievably life changing.”

“This program allowed me to further my education without having to worry about finances,” she said.

Although undecided on what role she wants to pursue, her goals are to further her education in the medical field. This offers the chance to get experience in a medical/surgical unit while exploring future career interests.

“I am thinking about a medical/surgical nurse, respiratory therapist, or wound nurse,” Fox said. “All of those roles interest me. This program is an amazing opportunity and provides a chance to open doors.”

Sulbrena Day, RN, MSN, PhD, MCS instructor; PCT students Erin Moser, Ariel Meggitt, Gloria Lampkins, Alyssa Abbott, Mary Bijarro; Ruthie Brown, RN, MCS instructor
Monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) are antibodies developed in a laboratory to help our bodies fight infection.

Nearly 100 mAbs are FDA approved to treat health conditions including cancers and autoimmune diseases.

Memorial ER Nurse Thankful for New Treatment to Help Beat COVID-19

This past December, COVID-19 hit Penny Bopp quickly. Bopp, an emergency room assistant nurse manager at Memorial Hospital Belleville, was doing housework when she started to feel unusually cold. From one moment to the next, she went from feeling fine to having violent chills and a 103° fever. “It was crazy how fast it hit me,” said Bopp.

Bopp has a history of asthma and was having shortness of breath but said it was different from what she was used to feeling. “I had aches and chills like I had never had before—they hurt all the way to the bone,” Bopp said.

“The next day my breathing got worse and Tylenol wasn’t helping my fever,” she said. “I also lost my taste and smell, so I called the BJC COVID-19 Occupational Health number, got tested, and it came back positive, which was no surprise to me.”

“From working in the ER, I knew Memorial Hospital offered a new COVID-19 treatment called monoclonal antibody therapy (mAb) to help with the symptoms, so I called my primary care physician and asked her if she was aware of the treatment and whether I would qualify,” Bopp said. “I’m thankful she was so responsive in ordering the therapy.”

What is monoclonal antibody therapy?

In November, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued emergency use authorization for monoclonal antibody treatment of COVID-19 in high-risk patients in certain situations.

According to the FDA, monoclonal antibodies are laboratory-made proteins that mimic the immune system’s ability to fight off harmful pathogens such as viruses—in this case, the virus that causes COVID-19. In a clinical trial of patients with COVID-19 at high risk for disease progression, a single intravenous infusion of monoclonal antibodies significantly reduced COVID-19-related hospitalization and death during 29 days of follow up, compared to placebo.

Monoclonal antibody treatment for COVID-19 is different from a COVID-19 vaccine. A vaccine triggers the body’s natural immune response but can take weeks to develop enough antibodies and prevent some kinds of infection. For those who already have the virus, monoclonal antibody treatment gives the body the antibodies it needs to protect itself.

“The therapy is primarily for high-risk patients with a greater likelihood of needing to be hospitalized due to the virus,” said Ryan Birk, PharmD, MS, BCPS, director of pharmacy at Memorial Hospital. “The benefit is to keep patients out of the hospital.”

Birk said, in addition to being at high risk for serious COVID-19 disease, patients must meet additional criteria to benefit from the monoclonal antibody therapy, including a laboratory-confirmed positive COVID-19 test, the ability to receive treatment within 10 days of symptom onset, and the presence of one or more symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

“Everything went smoothly once the order was placed,” said Bopp. “The staff walk you through the process over the phone, tell you what to expect, and even tell you where to park at the hospital. Once you arrive for your appointment, you register while you’re in the car.”

“Monoclonal antibody therapy is given intravenously for at least one hour, followed by a one-hour observation period. Including registration and preparation, it takes about three hours at the infusion center. Just one dose is required for treatment.

“What we have seen with patients who receive mAb,” Birk said, “is that the sooner they receive the infusion, the more their symptoms seem to improve.”

Feeling better and better

“The next day I started to feel a little better, and each day after I kept feeling better and better,” said Bopp. “I believe, without a shadow of a doubt, I would have been in the hospital if I did not receive this therapy.”

“I was fortunate to be able to advocate for myself,” she added. “Thankfully, my primary care physician was open to try what was available. The therapy was a life saver for me.”

Monoclonal antibody therapy has been used to treat more than 650 patients in St. Louis and Illinois, said Birk, and is offered at four BJC locations, including Memorial Hospital Belleville, Missouri Baptist Medical Center’s Outpatient Center in Sunset Hills, Barnes-Jewish Hospital, and Christian Hospital.

“BJC is bringing in innovative therapies from across the country to our communities, and we are happy to offer this therapy on both sides of the river,” Birk said.

Visit https://www.bjc.org/Coronavirus/mAb-for-COVID-1 for more information.
Memorial Hospital Shiloh opened its doors to serve the community at 5:30 a.m. April 12, 2016. Since then, Memorial has served over 22,500 inpatients, had more than 132,500 emergency department visits, and was the birthplace to over 6,200 babies.

Over the past five years, the 94-acre campus has blossomed with the addition of two medical office buildings, one of which houses Siteman Cancer Center. Siteman—based at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis—is known for its exceptional cancer care. Its National Cancer Institute designation recognizes the cancer center’s scientific leadership, resources, and breadth and depth of clinical and laboratory cancer research.

The first 70,500-square-foot Medical Office Building, which opened in October 2017, provides office space for primary care and physician specialists with BJC Medical Group of Illinois, St. Louis Children’s Hospital, Washington University Physicians in Illinois, and Lincoln Surgical Associates as well as laboratory, imaging, rehabilitation services, and The Harold & Dixie LePere Breast Health Center of Excellence.

The 69,500-square-foot Medical Office Building 2 opened in January 2020. It features Siteman Cancer Center’s first satellite center in Illinois, expansion of Washington University Physicians in Illinois services, and additional space for BJC Medical Group practices. Urologists and thoracic surgeons with Washington University Physicians in Illinois will expand services by establishing offices on the Shiloh campus.

### Timeline

**2008**
Memorial Group, Inc. and Metro-East Services, Inc. acquire 94 acres of land at Frank Scott Parkway and Cross Street in Shiloh for future development.

**April 2011**
Memorial files Certificate of Need (CON) with the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board (IHFSRB) to build Memorial Hospital (East) Shiloh, a 94-all-private suite hospital.

**June 2011**
IHFSRB unanimously approves Memorial’s CON application—making it only the second new hospital project approved by the state board in more than 20 years.

**March 2012**
Ruth Holmes, RN, is named as Memorial Hospital (East) Shiloh administrator.

**2012**
Space allocation and design work completed.

**Summer/Fall 2013**
Extensive site preparation including work on the lake and dam as well as installation of aggregate piers to support the five-story structure.

**March 9, 2014**
Land Dedication and Groundbreaking

**Sept. 26, 2014**
Topping Out Celebration marking the end of the structural steel phase.

**Dec. 16, 2015**
Substantial Completion

**April 10, 2016**
Dedication and Ribbon Cutting

**April 12, 2016**
First patient admitted and first baby born.

**Sept. 13, 2016**
IHFSRB unanimously approves plans to build medical office building on Memorial Hospital (East) Shiloh campus.

**Oct. 10, 2016**
Groundbreaking for new medical building.

**Oct. 10, 2017**
Ribbon cutting for new Memorial Hospital (East) Shiloh Medical Office Building (MOB).

**Dec. 1, 2017**
CON filed with IHFSRB for Memorial Hospital (East) Shiloh MOB Phase II.
Shortly after Memorial Hospital Shiloh opened for business at 5:30 a.m. on April 12, 2016, Sasha Hanvey was admitted. And just after 9 a.m., David Hanvey, born by Caesarean section, became a celebrity as the first baby born at the new hospital. OB/GYN Dr. Adriena Beatty of BJC Medical Group of Illinois delivered the 7-pound, 2-ounce, 20-inch-long bundle of joy.

“I can’t believe it has been five years,” Sasha said. “Time really does fly!”

We recently checked in with Sasha to find out how David’s been doing.

“David has been doing great,” she said. “He is currently enrolled at Hope Christian Preschool in Columbia, Illinois, and starts kindergarten in the fall.”

Now weighing in at 33 pounds and 3 foot, 6 inches tall, she said he is a “ninja” at Powerhaus Gym and enjoys swimming at the Monroe County YMCA. David also enjoys playing with his animals in the treehouse, dinosaurs, and action heroes.

“He also is a terrific big brother to Hunter, age 2, and tries to keep up with his big brother Bennett, age 9,” Sasha added. “And, he does a pretty good job at it!”

David’s favorite things to eat are tacos, mac-n-cheese, peanut butter and jelly, as well as CHOCOLATE! Typical five year old, right?

A tough little guy who enjoys wrestling with dad and anyone willing to take him on, he is said to be the first one to come snuggle with mommy.

The Siteman Cancer Center Healing Garden is blooming with colorful plants and flowers. This space provides a place for patients, families, and caregivers to find comfort, manage anxiety/stress, and find a healing environment—something they might not have elsewhere. It also helps create awareness that everyone is part of the cancer journey.

Some exciting things are on the horizon for Memorial’s Shiloh campus this year. Plans are underway to expand the Family Care Birthing Center as well as further develop a Pregnancy Assessment Center. In addition, Memorial will expand its minimally invasive surgery capabilities by adding robotic surgery to its offerings on the Shiloh campus. Memorial continues to recruit additional physician specialists to expand offerings to area residents.

Jan. 5, 2018
Ruth Holmes retires as Memorial Hospital (East) Shiloh administrator.

Feb. 27, 2018
IHFSRB unanimously approves plans to build Memorial Hospital (East) Shiloh MOB Phase II, paving the way for Memorial to work collaboratively with BJC HealthCare and Washington University School of Medicine to develop a Siteman Cancer Center.

March 2018
Jeff Dossett named new Memorial Hospital (East) Shiloh administrator.

Aug. 1, 2018
Cancer Treatment Center in Swansea becomes Siteman Cancer Center—the first location in Illinois. Siteman Cancer Center will move to Shiloh in early 2020.

Feb. 22, 2019
Siteman Cancer Center start of construction celebration.

Jan. 7, 2020
Grand opening celebration for Siteman Cancer Center on the campus of Memorial Hospital Shiloh.

Jan. 13, 2020
Siteman Cancer Center Shiloh opens for patient care.

Jan. 1, 2021
Cancer Treatment Center in Swansea becomes Siteman Cancer Center—the first location in Illinois. Siteman Cancer Center will move to Shiloh in early 2020.

Feb. 22, 2019
Siteman Cancer Center start of construction celebration.

Jan. 7, 2020
Grand opening celebration for Siteman Cancer Center on the campus of Memorial Hospital Shiloh.

Jan. 13, 2020
Siteman Cancer Center Shiloh opens for patient care.

Our Numbers
BJC School Outreach and Youth Development, on behalf of Memorial Hospital Belleville and Memorial Foundation, provided health education lessons to 1,175 kindergarten through 12th-grade students in 2019-2020. The initiative focused on improving nutrition education through classroom-based programs for students living in Memorial Hospital Belleville’s service area.
Both physical activity and nutrition lessons were taught to help students learn and develop skills for healthier living. The initiative began as part of the implementation plan for Memorial’s Community Health Needs Assessment to improve the health of youth in the region.

In 2019 and 2020, the schools included Central Junior High, West Junior High, Ellis Elementary, Jefferson Elementary, Roosevelt Elementary, and Harmony Elementary. “The students are engaged and are fun to teach,” Katie Hoehn, BJC health educator/registered dietitian/nutritionist said.

Great reception

Based on program evaluations completed by students and school staff, the health education lessons made a great impact. One student said, “I learned the nutrition labels are changing, and I can help my family eat better.”

Staff and teachers noted that students were asking more questions about their lunches, while another teacher said, “I need to be a better, more healthy role model for my class.”

“The funding from Memorial Foundation began in early 2019 and helps offset health education prevention program costs as well as professional development for school nurses.”

Denise Strehlow, BJC School Outreach and Youth Development

COVID-19 interrupted the in-person classroom programs and provided an opportunity to recreate lessons for the new virtual classroom platforms. “Virtual learning challenged our team to be creative in changing the lessons but has been a lot of fun to explore new ideas,” Devon Murray, BJC health educator/registered dietitian/nutritionist said.

The School Outreach team created pre-recorded, plug-and-play lessons for teachers during this time of blended learning for both at-home students and in-person. All the content is ready to go! Students take an online pre- and post-test, and each lesson is a recorded presentation with supplemental worksheets, games, or additional videos. These can be sent as links, played in a classroom, or teachers could play the videos during a virtual session and send the supplemental links.

Explore Health, Fast Food Facts, and Heart Health are ready for schools. Both pre-recorded and virtual classroom presentations are available. Contact our team to request options for pre-recorded and virtual classroom presentations. The School Outreach team members are excited to provide programs to help students make healthier choices.

For additional information about BJC School Outreach and Youth Development and the programs we provide, visit bjcschooloutreach.org or contact the School Program line at (314) 286-0460.

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I & O

In Your Community

Health Programs

BJC School Outreach and Youth Development began in 1991 with classroom-based health education programs including:

“Fun”tastic Nutrition

A four-session program focused on nutrition education and building healthy eating skills (kindergarten through fifth grade)

SNEAKERS

A four-session program focused on the importance of physical activity and nutrition on the body systems (sixth through eighth grade)

Explore Health

A four-session program focused on nutrition and health to equip middle and high school students with the skills to make informed health decisions

Fast Food Facts

A session focused on fast foods and convenience foods to help students better understand their impact on the health of the body (sixth- to eighth-grade students with information suitable for all audiences)

Heart Health

A session focused on the relationship between heart health, physical activity, and nutrition (fifth grade through high school)
Zoar United Church of Christ Holds Virtual Fundraiser for Our Healthcare Heroes

COVID-19 didn’t stop Memorial Cardiac Rehabilitation employee and Zoar United Church of Christ parish health nurse Shelly Doerr, RN, CCRP, from pivoting one of the church’s popular annual events into a virtual one that raised money to benefit Memorial’s Healthcare Heroes.

Doerr has been organizing a health and wellness fair along with a car cruise at her church for many years. Memorial’s Community Outreach team participated in providing health screenings. To add interest to the event, Doerr added a car show and titled the event Cardiac Car Cruise and Wellness Fair. This year, however, the event usually held in April had to be canceled due to COVID.

Also due to COVID, Doerr’s department closed in March, and she was reassigned to work as a screener. Instead of helping cardiac patients exercise following a cardiac event, she found herself at one of the hospital entrances asking a series of standard questions and taking temperatures.

“This was an eye-opening experience for me. It gave me an opportunity to get to know the nurses and staff who worked firsthand with COVID patients.”

– Shelly Doerr

Newly hired nurse Jackie Richardson was pulled to work on the COVID unit. “Her bravery and the stories from other healthcare workers inspired me to help them in any way possible,” Doerr added.

In July, when COVID numbers had stabilized a bit, Doerr decided to hold a virtual event to benefit our Healthcare Heroes. She organized a drive-thru car event, held at the end of August. Each car show participant drove through and provided a cash donation. They received a “Dash Plaque,” an attendance prize, bottled water, and a digital picture of their car. The photos were transformed into a “Virtual Car Show Event,” which could be viewed on YouTube via the church’s website.

Proceeds ($600) from the event were presented to Memorial’s Healthcare Heroes. Churches Help Network also received $600 from Doerr’s virtual event.

“It’s our way of saying ‘thank you’ for what you do,” Doerr said.
KIDS HAVE BUSY LIVES—

school, homework, sports, part-time jobs, or just hanging out with friends—sometimes there just aren’t enough hours in the week. Now add to that mix a medical condition, like diabetes, that requires your child to be seen by his endocrinologist every three months. No parent would hesitate driving the necessary distance for his or her child’s specialized care—even if it was a two-hour round trip. But what if you didn’t have to?

MEET AJ

AJ is an active 17 year old. He and his family live in Germantown, Illinois. He is a junior at Mater Dei High School, where English is his favorite subject. He plays baseball for his high school team, pick-up basketball with friends, works out, and loves to bass fish. AJ was diagnosed with diabetes when he was 11 years old, and while it has affected his life in every way, it hasn’t slowed him down.

For four years, his parents made the two-hour round trip to St. Louis so AJ could get the care he needed from his Washington University pediatric endocrinologist.

When Children’s Specialty Care opened a location at Memorial Hospital Shiloh, AJ’s parents did not hesitate to make the switch. Alexis McAllister, MSN, RN, PNP, a nurse practitioner in pediatric endocrinology, took over AJ’s care.

“Our drive time from home was cut from over one hour to just 25 minutes. The parking lot is easy to get in and out—we don’t have to park in a garage,” said Rhuann, AJ’s mom. “Most importantly, AJ is still getting excellent care from a Washington University physician, but now we don’t have to drive to St. Louis every three months for his appointments. When blood work is needed, we can just walk down the hall. It is an ideal situation, all the way around.”

“And the wait times are shorter!” AJ added. Spoken by a teenager who has better things to do with his life!
Local and regionally inspired artwork
The goal is to use artwork created by local and regional artists reminiscent of the local landscape, farmland, landmarks, and culture. So whether you’re a long-time resident or new to the area, you will feel a sense of comfort and community through the artwork throughout our hospitals.

How the Healing Arts Program works
Donors may choose to purchase the artwork in honor of a loved one or simply for the satisfaction of knowing how a beautiful piece of artwork can have such a positive impact on someone’s health and healing.

- Donation amount is based on visibility and size of the piece.
- Donors will choose from pre-selected pieces recommended by BJC Design and Construction and Arch Framing and approved by Memorial leadership.
- Location of the artwork has been pre-selected by BJC Design and Construction in consultation with Memorial leadership.
- Donors will be recognized with a small plaque appropriately located near the piece of art.
- Donation also will apply toward the donor’s cumulative giving total and recognized appropriately on the Excellence for Life donor wall.

To learn more about the Healing Arts Program, call Memorial Foundation at (618) 257-5659 or visit memhosp.org/art.
Healthcare Heroes
2020 Year-End Fundraiser Update

Last year, Memorial Foundation honored our Healthcare Heroes by dedicating our year-end fundraising campaign to their tireless 365/24/7 efforts in providing exceptional healthcare and compassionate service to those we serve.

COVID-19 placed restrictions on our ability to perform elective procedures and routine tests and treatments throughout the year. However, Memorial’s Healthcare Heroes continued to provide services in our emergency departments; caring for some of the area’s sickest patients on our nursing units; bringing new lives into the world; and treating those with chronic illnesses such as heart disease, diabetes, and cancer. Plus, they did it all while working under the stresses caused by a worldwide pandemic. 

We are pleased to announce our year-end campaign raised $26,684.

Memorial Foundation wants to sincerely thank everyone who donated to this fundraiser. And our staff appreciates knowing how much the community recognizes their efforts and honors their sacrifices by supporting the community hospitals where they work.
Over the last several years, Memorial Foundation has hosted Unique Spirits & Sweets, a fall fundraiser benefiting The Harold & Dixie LePere Breast Health Center at Memorial. Of course, COVID-19 made hosting such an event impossible, so the Foundation ventured into new territory with a virtual fundraiser.

The MaskurFace Ball 2020 virtual event raised money for Memorial’s Women and Infants Center of Excellence. This event was special because the entire community could be involved in it. COVID-19 had already made masks part of our everyday attire, so Memorial Foundation wanted to host a fun virtual event that would allow participants to create fashionable, yet effective, masks all while raising funds for women and infants in our community.
After a call for submissions, Memorial Foundation opened up voting from October 26-November 11. People voted for their favorite masks by donating $5 for each vote.

We are excited to announce that the MaskurFace Ball 2020 raised $17,200 for Memorial’s Women and Infants Center of Excellence. Proceeds will be used to increase OB capacity, create a pregnancy assessment center, and expand our infant security system.

**Winners**

- Grand Prize Winner (also Mask for Most Money Raised and Mask with Most Votes)
  - Anne Thomure
- Most Creative
  - Dianne Isbell
- Best Mask from Professional Artist
  - Adam Ham
- Best Accentuation of the Eyes
  - Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP

**Premier Sponsors ($2500)**

- Hinshaw
- Impact Strategies
- Memorial Hospital Auxiliary

**Supporting Sponsors ($1000)**

- Drs. Kevin and Sara Barnett
- Clinical Radiologists, SC
- Steve and Susie Gasser
- Gary and Cindy Guthrie
- Mike and Susan McManus

**Community Partners ($100-$999)**

- Stella Baldwin
- Tom and Diana Barnett
- Dr. Kevin and Sue Baumer
- Susan L. Bowers
- Diane and Randy Freeman
- Ed and Martha Hoering
- Jean Joseph
- Kaskaskia Engineering
- Bob and Diane Mueller
- Becky Olroyd
- Kurt and Jennifer Schroeder
- Alan and Nicole Sinn
- Pearl Spies
- Standard Rule Promotions
- Terry Starwalt

From our generous sponsors to the talented mask designers to everyone who made a donation to vote for their favorite masks, you all helped us raise $17,200 for Memorial’s Women and Infants Center of Excellence! Thank you!
The MetroEast Dialysis Access Center Opens at Memorial Hospital Belleville

For patients currently on dialysis or those who will need it in the future because of end-stage kidney disease, the MetroEast Dialysis Access Center is here for complete dialysis access care and management needs.

The MetroEast Dialysis Access Center can provide everything from dialysis access creation to comprehensive vascular surgical care, including minimally invasive treatments and traditional open surgical therapy.

Dialysis access
The three main types of dialysis access are arteriovenous (AV) fistula, AV graft, and tunneled catheter. The team at MetroEast Dialysis Access Center can perform each of these.

In addition to dialysis access, the team can repair any complications that may occur after the access procedure, such as infections, narrowing vessels, or blockages.

Ultrasound evaluation
Before the dialysis access procedure, the dialysis access center team can perform an ultrasound, a non-invasive imaging technique, to see which veins and arteries would be the best to use for a fistula or graft. Ultrasound can also be used to help find out why a fistula or graft isn’t working properly and the best way to treat it.

Fistulogram
A fistulogram is a minimally invasive imaging tool that may be used when a fistula or graft stops functioning correctly. Using an IV contrast and x-ray, the team can more closely see the blood vessel to determine if it’s too narrow, enlarged, or blocked.

Balloon angioplasty and stenting
When a fistulogram shows narrowing or blockages of the fistula or graft, minimally invasive balloon angioplasty and/or stenting procedures may be needed to open it back up and improve blood flow.

Surgical corrections
The team can also perform open surgical corrections of an existing access or create a new access when necessary.

Conveniently located
The MetroEast Dialysis Access Center is conveniently located at Memorial Hospital Belleville. And because it is part of BJC HealthCare, it is backed by world-class specialists and technology when it’s needed. I&O
The dialysis access center team is made up of highly skilled vascular surgeons and advanced practice providers from BJC Medical Group Vascular & Vein at Belleville. This includes a nurse navigator to help educate patients and coordinate their care through the MetroEast Dialysis Access Center.

**Hans Moosa, MD**  
Vascular Surgeon  
Dr. Moosa earned his medical degree at the University of Chicago and completed a combined internship and residency at the University of Pittsburgh – School of Medicine. He performed a fellowship at University of Chicago Medical Center.

**Patrick Neville, MD**  
Vascular Surgeon  
Dr. Neville received his medical degree from Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in Springfield. He then completed an integrated five-year vascular surgery residency at TriHealth Good Samaritan Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Melanie Nukala, MD**  
Vascular Surgeon  
Dr. Nukala earned her medical degree from the American University of Antigua. She completed her internship and residency in general surgery at Western Reserve Health Education and a fellowship in vascular surgery at Saint Louis University.

**Emily Grannis, BSN, RN**  
Nurse Navigator  
Emily earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Saint Louis University and has been a registered nurse for over 15 years. She is board certified in cardiovascular nursing.

**Molly Wade, PA**  
Molly completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Missouri - Columbia and attended University of Kentucky for physician assistant school, graduating in 2017. She has been with our team since graduating.

**Anthony Tarr, NP**  
Anthony completed his undergraduate studies at Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville and Chamberlain College of Nursing. He completed his nurse practitioner education at Maryville University and surgical training at the National Institute of First Assisting - Denver, Colorado.

**Talk to your doctor about a referral**  
to the MetroEast Dialysis Access Center at Memorial Hospital Belleville.

**MetroEast Dialysis Access Center**  
at Memorial Hospital Belleville  
4500 Memorial Drive  
Belleville, Illinois  
(618) 491-9850
When it comes to saving lives, it doesn’t always happen in an emergency room or even in a hospital. Many times, we can save lives through state-of-the-art screenings and other medical technologies.

For two Memorial patients, it was a simple CT lung cancer screening that saved their lives.

Charles Zeller and Bonnie Spengler each had a CT lung cancer screening within the last three years. To be eligible for this screening, you must meet certain criteria.
Lung screening is a criteria based,” explained Michelle Struense, Memorial’s CT Lung Cancer Screening coordinator. “Patients must be between ages 55-77 and either be a current cigarette smoker or one who has quit no longer than 15 years ago. The patient would have to have smoked a 30-pack-year history. When I talk about 30-pack-year history, this means one pack of cigarettes per day for 30 years of their life, smoked two packs per day for 15 years, or ¾ a pack per day for 40 years. The patient must not present with symptoms of lung cancer, which can be difficult to determine at times in a person with a long smoking history due to other smoking-related issues. As the lung screening coordinator, I must do my best assessment with the patient prior to their exam to determine that the patient is in criteria. This includes review of patient order, chart, and a telephone encounter with the patient.”

“If we do find a suspicious lung nodule that could be cancer, there are guidelines followed for surveillance and follow-up testing. The goal is to catch lung cancer early, so we can treat it early and preserve lung tissue,” Struense said. “With lung cancer most often, once a patient starts having symptoms, the cancer has already started to spread. When we do yearly screenings, and we start early as soon as the patient meets screening criteria, we can watch for any development of suspicious lung nodules. This way we can catch the cancer early and start treatment before it has spread to the rest of the lung, lymph nodes, or other areas of the body.”

What happens during the screening?
“Lung screening is a non-invasive test,” Struense said. “Basically, the patient lays on their back for less than five minutes while the technician scans them. I many times tell the patient when I speak with them that the exam takes less time than the registration process. There is no fasting of food, drink, or medication because there is no IV contrast given for lung screening. This makes the exam easy and quick.”

Results are read by a radiologist and usually sent to the ordering physician within 24-48 hours.

A non-smoker for years, a screening still showed cancer
Belleville resident Zeller, 74, credits his wife with putting everything in motion for him to get the screening. “It was my wife, Karen, who had become concerned that I was not getting sufficient care from our regular doctor,” Zeller said. She scheduled an appointment with Dr. Douglas Dothager, the pulmonologist who suggested Zeller get a lung CT screening. He quit smoking around 2006 or 2007, so he still met the criteria for the screening.

“I think it was June 2019, and we went ahead and had the screening,” Zeller recalled. “It came up with, of course, a discovery of a small cancer cell in that upper left part of the lung.” After a biopsy, Zeller was given the option of surgery or radiation treatment.

Zeller said he chose surgery “because that would enable the surgeon to explore not only the idea of getting the cancer removed but do exploration of the surrounding tissue and lymph node areas and make sure it hadn’t spread.” Since his surgery, he’s had three CT scans that all have shown no apparent regrowth.

Thanks to Karen, Zeller got the care he needed. He believes family is important when it comes to “the total care of a person.”

A doctor’s recommendation saved her life
Spengler, 64, of Caseyville, got the screening because her doctor said she and her husband, Steve, should both have one since they had never been screened. She’s been a smoker since she was 18, and she said she probably smokes one pack a day.

“They found a lump, pretty good sized, on my left lung wall,” Spengler said. “My treatment after that was chemo and radiation. And after that I had immunotherapy. It was done at Siteman.”

Although she’s not cancer free, her cancer is much smaller than it was. Spengler believes getting a lung screening saved her life.

Do you need a screening?
If you meet the criteria for a lung cancer CT screening, talk to your doctor about a referral to Memorial. You can learn more at memhosp.org/lung.

“Hopefully this article will save someone’s life,” Zeller said. T&O
The only Level II E Nursery in the area
Memorial Hospital Shiloh is home to the only Level II E Nursery in the Metro East, which means that in addition to full-term babies, we can care for those as early as 30 weeks, as small as 2.75 pounds, and those on assisted ventilation. Neonatologist Dr. Shawn O’Connor is chairman of pediatrics and neonatology medical director at Memorial Hospital Shiloh.

“Neonatologists are pediatricians who specialize in the care of babies born either premature or with illness or injury at time of birth—that could be either shortly after birth or born with. So our job is as intensive care physicians for these newborns,” said Shawn. Yes, Dr. O’Connor is on a first-name basis with the families he cares for and his team at Memorial.

In 2020, Elena Luna and Finn Bibbee were born at Memorial Hospital Shiloh and cared for by the neonatology team. Although their circumstances were different, their initial newborn care was the same they would have received at Barnes-Jewish Hospital or St. Louis Children’s.

Baby Love

Having a baby comes with so many emotions: happiness, excitement, anxiousness, fear, uncertainty, joy. And that’s all before you even get to the delivery room!

Preparing for a new baby means thinking about the future, anything from what the baby will look like to where he or she will go to school. What happens when the delivery doesn’t go quite as you imagined? The neonatology team at Memorial Hospital Shiloh’s Family Care Birthing Center is here for you and your baby.

Pictured above left: Katrina Johnson and Finn Bibbee
Right: Kayla Kite, Elena Luna, and Gaston Luna
Elena born at 30 weeks

Kayla Kite gave birth to Elena on February 5, 2020. She was born at 30 weeks and five days weighing 4 pounds, 4 ounces, and she was 17 inches long. Elena was Kayla and her boyfriend Gaston Luna’s first child.

In late January, Kayla went to Memorial, where she found out she was leaking amniotic fluid. She was transferred to Barnes for five days and released on no restrictions.

“Within 24 hours, I was back at Memorial in active labor,” she recalls. “I got there at 5:45 I think, in the morning, and my contractions were about two minutes apart.”

Kayla credits Jennifer Laubscher, a nurse at the Family Care Birthing Center, for helping her through her labor and delivery. “Jen was my nurse that day, and she was super awesome,” Kayla said. “She was there and just talked me through it.”

When Elena was delivered, Kayla got to hold her long enough for the umbilical cord to be cut, then she was taken to the Level II E Nursery.

“Sometimes when we look at little babies, we think they operate like little, mini adults, but they don’t,” Shawn said. “A baby born 10 weeks premature has a lot of things that have to happen that would have happened over the next 10 weeks in the womb.” In Elena’s case, she would need help breathing, staying warm, and eating.

“Elena’s lungs were immature, so we have to support that immaturity while her lungs continue to develop and grow rapidly after she’s born,” Shawn explained. “She would have been on respiratory support for a while, but that is something that for most babies gets better relatively quickly.”

“At 30 weeks, the other thing people take for granted is just staying warm,” Shawn said. “You don’t have the muscle mass and the body fat to keep yourself warm. For babies born as small as Elena, we have to regulate and monitor their temperature actively. They’re connected to special devices that monitor their temperature and adjusts an automatic heater in the humidified environment to keep their body normal temperature for them. Slowly, over a matter of weeks, we bring that temperature support down as they maintain their temperature to transition to them doing it all on their own.”

Finally, Elena had to learn to eat. “Babies learn to eat starting at about 34 weeks in the womb,” Shawn said. “So Elena’s brain wouldn’t even developmentally be able to understand the concept of eating for another month.”

Elena was fed through a tube and worked with speech and occupational therapy every day to help her develop the oral-motor skills she needed to eat on her own.

“The thing that really becomes frustrating for moms and dads is that we have to let their babies learn how to eat,” Shawn said. “And as they start to figure it out at their own pace, we slowly allow them to take more by mouth and less by their tube. They have to be able to do it all by mouth before they’re able to go home.”

After a seven-week stay in the Level II E Nursery, Elena got to go home. When Kayla looks back at the experience, she remembers how great the neonatal staff was. “I was very particular,” she said. “She had to be handled a certain way, so I’m really glad they actually accommodated that. With having tubes in the mouth, it built up a lot of dryness around her lips. That was one of my biggest pet peeves, and they knew that. And I knew she wasn’t the only baby in there, but they still made sure to just give her that little extra, and they knew that meant a lot to me. They were excellent with her.”

“Our families get comfortable with the nurses who are caring for them, because it’s just a small group that from days to nights is able to give that continuity of care for that newborn,” said Natosha McEvers, MSN, RNC-OB & LRN, nurse manager at the Family Care Birthing Center.

What sets Memorial’s neonatal nursing team apart? “Really just the fact that they are truly committed to providing the best care for every patient who comes in, both moms and newborns, and to involve them,” Natosha said. “They like to see the success of the families being able to really bond and grow as a family.”
Finn was full term with a rare diagnosis
Katrina Johnson was induced two days after her due date on December 11, 2020, and although she doesn’t recommend getting induced, she admits it ended up being for the best. She gave birth to Finn on December 12, and he weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and was 19½ inches long. Finn is Katrina’s and Michael Bibbee’s “first child and best child,” according to Katrina.

“When we were being induced on the 11th, Finn’s cord had been wrapped around his neck,” Katrina said. “So we had to do an emergency C-section instead.”

“Finn had respiratory failure in the delivery room,” Shawn said. “And it was way more pronounced than it should have been for a baby who is full term. The significant difficulty he had in the delivery room is likely related to maternal medicines. And this is one thing moms and dads beat themselves up over again and again. I cannot stress this enough that it’s not anybody’s fault. Moms have to take their medicines. If you’re on a prescribed medicine, that’s the reason I’m there is to take care of those side effects after delivery.”

After getting his respiratory distress under control, the next step was to get Finn to take a bottle. “When he was doing the bottle feedings, he was a very sleepy baby, taking a long time,” Katrina recalls. “As parents we were antsy to get him home, and we would love to take him home before Christmas!”

“Finn had six weeks of practice eating from 34 weeks to 40 weeks, so it’s not surprising that he kind of forgot because he came out sick from a breathing perspective,” Shawn said.

“By a week, he should normally have been eating his food great, but he wasn’t. We still had to make sure he got his nutrition, so he was getting his food by mouth and working on his NG feedings, which is a tube that goes in the nose and down to the stomach.”

Katrina said that around December 27, Finn seemed to really be getting the hang of eating, and Shawn confirmed he was taking 80% of his food by mouth by this time. However, the night of December 27 he had to go back on the warmer. On December 20, Finn wasn’t on the warmer, so the fact that he needed to be on it seven days later was odd. “Babies don’t usually do that,” Shawn said.

Shawn ordered special testing for Finn to make sure he didn’t have a thyroid problem. The test came back abnormal but borderline, so they repeated it a few days later. “Again, it was borderline enough that he likely had hypothyroidism, which was likely the cause of his inability to maintain his temperature,” Shawn said. “It was likely contributing to his inability to not eat as well. One of the things we’re always taught is that babies who have one problem sometimes have more than one problem.”

Next, Shawn and his partner Dr. Hayley Friedman performed a cortisol test. “Cortisol is the hormone that you and I release when we’re stressed,” Shawn said. “A baby who’s not eating, a baby who’s not keeping his temperature well, that could be his inability to mount that stress response that you and I take for granted.”

After the cortisol test, Finn’s levels were undetectable. “I knew what that meant,” Shawn said. “What we do...
after that is inject a special medicine that should cause the body to make cortisol. If it doesn’t, it tells us where the problem is.” While it should have caused a big response in Finn, it didn’t.

Shawn called Katrina and Michael in and explained that in addition to the deficiency in Finn’s thyroid pathway, he also had a second deficiency in the cortisol pathway. Finn needed special medicine, which was all available at Memorial Hospital Shiloh. However, when starting those medicines, some babies can get very sick.

“So I made the decision that Finn needed to go down to my colleagues in Children’s,” Shawn said. “Not because we couldn’t do what we were planning to do at Shiloh, but because he could be better monitored there in case he were to have a problem. He also needed an MRI of his brain, because I was worried about how his pituitary gland was functioning. If you have one hormone missing, that’s one thing. If you have two hormones missing, that’s probably not the thyroid and adrenal gland. There’s probably something wrong with how the brain is communicating with those.”

“When we were at Children’s, it was a really good, peaceful time, because we knew exactly what we were there for,” Katrina said. “We were there to see different specialists, do different tests, get medicine, then get out of there.” After Finn started cortisol and thyroid replacement medicine, he was eating by mouth and in an appropriate time frame. And he was very close to having a diagnosis.

“Finn was diagnosed with septo-optic dysplasia, which is an extremely rare disorder of early brain and eye development,” Shawn explained. “Symptoms for babies like Finn were low blood sugar; jaundice, which he had a little more pronounced; and then some problems with hormones. When we saw Finn’s brain MRI, we saw the part of the brain that connects the left half to the right half wasn’t completely formed correctly. That happens in 30 to 80% of babies with this condition. The other thing that would have clued us into this, which Finn didn’t have, was cleft palate. If he had the cleft palate, it would have made the diagnosis much easier, because that’s something you can see with your eyes.” It usually takes a few months to diagnose septo-optic dysplasia, but Shawn diagnosed Finn within three weeks.

“It was a huge blessing in disguise that we got to be in the NICU for 27-28 days, because this got caught and we have the medicine we need, and we’re in contact with the right people,” Katrina said. “Michael and I also got a lot of hands-on learning of how to be parents from nurses and people who work with babies all the time.”

“It was great to be surrounded by lifelong professionals,” Michael agreed. “And if I ever meet Dr. Shawn again, I will kiss him on the mouth!”

Home away from home
Memorial Hospital Shiloh isn’t just a home away from home for parents, Shawn spends a lot of time there too. “This is our family,” he said of his patients and their parents. “Sometimes I spend more time with that family than I do my own, especially when they’re really sick. Except they’re going to leave me, but they’re no less family, because I am just as invested in making sure your kid is healthy. But I have to do it correctly, even though it might take us a little while, we will get there one day at a time.”

Boarding Program
Memorial Hospital Shiloh offers a boarding program for parents who want to stay at the hospital. “We are lucky in Shiloh that we have great support from the hospital administration to provide rooms, potentially on a different floor, for the moms and dads who have babies staying in the special care ICU,” Shawn said. “They can stay in the building 24/7 if they choose, so they could come in and visit their baby anytime day or night.”
This Drummer Needed a Little Help Keeping the Beat

It was a Friday night in the fall of 2019 when drummer David Fellner, then 61, decided he wanted to join some friends at an open mic night. And it was a decision that may have saved his life.

After taking a seat at the drum set, Fellner remembers pulling his drumsticks out, but he doesn’t remember playing. “I must have been subconsciously playing,” he said. “They said the music had stopped in a very strange place in the song, and they looked back and thought maybe I’d dropped my sticks, but I had fallen into the drums. I just fell forward.”

Right place and right time
“Thankful for me that there was a paramedic, I believe, and a nurse that happened to be in attendance,” Fellner said. “Normally there’s nobody there like that. They got me out from behind there, got me on the floor, and kept me going with CPR until the wagon got there.” Lauren Bovenzi and John Swanson were both Memorial employees who provided Fellner with hands-only CPR.

When the ambulance arrived, Fellner was unresponsive, so the emergency medical team used the defibrillator on him, opened his airway, and got his heart going again. When he arrived at Memorial Hospital Belleville’s emergency department, his heart stopped twice more due to ventricular tachycardia, which resulted in being defibrillated two more times and intubated. An electrocardiogram showed that he had suffered a heart attack. When he woke up in the hospital the next morning, he joked with the nurses that he got paddled a lot more when he was a little boy.

“It was an electrical shutdown,” Fellner said. “My heart just decided to stop beating. There was no warning whatsoever. I felt good when I went in; I felt fine. I guess it was just the excitement of the moment.”

Prior heart issues
When he was 50, Fellner had quintuple bypass open heart surgery. This was followed a year later by having two stents put in, and eight years after
surgery. I know how to clear my arteries now naturally. So I’ve gotten into the holistic side of things, and it seems to be doing real well, because I feel great. I can pretty much do anything I want without too much struggle.”

And Fellner will never forget those bystanders, EMTs, and Memorial team members who helped save his life. “A lot of praise to those that were there and took care of me,” he said. “That’s priceless.”

“Ike not for the angels there, it could have been a lot different. I keep thinking, if I would have stayed home, what would have happened?”

–David Fellner

Opposite page: David Fellner and grandson Aiden
Top: Fellner, Elvis performer, and Fellner’s good friend Carla
Bottom: Fellner and grandson Caleb

that he had another stent put in. “However, they found out that it was actually gastro,” he said. “Acid reflux mimics a heart attack, same exact symptoms. But they did find an artery they could get to with a little difficulty, but they got it done and got another stent in me.”

His treatment in 2019 included continuing the medications he was already on and having a pacemaker/defibrillator inserted.

Healthy changes
So how is Fellner doing now? “I’m doing great,” he reports. “Well, I’ve changed my diet. Major diet, I should have done 20 years ago. If I knew back before I had that surgery what I know now, I would have never had

WHAT IS EHAC?

EARLY SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Memorial Hospital Belleville is an Accredited Chest Pain Center and has adopted the life-saving processes to deliver the highest level of cardiovascular care to your community.
Encompass Health Corp. and BJC HealthCare have partnered to build a 40-bed inpatient rehabilitation hospital in Shiloh. The future hospital will be located adjacent to BJC HealthCare’s Memorial Hospital Shiloh campus on Frank Scott Parkway East. The parties anticipate the hospital will open in early 2022.

Complementing local acute care services like those of Memorial Hospital Shiloh, the hospital will offer physical, occupational, and speech therapies as well as 24-hour nursing care that aim to restore functional ability and quality of life. The hospital will care for patients recovering from debilitating illnesses and injuries including strokes and other neurological disorders, brain injuries, spinal cord injuries, amputations, and complex orthopedic conditions.

The hospital’s medical staff will be comprised of physicians experienced in physical medicine and rehabilitation as well as other specialties including internal medicine, cardiology, infectious disease, and nephrology to assist in the medical management of a complex patient population. The hospital will feature all-private patient rooms, a spacious therapy gym with advanced rehabilitation technologies, an activities-of-daily-living suite, cafeteria, dining room, pharmacy, and therapy courtyard.

“Bringing an acute rehabilitation hospital to this region is a big win for the residents of Southwestern Illinois,” said Michael McManus, president of Memorial Hospital. “We are pleased to work with Encompass Health in providing convenient access to these services.”

Encompass Health and BJC HealthCare currently jointly operate a hospital in St. Louis and a satellite hospital location in St. Peters, Missouri.
Washington University Physicians in Illinois Expand Urology Services into Metro East

Washington University* Urology has established a clinic in Illinois with privileges at Memorial Hospital Belleville and Memorial Hospital Shiloh. Urologists Gerald Andriole Jr., MD; Alana Desai, MD; Kefu Du, MD; Jason Frankel, MD; and Paul Kogan, MD, along with Erica Card, NP, have expanded their practice to the Metro East. They see patients for routine urological issues, as well as perform surgery and other specialized procedures. I&O

Now Accepting Patients

Memorial Hospital Shiloh
Medical Office Building 2
1418 Cross Street, Suite 180
Shiloh, Illinois

Talk to your doctor about a referral to Washington University Urology.

*Clinical services provided by Washington University Physicians in Illinois, Inc.
**BJC Outpatient Center**
**Coming to Edwardsville**

The new space will accommodate nine different services including adult and pediatric care.

BJC HealthCare will make it easier for families to access BJC’s world-class care in the Edwardsville area this summer. BJC recently purchased the property at 2122 Troy Road on Illinois Route 159 in Edwardsville that was previously a Shop ‘n Save grocery store. BJC will develop it into a 40,000-square-foot outpatient care facility with additional shell space for future expansion. The BJC Outpatient Center will offer care for patients of all ages in a specially designed facility with services provided by BJC Medical Group and St. Louis Children’s Hospital.

“BJC Medical Group is thrilled to bring our advanced primary care and specialty services to Madison County in a location that is convenient and close to home,” said Dr. Douglas Pogue, president of BJC Medical Group. “We very much look forward to serving the greater Edwardsville community.”

The BJC Outpatient Center’s design will be warm and inviting for patients of all ages, with easily accessible parking and amenities. Services will initially include:

- **Adult and Pediatric Convenient Care**
  - Convenient Care is a same-day, walk-in clinic that provides an alternative to emergency department visits for minor illnesses and injuries when your primary care physician or pediatrician’s offices are closed/unavailable.

- **Primary Care**
- **Orthopedics and Sports Medicine**
- **Pain Management**
- **Sleep Medicine**
- **Endocrinology**
- **Pediatric Therapies**
  - Physical Therapy
  - Occupational Therapy
  - Speech and Language Therapy
- **X-Ray**
- **Lab**

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**Center for Advanced Wound Healing Opens**

Memorial’s Center for Advanced Wound Healing opened in late May on the Memorial Hospital Belleville campus. The Center offers advanced wound care for people living with chronic, non-healing wounds. Memorial has partnered with Heallogics, the nation’s leading provider of advanced, chronic wound care services.

It is estimated that chronic wounds affect 6.7 million people in the U.S. and that number is rising, fueled by an aging population and increasing rates of conditions such as diabetes, obesity, and the late effects of radiation therapy. If left untreated, chronic wounds can lead to diminished quality of life and possibly amputation of the affected limb.

“We are pleased to be able to offer this service to residents in our community,” said Hans Moosa, MD, vascular surgeon with BJC Medical Group of Illinois and medical director of Memorial’s Center for Advanced Wound Healing. “Partnering with Heallogics allows Memorial to enhance and expand our existing wound care services to provide state-of-the-art, comprehensive and multispecialty approaches to the treatment of difficult-to-heal wounds.”

The center will provide wound consultations/evaluations, as well as non-invasive vascular studies, specialty wound dressings, cellular and tissue-based products, compression therapy, treatment of wound infections, patient and family education, pressure off-loading devices and footwear, debridement, and negative pressure wound therapy.

Likely candidates for treatment at the center are those suffering from diabetic ulcers, pressure ulcers, infections, compromised skin grafts and flaps, and wounds that haven’t healed within a reasonable time frame.

People with wounds that have not improved with traditional methods of treatment may benefit from a visit to Memorial’s Center for Advanced Wound Healing, located in Medical Office Center Two, Suite 160, 4600 Memorial Drive, Belleville. No referral is needed; for more information or to schedule an appointment, call 618-825-9272.
OUR BJC VALUES

COMPASSION
WE PROMISE TO CARE ABOUT YOU
- Connecting, asking & listening, then acting to improve
- Demonstrating kindness, caring and concern

RESPECT
WE PROMISE TO TREAT YOU WITH DIGNITY
- Being present and in the moment
- Seeking to understand
- Ensuring equity and inclusion; honoring differences
- Treating others the way they want to be treated

EXCELLENCE
WE PROMISE TO BE OUR BEST
- Finding and fixing problems for continuous improvement
- Being relentless in pursuit of results that matter to our customers

SAFETY
WE PROMISE TO KEEP YOU SAFE
- Creating a physically and psychologically safe environment
- Seeking to understand why errors occur and creating a learning environment from failures

TEAMWORK
WE PROMISE TO PARTNER WITH YOU
- Ensuring belonging by building and embracing diverse teams
- Practicing effective team communication methods
- Demonstrating collaboration and partnership

We keep our promise by:

We are committed to improving the health and well-being of the people and communities we serve.
Despite having the COVID-19 pandemic curtail volunteer and fundraising activities, Memorial’s Auxiliary presented **$50,000** and **8,300 service hours** to Memorial for 2020.

Their donation is being used to purchase a **new EEG machine** for the cardiovascular department.

**2021 officers**

Memorial Hospital’s Auxiliary installed their 2021 officers in a small, socially distanced ceremony in December. Memorial Hospital President Mike McManus presided over the installation.

Back row: Bob Harms, Marilyn Hummert, Judie Louden, Lynn Blomberg, Joan Green, Diane Herr, Becky Olroyd  
Front row: Don Feldott, Janette Zinkan, Charlotte Walther, Jean Joseph, Jane Schwebeke, Ann Klemm, Adele Theobald  
Not pictured: Susan Bowers, Kim Hubbard, Ann Porter

**2021 officers include**

Jean Joseph  
Jane Schwebeke  
Charlotte Walther  
Ann Klemm  
Adele Theobald

**Members of the executive board include**

Adele Theobald  
Kim Hubbard  
Ann Porter  
Joan Green  
Diane Herr  
Judie Louden  
Lynn Blomberg  
Susan Bowers  
Becky Olroyd  
Marilyn Hummert  
Don Feldott  
Peggy Harris  
Janette Zinkan  
Bob Harms

**Book Bazaar**

COVID-19 forced the cancellation of the Auxiliary’s largest and oldest fundraiser, the Book Bazaar, in 2020. The 2021 Book Bazaar has been postponed from its annual late April/early May dates, and alternative plans are being discussed. Stay tuned.

**Become a volunteer**

While COVID-19 paused hospital volunteer opportunities, plans to bring volunteers back are underway. If you are interested in becoming a member of Memorial’s Auxiliary, call (618) 257-5545 or apply online at memhosp.org/volunteer-application.
Edward P. Rose, MD, passed away September 9, 2020, after a battle against COVID-19. Dr. Rose was a board-certified rheumatologist and internal medicine physician. He was a member of Memorial’s Medical Staff for 45 years, served as Medical Staff president from 1986-1987, and was a member of Memorial Hospital’s Board of Directors for 33 years. In addition, Dr. Rose served as president of the St. Clair County Medical Society and served nearly 20 years on the Illinois State Medical Licensing Board.

In Memory

Gregory Yank

Former Memorial Foundation Board Member Gregory Yank passed away on January 5, 2021. He served on the Foundation board for 10 years as well as on several committees including investment, annual campaign, and golf tournament planning committee.

Joseph P. Keck

Joseph P. Keck, a member of Memorial Hospital’s Board of Directors from 1978 until he attained honorary status in 2005, passed away on February 21, 2021. He also served on the Southwest Illinois Health Ventures and Memorial Group boards from 1985 until he earned honorary status on both boards in 2005. Keck also extended his service through his involvement on multiple hospital board committees.
Events

All upcoming events, programs, and support group information can be found on memhosp.org/events.

Un!que Spirits & Sweets

Date: Early November 2021

Our Un!que Spirits & Sweets event offers wine, craft beer, and chocolate pairings along with silent and live auctions to raise money for The Harold & Dixie LePere Breast Health Center at Memorial. Proceeds from the 2021 event will be used to support the needs of the Center including education initiatives, equipment, and technology.

We offer sponsorship levels ranging from $100 (Event Supporter) to $2,500 (Red), and we will be accepting auction items as well!

If you would like to sponsor or donate an auction item to the Un!que Spirits & Sweets event, please visit memhosp.org/breast-health-fundraiser for details.

American Red Cross

Memorial Hospital
Shiloh
Mobile Unit
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Memorial Hospital
Belleville
Auditorium
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

June 10
August 6
October 5
December 7

To save time, you can visit redcrossblood.org/rapidpass to fill out your Health History Questionnaire before attending the Red Cross Blood Drive.

2021 FUNDRAISING EVENTS

For 2021, we are planning on once again hosting the Golf Tournament and Un!que Spirits & Sweets!

Annual Golf Tournament
New date: October 4, 2021

The Memorial Foundation Golf Tournament is an 18-hole scramble event where participants always have a great time! The proceeds from the 2021 Golf Tournament will be used to purchase ultrasound equipment for such departments as radiology, ICU, and emergency room.

Sponsorship levels range from $100 (Patron) to $10,000 (The Masters), and we are looking for sponsors and participants!

To become a sponsor, visit memhosp.org/foundation-golf-tournament for more information.

To become a sponsor, visit memhosp.org/foundation-golf-tournament for more information.

To become a sponsor, visit memhosp.org/foundation-golf-tournament for more information.
At Memorial Hospital Shiloh and Memorial Hospital Belleville, you can now check in to the emergency department online for non-life-threatening issues and wait at home instead of the waiting room.

Checking in is the first step to getting checked out!

Go directly to the ER or call 9-1-1 for the following:

- Chest pain
- Shortness of breath
- Severe abdominal pain
- Seizures
- Dizziness, weakness, vision disturbance, or severe headaches
- If you’re pregnant and having contractions

Just visit bjc.org/onlineer

Memorial’s Find a Doc Line can help connect you with the appropriate physician or specialist on the Medical Staff at one of Memorial’s two hospitals—Memorial Hospital Belleville or Memorial Hospital Shiloh. Call Center specialists can even help you make your first appointment!

Just call:
(618) 767-DOCS (3627)
(833) 607-DOCS (3627)