

STAT

employee newsletter

White Memorial Medical Center
Adventist Health

March 29, 2012

SpotWhite



Al Deining, vice president for Construction and Facilities, after 25 years of service to WMMC, is retiring. Read more on page 8.

New Dental Equipment for Our Sister Hospital in Zambia, Africa



Dental technician using the new equipment

White Memorial adopted Mwami Adventist as a sister hospital, through Adventist Health International (AHI) back in 2008. AHI, headed by **Dr. Richard Hart**, MD, president of Loma Linda University, links facilities in the U.S. with those in developing nations. Mwami Adventist Hospital is a 210-bed facility on a 3,500 acre complex serving mostly rural African farmers, many of whom suffer from diseases that we consider under control in the United States such as malaria, tuberculosis and HIV.

Throughout the years White Memorial has provided paint, mattresses, computers and other necessary but scarce supplies. Most recently, WMMC provided the hospital with dental equipment. "Any U.S. dentist would be proud to have this state-of-the-art equipment in their office," says **Al Deining**, vice president of construction and facilities. "The new dental office and equipment will bring much-needed dental services to the region." *Read more on page 7.*



Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard visits White Memorial

The Congresswoman visited and toured our hospital on March 15. **Byron K. Williams**, MD chief of medical staff, invited Congresswoman **Lucille Roybal-Allard** to speak with physician leadership about health care reform and its impact on physician practices and the community. "I'm pleased we could start this dialogue with our Congresswoman. She has been very committed to serving our community and securing federal funds for our hospital," says Dr. Williams. "She was very interested in hearing directly from us as we recounted our experiences on how changes to health care has affected our practices, we look forward to continuing this dialogue."



INSIDE

Al's Retirement	p. 1 & 8
Mwami Donation	p. 1 & 7
Congresswoman Visits	p. 1
Soul Survival	p. 2
Dolores Mission	p. 2
WOSE Schedule	p. 2
Walk for Health	p. 3
Diabetes Day	p. 3
Our Dietitians	p. 3
L. A. Marathon	p. 3
Education & Training	p. 4
Senior Services	p. 4
Tech Corner	p. 5
VAP Celebration	p. 5
Congressman Visits	p. 5
News Notes	p. 6
Career Pathway Interns	p. 7
MOB III Update	p. 7
Events	p. 8

Our Hospital, Our People



On March 25, our dietitians celebrated National Nutrition Month by hosting their annual “getting your plate into shape” event in the Restaurant. Pictured left to right: **Cissy Enzomann, MS, RD, Ruth Pupo, CDE, RD, Vicki Guerrero Mosteller, RD, Alicia Burlas, RD, Maggie Diaz, Dietitian Intern, Araceli Flores, RD, Clinical Manager, Jaclyn O’Connell, RD (not pictured Nooshin Ardekani, RD)**



Left to right: **Ana Nunez, Accucheck representative with WMMC Diabetes Educators Claudia Patino, RD, CDE, and Ruth Pupo, RD, CDE.**

Celebrating Diabetes Alert Day on March 27 with free diabetes testing and healthy snacks.



NATIONAL WALKING DAY IS NEXT WEEK:

Wednesday, April 4.

Join White Memorial’s Walking Club at 10:15 a.m. in front of the coffee cart for a ½ mile walk around our Fitness Path.

Our Employees Run L.A. Marathon



White Memorial employees hit the streets during the 27th Annual Honda Los Angeles Marathon on Sunday, March 18. Left to right: **Luis Arabit, Coordinator OT, Pediatric Rehab & Cleft Palate Program, Eddie Salcido, MOS Coordinator, Darrel Wright, RN, 6 South Telemetry.** (Not pictured **Yuri Hernandez, Major Gifts & Special Events Coordinator** and three from the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory: **April Dun, RN, Edward Cabato RT and Ryan Bombane, RT**). Darrel had been out for months last year with a fractured bone in his leg, this was a huge accomplishment for him and all the runners. Kudos to you all, you are a huge inspiration to all of us!

Walk Your Way to Good Health!



Crystal Rengifo and Myrna Uyengco-Harooch

Crystal Rengifo, a WMMC Treatment Authorization Request (TAR) coordinator, is terrified of diabetes, which runs in her family. So when she was diagnosed with pre-diabetes a year ago she knew she had to take action.

“The day I had dreaded so much had come,” Crystal said. “I’ve seen what diabetes does. My mother, my two sisters and my brother all had strokes because of this disease. I felt I owed it to my husband and my daughter to make changes.”

Crystal lost 20 pounds by improving her eating habits, but she didn’t exercise regularly even though she belonged to a gym. That all changed with the opening of the White Memorial Fitness Path in January. Crystal walks the path after work four days a week, for three miles each day, usually accompanied by her fitness buddy **Myrna Uyengco-Harooch**, medical librarian. Today Crystal is stronger, sleeps better and her doctor is thrilled with her progress.

“It’s not easy, it’s a commitment to yourself,” Crystal said. “But overall I find it’s the best medicine. I don’t want to be on diabetes medication.”

“Walking is good,” Myrna agrees. “You don’t need extra money for gym fees. A lot of people have been motivated by seeing Crystal and me walking.”

The half-mile fitness path, made possible by a generous donation from local business woman Zuzka Polishook, is open to the entire community. It starts next to the coffee cart at the east entrance. Join Crystal and Myrna in walking your way to good health!





Al Deininger, vice president of Construction and Facilities, likes to paraphrase a quote from Theodore Roosevelt: "I don't care too much about what others think of what I do, but I care very much about what I think of what I do. And more importantly, what God thinks. That's character."

After 25 years of "doing" at WMMC, and a nearly 43-year career working with Adventist hospitals, Al is retiring effective September 1, 2012. But we won't be saying goodbye completely; Al will continue as a consultant with WMMC through December 2013, overseeing the hospital's Centennial celebration and the construction of the new Medical Office Building, Plaza III.

Al compares his retirement to a rocket in which various fuel stages fall off but the rocket keeps going. "The hospital might miss me as a person but there are other very talented people who will pick up where I leave off and do great things," he said.

It's the people of WMMC that Al will miss most – and remember best. "It's a family," he said simply. "We go through happy times together, we go through sad times together, we celebrate. And through it all, we all make it. I don't worry about health care reform. We're going to be okay. It goes back to the Ellen White quote: 'We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us in the past.'"

Al knows because he's lived it. He arrived at WMMC in 1987, just as the hospital was experiencing a financial crisis so severe there was talk of closing or selling the hospital. He was part of the team, which also included President and CEO Beth Zachary, that helped pull WMMC through the several tough years that followed. Today he looks at the hospital's stellar physicians, employees and building facilities and smiles. "We did our best, and God did the rest."

And he did it more than once. Al remembers when he worried and prayed all through a day and a night because WMMC did not have the approved plans from OSHPD (the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development) needed to continue building the Specialty Care Tower. "When I got on the Metrolink train to come to work I sat down and prayed some more," Al said. "When I opened my eyes, down the aisle and across from me was one of the officers from OSHPD, sleeping. I said a prayer of thanks to God. When the train arrived at Union Station the OSHPD officer woke up and I walked with him. He agreed to meet later that day and when we did he approved enough plans to keep our project going."

In addition to overseeing our hospital's massive 10-year campus rebuilding project, Al has achieved many notable accomplishments while at WMMC. Through the years he re-established the cancer center, setting the stage for its success today; established the Cleft Palate Program; consolidated laboratory services among WMMC, Glendale Adventist and Simi Valley Hospital, saving millions; and directed construction of the Medical Plaza I and II medical office buildings and our state-of-the-art imaging center, ambulatory surgery center and arrhythmia center, among many other accomplishments.

"I have told Al many times that God brought him to White Memorial," said **Beth Zachary**, president & CEO. "His dedication, his expertise and his attention to detail have helped make our hospital what it is today. We will miss him!"

Al doesn't have any concrete plans for his retirement other than spending more time with his family, which includes three grandchildren. "I'll think and pray about what I can contribute," he said. "I love working with groups of people. I love to mentor, coach and cheerlead. So I wouldn't be surprised if I end up working with teams on projects of some sort."

Celebrations for Al are being planned for August, with more details to come. Also keep an eye out for more on Al's long and noteworthy career in future issues of STAT.

If you have a story or quote to include in Al's Legacy Book, please email Whitney Davis at DavisW1@ah.org.

EVENTS

April 2-6
Week of Spiritual Emphasis

April 13
Proyecto Jardin Spring Celebration

ONGOING . . .

Every Friday in the Chapel
Weekly Prayer Group Service
A time for prayer & fellowship
9 - 9:15 a.m.

Fridays 3-8 p.m. & Sundays 12-5:30 p.m.
Farmers' Market
Mariachi Plaza Metro Station

GET INVOLVED . . .

Interested in volunteer opportunities in our community, call Chaplaincy at ext. 1293.

SAVE-THE-DATE...

April 15-21
National Health Care Volunteer Week

April 19
Green Team Earth Day

April 26
WMMC Charitable Foundation Golf Classic

May 7-11
Hospital & Nurses Week

View Our Mission and Guiding Principles on our website at: whitememorial.com/about/principles

FOLLOW US



Contact Us

STAT is published bi-weekly for the employees, physicians and volunteers of White Memorial Medical Center. Please e-mail submissions to rubalcs1@ah.org.

Produced by Marketing & Communications Editor, Sara Rubalcava-Beck, Mngr. Marketing & Comm. Relations x5813. Co-Editor, Whitney Davis, Coord., Social Media & Marketing.

Compliance Hotline: (888) 366-3833

Steven Stubbs, Local Compliance Officer x1887
Mara Bryant, Facility Privacy Officer x1590
Mara Bryant, Patient Safety Officer x2784
Nelson Oliveira, Safety Officer x8965