

SPRING 2009

# Healthline



Full-field digital mammography is now available at Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital. This new technology furthers our mission of providing our communities with healthcare in a professional, compassionate environment.

## Going Digital



The Diagnostic Imaging Department recently installed a new Siemens Mammomat Novation<sup>DR</sup> Full-field Digital Mammography System. The acquisition was approved in October, and the first digital mammography exams were performed in January.

Full-field digital mammography provides a more enhanced exam that produces images that can be manipulated by radiologists. Image manipulation gives physicians and clinicians the ability to view the image at many different angles and to adjust the image lighting.

“Full-field digital mammography is the gold standard for mammograms,” says Richard Emrick, Director of Diagnostic Imaging at SBAMH. “Because this new technology allows many more viewing options, patients get much more accurate results.”

### Certified Care

In addition to the acquisition of this new technology, SBAMH has earned accreditation from the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for more than 15 years, and the FDA recently certified our state-of-the-art digital technology.

“The accreditation process is rigorous and requires an annual State inspection and an inspection by the FDA every three years,” says Emrick. “The State and Federal certifications serve as an extra layer of assurance that our patients are receiving healthcare they can trust.”

In addition to the accreditations earned by the department, many radiology team members have certifications and advanced training in specialty areas.

“Our department works diligently to remain current in

order to provide area women the best breast care available,” says Sharon Stewart, RT (R)(M), Mammography Technologist at SBAMH. “We want to encourage every woman to come in for a screening mammogram. With our new digital mammography equipment, screenings take much less time, and the wait time for an appointment is only a few short weeks.”

*The Diagnostic Imaging Department at SBAMH is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. To schedule an appointment, please call (316) 322-4510.*

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“In the past few years, the Diagnostic Imaging Department has undergone many changes—we’ve made many technological upgrades, including the recent acquisition of digital mammography equipment. We have gone to great efforts to create a warm, healing environment for our patients. Our goal has simply been to provide top-quality care for our patients.”—Richard Emrick, Director of Diagnostic Imaging at Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital

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# Patient Care with **You** in Mind



When coping with an injury or illness, sometimes all you want are the comforts of home. Fortunately, Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital's Home Health Services offer the same level of expert therapeutic services you find at the Hospital.

**R**ecipient of the Kansas Home Care Association's 2008 Helpful Hint Award, SBA Home Health was recognized for their Coumadin<sup>®</sup> therapy patient packets, which help educate patients on every aspect of Coumadin therapy, including dietary restrictions and potential side effects.

"This award means that we have been recognized statewide for providing our patients with the highest level of healthcare safety," says Brenda Gladfelter, RN, Clinical Supervisor for Home Health Services at SBAMH. "Our nurses go above and beyond to offer services to help patients have an improved quality of life."

## A Closer Look at Coumadin

Certain cardiac disorders and clotting conditions can cause a patient's blood to become too thick. Coumadin therapy, which is an oral medication, is used to help prevent blood clots from occurring.

"If a patient is placed on Coumadin therapy, the dosage

must be carefully checked to ensure that the patient is within a therapeutic range," says Gladfelter. "Each person's body reacts differently to Coumadin, and consuming other medications or foods or being sick can affect how much Coumadin is needed. As a result, patients are monitored regularly by one of our dedicated nurses to ensure they are not having adverse effects from the therapy."

In addition to Coumadin therapy, Home Health Services offer patients other skilled nursing services as well as occupational, physical, and speech therapy.

*To find out if you are eligible for Home Health Services or for more information, call (316) 322-4540.*

## Going Above and Beyond



**E**ach quarter, Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital recognizes an individual who stands apart from the rest. Beyond delivering the highest level of care, this individual is always ready with a smile, helpful information, and a kind attitude. Our most recent Employee of the Quarter is:

**Name:** Ada Soyez, RN

**Position:** Staff Nurse in the Transitional Life Center (TLC)

**Years at SBAMH:** 19

**Responsibilities:** "I help patients throughout their entire experience in the TLC, from admission to discharge."

**What do you enjoy most about your job?** "The people I work with make my job great. We are a very close-knit unit that works together to provide outstanding care for our patients. I was born at SBAMH, and so were all five of my children. SBAMH is a big part of my life, and I enjoy the opportunity to give back."

# Delivering Babies, Creating Memories

When the Susan B. Allen Family Birth Center opened in July 2004, staff at Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital felt that patients were going to love the newly renovated rooms featuring a homelike atmosphere and contemporary services patients at SBAMH had come to expect.



**N**ow, nearly five years later, those feelings have been confirmed. Every year, the staff sees more and more new families starting their journey in the Family Birth Center, and they hear the excitement and pleasure from each of those families about their care and the surroundings. This past year (2008), physicians at SBAMH delivered more babies than they had since 1965.

“We’ve always known that we provide a very personal experience for our new moms and their family members,” says Joy Cushman, RN, Director of the SBA Family Birth Center. “What we have now is the perfect blend of a great nursing staff, excellent physicians, and an outstanding facility. Our patients love it!”

## More Than Just El Dorado

The SBA Family Birth Center serves families from a wide geographical area.

“Many of our patients have a loyalty with their physician, and they

travel from their various hometowns to keep that relationship going,” says Cushman. “Then, they tell their friends about their experience at SBA—the beautiful rooms, the way our staff takes care of them, and the relaxed atmosphere we have. It just keeps growing.”

With the arrival of Luis Espinoza, MD, Ob/Gyn, and Crystal Faudere, MD, family practice physician, in 2008, SBAMH has two obstetricians and four family practice physicians who are delivering at the Family Birth Center.

“We’ve been very fortunate to have physicians who build great relationships with their patients and our nurses,” says Cushman. “It makes for a great overall experience for everyone involved.”

*For more information about our physicians, please visit [www.sbamb.com](http://www.sbamb.com).*



Robin Crawford, FHFMA

## WELCOME, Robin Crawford

Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital is pleased to welcome our new Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Robin Crawford.

**R**obin Crawford, FHFMA, brings 34 years of experience in medical finance to SBAMH. He comes to the Hospital following service as CFO at Kansas Medical Center in Andover, Kansas. Crawford is a fellow of the Healthcare Financial Management Association and is the recipient of several awards within the organization.

The daily challenges of working in healthcare and the satisfaction of helping others are what led Crawford to the medical field and continue to inspire him. When Crawford isn’t working, he enjoys spending time with his wife, Jenny, and three children, Lauren, Nathan, and Kyrsten.

“I am truly excited to join the team at SBAMH,” says Crawford. “The sense of caring among the staff is remarkable, and I hope to maintain the high level of standards the community has come to associate with our Hospital.”



**Susan B. Allen**  
**Memorial Hospital**

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## Meet the Board

**T**he Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital Foundation is pleased to announce the individuals chosen to serve as Board Members for the Foundation in 2009:

- Paula Gilliland, President
- Rob Lane, Vice President
- Jeremy Sundgren, Secretary/  
Treasurer
- John Grange
- Bill Kloebler
- Mike McGuire
- Tom McKibban
- George Myers
- Justin Parsons

In 2009, the Board will continue to meet periodically to review and discuss proposals for funding that have been submitted by directors of various Hospital departments for special projects and items they feel will improve and/or expand services.



## Continuing to Give

In spite of the difficult economic year, the Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital Foundation continued to support SBAMH in 2008 through funding donated by our caring and compassionate communities.

**E**ven though 2008 was considered a down year, the SBAMH Foundation had a significant overall increase in contributions from 2007.

“The SBAMH Foundation is grateful for our very generous communities,” says Mary Luebbert, Director of Development at SBAMH. “Although things are hard, our community members still give to many organizations in the area, including the SBAMH Foundation.”

Thanks to the generous gifts, the SBAMH Foundation was able to help fund the free flu shot clinic in November to help prevent the spread of the contagious virus. In 2008, we also were able to increase the number of named endowed funds.

“Our goal for 2009 is to continue building these funds,” Luebbert says. “Building the endowment will allow the SBAMH Foundation to give more money back to the Hospital.”

*If you would like more information on how to make a gift to the SBAMH Foundation, please contact Mary Luebbert at (316) 321-8741, or e-mail her at [mluebbert@sbamh.org](mailto:mluebbert@sbamh.org).*