



LINDA ROWLAND MEMORIAL GOLF SCRAMBLE

Be sure to save the date for the 27th Annual Linda Rowland Memorial Golf Scramble which is set for **Wednesday, September 11, 2019** at the Verona Hills Golf & Country Club in Bad Axe. The day's events include a shot gun start at 10:00 am, course contests, refreshments on the course, lunch, prizes for top division foursome, raffle, prime rib dinner and an awards reception. Every golfer will also receive a complimentary gift. Be sure to reserve your spot today for a sponsorship or foursome as spots are already filling up! If you would like to participate in this outing, please contact Rachel Voss at 989-269-1507 or at extension 4342.

The monthly newsletter for employees and friends of
McLaren Thumb Region

July 2019 · Vol. 2, Issue 7

VOICE

WELCOME DR. OULAI

Please join us in welcoming **Dr. Andre Oulai, MD** to our McLaren Thumb Region medical team.

Dr. Oulai recently joined our team as an Orthopedic Surgeon. He grew up in France and came to the United States where he finished his schooling. Dr. Oulai completed his undergraduate and graduate studies in Buffalo, New York where his undergraduate studies focused on Psychology and graduate studies focused on the interdisciplinary



studies of Pathology, Tropical Medicine and Microbiology. Dr. Oulai went to medical school in Toledo, Ohio and completed his residency in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He completed his fellowship in Adult Reconstructive Surgery at William Beaumont Hospital. Dr. Oulai is board certified with the American Board of Orthopedic Surgery. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons and the American Orthopedics Association. He is also a diplomate of the National Board of Medical Examiners. Dr. Oulai loves his orthopedic work and has a special interest in complex knee and hip surgeries; especially the anterior approach to total hip replacement.

In his spare time, Dr. Oulai enjoys cooking and listening to music. He is fluent in French and loves traveling internationally. Dr. Oulai is also a soccer fan.

If you haven't met Dr. Oulai, be sure to stop him when you see him, introduce yourself and welcome him aboard.

Editor:

Yvonne Prill

(989) 269-2882 ext. 1

yprill@huronmedicalcenter.org

mclaren.org/thumbregion

Know someone who would like to receive the Voice by email? Please send Yvonne the person's name and email address



Like us on facebook

facebook.com/McLarenThumbRegion

3 Committee Updates

5 Compliance Corner

7 Discounted Race Events

PLEASE JOIN US

The Employee Engagement Committee (EEC) is planning a couple of fun summer activities. The first activity is the First Annual MTR Employee/Family Picnic and it will take place Thursday, August 22, from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm. The second activity is a bus trip to take in a Detroit Tigers game.

The MTR Employee/Family Picnic will be held here on the MTR campus in the parking lot. We will be having hot dogs, lemonade, chips and root beer



floats. Be sure to bring your family as they are invited as well.

The bus trip is an adult only bus trip to the Detroit Tigers baseball game and will take place on Saturday, September 21. The Tigers will be playing the Chicago White Sox with the game beginning at 6:10 pm. The cost is \$65 per person and will include transportation to the game in a coach bus, entry into the ballpark and food and games on the bus. The bus will leave at 2:00 pm from the hospital parking lot. There are 50 spots available. If you are interested in participating, you need to sign



up and pay by **August 30**. If there are an insufficient number of people who sign up, the trip will have to be cancelled. To sign up please contact Candace Potestivo at extension 4348.

Mark your calendars and join your co-workers for some fun in the sun. Please consider joining us we'd love to see you all there! If you have any questions about either event, please see one of the following committee members: Candace Potestivo, Wendy Holdwick, Kim Shemka, Kim Affer, Christina Woods, Yvonne Prill, Jennifer Koroleski, Laura Green, Allyson Joyce, Patty Maurer or Melissa Stanke.

MTR LABORATORY TRANSITIONS MICROBIOLOGY TESTING TO McLAREN MEDICAL LABORATORY

The McLaren Thumb Region Laboratory (MTR) has begun transitioning its microbiology specimen testing to the McLaren Medical Laboratory (MML) in Flint. The MML courier arrives twice per a day Monday – Friday and once a day on Saturday and Sunday to take specimens to the MML Lab. Specimen collection requirements, in most cases, will remain the same. Results are available to view in CPSI.

Blood cultures will continue to be processed in house, if they turn positive we will process the specimen gram stain in house and report a preliminary gram stain result. The report will indicate that the culture has turned positive,

in what time frame, give the preliminary gram stain result, who results were called to and that the specimen has been sent to MML for further testing. MML uses the BIOFIRE FILMARRAY Blood Culture Identification (BCID) Panel which enables rapid and accurate automated detection of pathogens and antibiotic resistance genes associated with bloodstream infections. These instruments offer a turnaround time of about an hour from receipt of the specimen.

A new blood culture collection kit that is packaged for McLaren Health Care will be available very soon. The new collection kit should assist in reducing contamination rates and help maintain the Quality Metrix for

blood culture contamination rates of <2%.

We will also be rolling out a new urine collection cup that will allow for urines to be preserved and if a culture is needed, will assist in reducing the contamination rate of urine specimens.

If you have any questions or would like additional information regarding specimen testing, please contact the MTR Laboratory at 989-269-8933 extension 4580, you can also reference the McLaren test directory at <https://www.mclaren.org/main/laboratory-tests> or call the MML Microbiology department at 810-396-5755.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

If you are a member of one of the 15 committees recently formed, you know that the teams are meeting on a regular basis and many great things are happening. The Grounds, Greens and Environmental Committee (GGEC) has been busy discussing ideas committee members have brought to the table. The team is currently working through the process of creating a walking path and tree planting for the hospital campus. The vision has been discussed in detail and the process is moving forward.

In addition to this project, landscaping upkeep has also been discussed. Like many individuals, the committee has recognized the

need to clean up the flower gardens in front of the hospital. Our flower gardens are one of the first things patients and visitors see as they come on campus and enter the hospital. We want individuals to focus on the beauty of the flowers and plants and the tranquility they offer. Marjorie Wehner, a GGEC member and community volunteer, has offered to work on the flower gardens and has already begun cleanup work. This is a huge undertaking and Marjorie's generous help is greatly appreciated. Unfortunately, this job is just too big for one person to undertake! The GGEC is looking for additional volunteers to help Marjorie. If you or someone you know enjoys gardening and is willing to lend a hand with this project, the committee would graciously accept any help. Volunteers can work on the gardens at their leisure or a worker bee

gathering can be coordinated. If you can help us with this task, please let Yvonne Prill know so that we can coordinate this work. She can be reached at 989-269-2882 ext. 1 or via extension 4346. Many hands make light work!

If you still have not signed up for a committee but are interested in doing so it is not too late. Most committees are looking to add volunteers to their team. If you have the slightest desire to be a part of a specific committee, please contact Candace at extension 4348. She can assist you in getting on the committee that peaks your interest.

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Each day is an opportunity to learn. As professionals, we sharpen our skills and learn new things often. There are many opportunities on campus or in our community to continue our learning. Below are upcoming learning opportunities. If you have any questions, contact Yvonne at ext. 4346.

HeartCode BLS Classes

Classes will be held **August 9 and September 4** from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm in the Distance Learning Center (DLC). Class consists of a skills review, video and skills testing. Be sure to complete a Requisition to Attend Seminar form and have it signed by your Department Director and return the completed form to the Education Department.

ACLS Classes

Classes will be held **July 25 & 26 and**

October 10 & 11 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Thursday and from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm on Friday. In order to recertify, your ACLS card cannot expire prior to the class date. If your ACLS Card has or will expire, please register for the Full Provider Course. Recertification will take place on Thursday not Friday. To register, be sure to complete a Requisition to Attend Seminar form and have it signed by your Department Director. Return the completed form and a check for \$50.00 payable to McLaren Thumb Region to the Education Department. Checks will be returned upon completion of the course. All classes are held in the DLC.

PALS

Classes will be held **November 22** from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm in the DLC. To register, be sure to complete a Requisition to Attend Seminar form

and have it signed by your Department Director. Return the completed form and a check for \$50.00 payable to McLaren Thumb Region to the Education Department. Checks will be returned upon completion of the course.

Family and Friends CPR Classes

Classes will be held **July 24** from 9:00 am to 11:00 am in the DLC. This low-cost CPR class is designed for staff or community members who would like to learn CPR, use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and how to relieve choking, but do not need certification. Classes are located in the DLC and the cost is \$5.00 per person. To register, contact Yvonne in the Community Outreach and Education Department at extension 4346.

McLAREN THUMB REGION WOUND & HYPERBARIC CENTER CELEBRATES NATIONAL RECOGNITION

The McLaren Thumb Region Wound & Hyperbaric Center was recognized with a National Award for Excellence in Wound Healing for a third year in a row! The center achieved this award for its healing outcomes, high patient satisfaction rates and outstanding clinical performance. To receive this award, the center must have met a healing rate greater than or equal to 92%, a patient satisfaction rate greater than or equal to 92% and an outlier rate less than or equal to 16% with 28 days or less to heal. The center also had to score in the top 10% of eligible centers. The wound center scored 98% on its healing rate, 96.64% on patient satisfaction and had a patient outlier rate was 10.6% with 21 median days to heal.

The wound center was awarded this prestigious honor by Healogics, the nation's largest provider of advanced wound care services. The award is



named for Dr. Robert A. Warriner III, a pioneer in wound care and the former Chief Medical Officer for Healogics. In addition to receiving the Center of Excellence in Wound Healing award, the center has also received the Center of Distinction award in years 2015, 2016 and 2017.

The McLaren Thumb Region Wound & Hyperbaric Center opened in June, 2014. Since opening, the center has treated and healed 1, 275 patients. Providers for the center include Medical Director Avelina Oxholm, MD; Clinical

Program Director Angie Weidman, BSN, RN; Angela Stoutenburg, DPM and Martha Koglin, PA-C. Center staff include Jennifer Anderson, Certified HBO Tech, Cynthia Lynch, RN/Case Manager, Linda Shisler, RN/Case Manager, Sheila Schafer and Caleigh Rasmussen, front office staff.

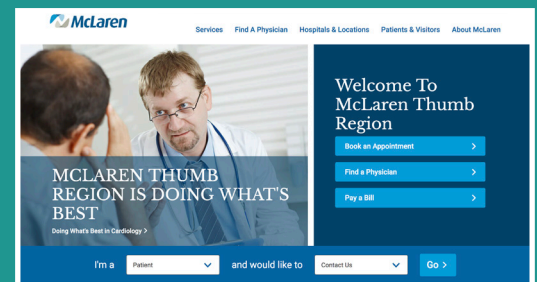
The Wound Center staff was thrilled to hear the great news of earning this award again and is honored that patients count on the center and staff for their wound healing needs and care.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that our website has changed? It sure has! Our website was completely redesigned with patient ease of navigation in mind. This redesign simplifies the user interface and increases the visibility of service lines and features streamlined menus and navigation. To become familiar with the new website, access the new feature guide at www.mclaren.org.

This website project is continually evolving and over the coming months you will continue to see additions to functionality.

Your feedback is very important and valuable as we strive to create a user-friendly website. If you have questions, comments, concerns or edits please contact Eileen Krueger at Eileen.Krueger@mclaren.org.



BRAG BOARD

A big shout out to those who participated in the Port Austin Bocce Ball tournament in June. The McLaren Master Blasters represented MTR well. Everyone who participated had a great time. They all enjoyed the weather, the game and the comradery. Great job!



COMPLIANCE CORNER

When Should You Call Your Compliance Officer

When you inadvertently commit a HIPAA violation and need to self-report. For example:

- Hand discharge papers to the wrong patient.
- Fax patient information to the wrong fax number.
- Hand medications to the wrong patient and they leave the building with them.
- Document in the wrong patient medical record.

When you witness or overhear a blatant disregard for any of the HIPAA rules. For example:

- A fellow employee, physician, vendor or other person is on a hospital computer viewing their own medical record, the record of a family member or friend, or another patient, without a work-related reason.
- An employee or physician is discussing patient information outside of their work area or nursing unit, especially if it concerns a Behavioral Health patient.
- An employee or physician hands

a patient papers/reports with the wrong patient name, but doesn't report the error.

- An employee faxes patient information to the wrong fax number, but doesn't report the error.
- An employee, physician, vendor or other person is using their own personal cell phone to text patient information to another person when not authorized to use their cell phone.
- An employee, physician, vendor or other person is using their own personal cell phone to take photos of a patient without proper authorization.
- Any employee or physician other person related to McLaren that has posted patient information on a social media site without the patient's express authorization. Remember, a name is not the only patient identifier.

When you witness or overhear potential fraud and abuse violations. For example:

- When you see an employee, physician, vendor or other person taking hospital supplies or using hospital facilities for their own

personal use or in an unauthorized manner.

- When you believe a fellow employee or physician has documented in a chart yet they did not provide the care or has performed a procedure or service that is not medically necessary or warranted.
- When you believe a fellow employee, physician or vendor has entered charges inaccurately.
- When you have gone to your direct report with a Compliance or HIPAA issue but do not feel you were heard or that there has been resolution.
- When you have reported a Compliance or HIPAA issue in good faith but feel retaliated against.

Sivan Laufer

Regional Director of Regulatory Compliance

McLaren Thumb Region

slaufer@huronmedicalcenter.org

Office Phone: (989) 269-8933 x 4701

Hotline: (989) 269-8933 x 4449

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

UPCOMING EVENTS

There are many opportunities within our community to participate in an event. This can be accomplished by either volunteering your time and services or by attending. The following are local events in which MTR will be sponsoring or participating. Please consider spreading the word and taking part in these upcoming events:

Huron County Community Fair

MTR is sponsoring a day at the fair this year. It will be **Tuesday, July 30**. We are currently planning different activities we will be providing, but don't have specifics at this time. We do know, however, that we will need individuals to help out. If you would like to represent our organization and help out by volunteering some time during our day of sponsorship, we'd love your help. Please contact

Rachel at extension 4342 or Yvonne at 4346 as soon as possible.

27th Annual Linda Rowland Memorial Golf Scramble

It will be **Wednesday, September 11**. If you are interested in a sponsorship or foursome be sure to reserve your spot right away. Please contact Rachel at extension 4342 or Yvonne at 4346 as soon as possible.

McLAREN EMPLOYEES OFFERED DISCOUNTS ON TWO UPCOMING RACE EVENTS

Crim Festival of Races – August 23

McLaren employees are offered a \$10 discount off race fees for this year's Crim Festival of Races on Saturday, August 23, 2019, in downtown Flint. In recognition of McLaren Flint's sponsorship of the signature Crim 10 Mile event, any McLaren employee can receive a \$10 discount on their entry fee for the 10 Mile, 5 Mile or 5K race. The discount code and link for registration is included below:
Code: McLarenCrim (no spaces, not

case sensitive) crim.org/races

Brooksie Way – September 22

McLaren employees are offered a \$15 discount off race fees for participation in the 12th Annual McLaren Brooksie Way on September 22, 2019 on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester Hills, Michigan. The discount is applicable to the Half Marathon, 10K or 5K events. The McLaren Brooksie Way is one of Oakland County's premier quality of life events. County Executive L. Brooks

Patterson began the Brooksie Way races to support Oakland County programs and encourage people to become more physically active. To date, Brooksie Way Minigrants have provided more than \$250,000 into programs in Oakland County that promote fitness and healthy lifestyles. The McLaren discount code and link for registration is included below:

Code: McLaren19
<https://brooksieway.enmotive.com/>

IT'S TICK SEASON

Now that the warmer weather has finally arrived, it is safe to say that individuals are spending more time outside. The more time someone is outside the more likely he/she may come in contact with a tick. Because it is tick season in Michigan, it is important to become knowledgeable about ticks and to be able to identify them in an effort to keep yourself and your family safe from the illnesses ticks spread.

Although ticks can spread multiple illnesses, Lyme disease is the most commonly reported tick-borne disease in Michigan. Lyme disease is caused by the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi* and is transmitted by the blacklegged/deer tick. The blacklegged tick is well-established in Michigan's western Upper and Lower Peninsulas. However, it is expanding into new areas across the Lower Peninsula. Local risk for Lyme disease varies depending on

whether infected ticks are in the area. Several local and state agencies partner to conduct surveillance for Lyme disease in people and animals. In an effort to protect yourself from ticks do the following:

Avoid tick-infested areas.

- Walk in the center of trails to avoid contact with overgrown grass, brush and leaf litter at trail edges.
- Protect your pets too! Dogs and cats can come into contact with ticks outdoors and bring them into the home, so using tick prevention products on pets is also recommended.

Use insect repellent.

- Apply repellent containing DEET (20-30 percent) or Picaridin on exposed skin.
- Treat clothes (especially pants, socks and shoes) with permethrin, which kills ticks on contact or buy clothes that are pre-treated. Do not

- use permethrin directly on skin.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions when applying repellents.

Perform daily tick checks.

- Always check for ticks on yourself and your animals after being outdoors, even in your own yard.
- Inspect all body surfaces carefully and remove attached ticks with tweezers.
- To remove a tick, grasp the tick firmly and as closely to the skin as possible. With a steady motion, pull the tick's body away from the skin. Cleanse the area with an antiseptic.

Bathe or shower.

- Bathe or shower as soon as possible after coming indoors (preferably within two hours) to wash off and more easily find ticks that are crawling on you.
- Washing clothing in hot water and drying on high heat will kill ticks in clothing.
- Michigan citizens can submit ticks to MDHHS for identification and possible Lyme disease testing, free of charge.

For additional information on ticks and how to identify tick bites access the following link: https://www.michigan.gov/documents/emergingdiseases/resize_307382_7.pdf



Tick Identification and Testing in Michigan

Ticks may carry diseases that cause illness in humans and animals in Michigan. Therefore, if you find a tick feeding on a person or a domestic animal, you may want it:

- a) Identified to determine if there is a risk of tick-borne illness
- b) Screened for the presence of disease causing organisms

Michigan's five most common ticks can be [seen here](#). Not all ticks or tick species carry disease agents. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) provides tick identification at no charge to Michigan citizens. Ticks that are submitted from people that are identified as blacklegged ticks (formerly deer tick) and are alive* will be forwarded to the MDHHS Bureau of Laboratories for Lyme disease screening at no cost. Ticks that are dead when they are received or are from animals (dog, cat, horse, etc.) will not be tested.

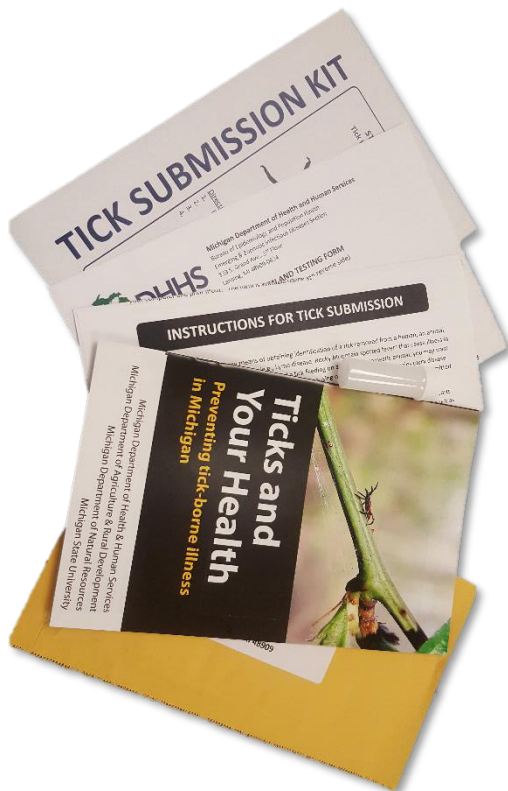
Ticks may also be identified electronically by submitting photos. For more information click [here](#).

For more information about ticks and tick-borne diseases, see our "[Ticks and Your Health](#)" brochure.

Tick Submission Kit (Recommended):

As part of an effort to streamline public tick submission and testing, we have developed a kit for submitting ticks to the MDHHS. The kit consists of a screw cap plastic vial, a self-addressed, padded return envelope, a submission form, instructions for submission, and the Ticks and Your Health brochure.

The kit is available **at no charge** and can be obtained at your [local health department](#). Alternatively, kits may be ordered via the [Communicable Disease Division's publication order form](#).



For prompt tick submission without using the Michigan Tick Submission Kit:

- If the tick is alive*, place it in a small container with a few pieces of fresh grass, or a small piece of paper towel moistened with a drop of water.
- If the tick is dead, place it in a small container like an old medication bottle.
- Print and complete the [Tick Identification and Testing Form](#).
- Send the container with the tick along with the submission form in a padded envelope to the below address:
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
EZID Section
333 S. Grand Ave., 3rd Floor
P.O. Box 30195
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7695
- On the outside of the envelope write "FRAGILE" or "HANDLE WITH CARE" to help prevent damage to the tick when shipped.

* The MDHHS cannot guarantee that ticks sent live through the mail will survive.

CASUAL DAY FOR A CAUSE

For those of you not familiar with our Casual Day Fridays, employees have the option to wear jeans if they donate a minimum of \$1. All of the donations collected for Casual Days

are then, in turn, donated to a local or national charity.

A total of \$55.00 was collected during the month of June and was donated to the CA/N Council. Know that your participation in Casual for a Cause does make a difference and is appreciated by all the charities receiving our

donations. All donations collected during the month of July will go to Thumb Industries, Inc. a private, non-profit organization that provides job training for people with barriers to employment. Casual day donations are being collected by Yvonne Prill. She is located on the 2nd floor in room 249.

NEW FACES AT McCLAREN THUMB REGION

With a new month comes new faces at MTR. Please join us in welcoming the following new staff members to our team. If you see one of them stop them, say hello and welcome them aboard!



Aaron Gaeth
Mechanic



Amy Herek
Registered Respiratory Therapist



Aurora Loesel
Medical Technologist

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Try to be a rainbow in someone’s cloud.”

~ Maya Angelou

EMPLOYEE BIRTHDAYS



The following employees have birthdays during the month of

July: Marcella Budzynowski (07/02), Barb Pionk (07/05), Keegan Birney (07/05), Tricia Osentoski (07/07), Jody Fisher (07/08), Sarah Krueger (07/08), Julie Hund (07/09), Alicia Erb (07/09), Karen Collings (07/10), Jill Clark (07/10), Kayla Gornowich (07/10), Melanie Pollum (07/11), Jessica Brannan (07/11), James Carson (07/11), Stacie Dorsch (07/11), Laura Green (07/12), Amy Herek (07/13), Kirsten Hunt-Grass (07/14), Dawn Bolzman (07/17), Marcia Janik (07/17), Bethany

Pawlowski (07/20), Mark Prescott (07/20), Michelle Nowiski (07/20), Tracy Fisher (07/22), Kimberly Shemka (07/24), Mary Jo Schember (07/24), Pamela Lueke (07/25), Natalie Ellis (07/26), Brandon Borchardt (07/27) and Barbara Dewey (07/31).

Hope your special day brings each of you all that your heart desires! Here’s wishing you a day full of pleasant surprises. If you happen to see any of these folks, be sure to wish them a happy birthday!

Please note, if you prefer not to have your birthday listed, please contact Kim S. at ext. 4336.

Remember if you are celebrating a birthday or a length of service work anniversary during the month of July, you will be invited to celebrate over cake with our CEO, Michael Johnston. Getting together with Michael is a special time to celebrate you and/or thank you for your service to our organization. Invitations will come via employee email, and employees are asked to RSVP a week prior to the event. Attendance is voluntary.