Midwestern Connections

Cancer Treatment Centers of America®
at Midwestern Regional Medical Center
Winning the fight against cancer, every day.®

November 2012 | *A Communication for Midwestern Patients and their Family Members* | Volume 10, Number 11

Salon opens second location

Growing demand for Salon services, has led to the opening of a second location is now open at Guest Quarters North. Guests do not need to stay at that hotel to access Salon services.

Guest Quarters North Salon & Spa doubles capacity for hair care, manicures, and pedicures. It will also feature massage and Reiki sessions, and the addition of skin care and make-up services.

Another key feature of the new salon will be the availability of evening hours several days per week. Salon services hours will be 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Wednesday initially and will grow as patient requests influence schedule changes.

Massage, offered to all guests, will be 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Reiki, for all guests, will be available from 11 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday and Friday initially.

For scheduling:

Salon North services, guests can go to the hospital Gift Shop as they always have, or call 847-746-6586.

Massage, guests should call 847-872-6230.

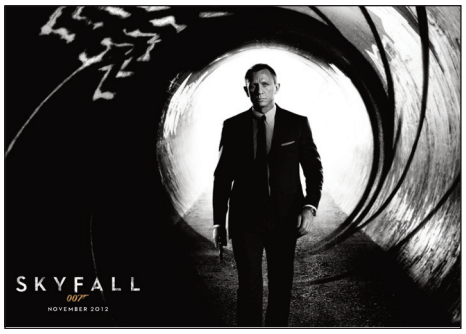
Reiki, guests should see a scheduler in the hospital or call 1-800-458-1975.

Donated winter wear available for guests

Patients from warmer climates have often expressed how difficult it can be to pack for the weather during the colder months. This can leave them at least a layer short when it comes to sudden weather changes.

Hospital employees started a winterwear drive, collecting coats, hats, scarves and gloves. In the past few years, this effort has been successful to the tune of hundreds of donated items for guests.

Guests who find the winter weather in Zion more biting than what it is at home can get some relief. Those needing complimentary winterwear may call 847-872-5200.



The guided patient outing for November 17 will take guests to the Kenosha Tinseltown Cinemas to watch Skyfall or Wreck-it Ralph, to be confirmed soon. Contact Guest Services for more information.

Call 847-746-6586 to sign up for Guest Services-sponsored outings. For self-guided outings, sign up at the concierge desk in the hospital front lobby.

Midwestern gets top honor

Cancer Treatment Centers of America® (CTCA®) at Midwestern Regional Medical Center (Midwestern) has been recognized by the National Quality Measures for Breast Centers Program (NQMBC) as being among the top centers in the country for providing quality breast cancer care. The CTCA at Midwestern breast center is the only center in Illinois, and one of only 33 centers nationally, to be deemed a Certified Quality Breast Center of Excellence™, cementing the hospital's position as a national leader in breast cancer care.

As part of the National Consortium of Breast Centers, the NQMBC recognizes centers with the esteemed designation for providing the highest level of care to patients, using 36 Quality Indicators™.

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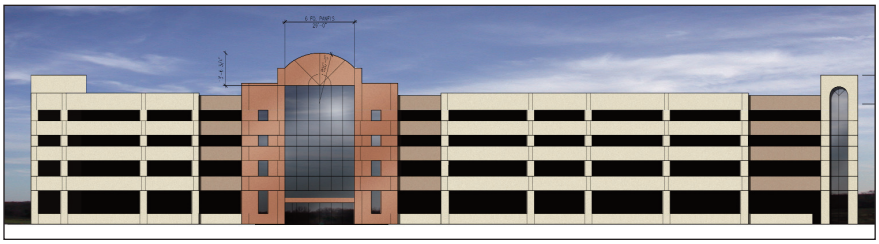

Parking garage breaks ground this month

Construction has begun on a new five-story, 893-space parking garage on the CTCA at Midwestern campus. The new garage will enable Midwestern to complete future expansion efforts that are in the planning process. Construction of the garage will continue until June 2013. Please note that with patient safety as a top priority, both patients and caregivers are encouraged to take advantage of the complimentary valet parking and local shuttle service.

Above is an architectural rendering of the parking garage as seen when viewed from the hospital.

Midwestern welcomes new doctor

Richard Stitcher, MD

Richard Stitcher, MD, has joined the Midwestern Regional Medical Center staff. Prior to coming to Midwestern he practiced at the CTCA hospital in Tulsa.

Dr. Stitcher grew up in Lincoln, Nebraska, as the son of a gastroenterologist. He studied biochemistry at Northwestern University in Chicago and earned a Bachelor of Science in Medicine at the University of Nebraska in Omaha. He earned his Doctor of Medicine at the University of Nebraska College of Medicine, where he was a member of the medical honor society Alpha Omega Alpha. Dr. Stitcher is board certified in gastroenterology by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Stitcher was in private practice in Lincoln, Nebraska, for 17 years. Later, he obtained a medical license in Ecuador, working first as a staff physician and then as director of the hospital in Quito as part of a medical mission. Dr. Stitcher is fluent in Spanish. He enjoys riding bikes, hiking and reading. He and his wife, Patty have two grown sons.

CTCA's surgical first

Treats first patient in state using NanoKnife®

On Thursday, October 18, 2012 CTCA at Midwestern doctors performed the first NanoKnife procedure in Illinois. This minimally invasive non-surgical procedure provides treatment options for patients with tumors in challenging or high-risk locations, such as the liver, pancreas or kidney. Instead of using microwave energy, extreme heat or extreme cold, the NanoKnife system uses electrical currents to destroy cancerous tumors. CTCA at Midwestern is one of only a few hospitals in the nation that offers this innovative option to patients.

Briefs

Seeking financial help?

Assistance in Healthcare applications are due the last Friday of each month. Awards are considered the second Tuesday of each month.

Submit applications to the Financial Counselors' office on the first floor or the First Connections desk in the front lobby.

Flyer lists all outings

Want to know which weekend outings are happening for the month? You can see all of them on one sheet of paper in the hospital front lobby at the concierge desk. You can also see what outings are scheduled with posted flyers in the lobbies of Guest Quarters West and Guest Quarters North.

Ask for updated schedules

Patient schedules may change each day. For that reason it is advisable to ask for a new schedule each morning.

Use current drug card

Guests, please have your current prescription benefits card available when coming to CTCA, especially when getting prescriptions filled at the in-house retail pharmacy. This speeds up service for all and ensures each patient gets the right prescription in a timely manner.

New patient tours

Would you like to know the history of CTCA and where key patient areas are located? Patient tours leave from the lobby every weekday at 11:00 a.m.

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