Why MGH Rehab Hospital is unique to Grant County

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED CANCER PROGRAM

Access the care you need, when you need it

AUTHOR RECALLS OUR EARLY DAYS OF MEDICINE page 52

Bold and Beautiful

ANGELINA JOLIE’S preemptive surgery started a national conversation about genetic screening. What would you do?
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ON THE COVER
Actress and activist Angelina Jolie has beauty, brains and bravura, on- and off-screen. Read about her decision to undergo genetic testing—and then a double mastectomy.
MGH Provides Timely Access for You and Your Family to Family Practice Physicians and Nurse Practitioners

MGH’s goal is to ensure you receive care that is appropriately managed on a timely basis to improve your health and lower healthcare costs. To accomplish this goal, MGH provides access for you and your family to more than 25 family practice physicians and nurse practitioners in our Healthcare Community through our MGH Medical Group.

This is the lowest-cost setting for you to receive care and help ensure early detection of potential health problems. It also provides the best possible continuity of care to keep you healthy and out of the hospital. In addition, with our MGH Medical Group, you have a “single” medical record for all services you receive from our group.

Today we have the greatest availability ever of family practice physicians and nurse practitioners in our Healthcare Community, so you can now be more easily accepted as a new patient locally.

In the future, if you are seeking family practice services, please call our family practice offices or call our Access Referral Line at 765-660-6444, which is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., excluding holidays. We will get you in to be seen in a timely manner.

Please make a personal commitment to help us help you. Together we can make a positive impact on your personal health as well as the overall cost of healthcare.

Paul L. Usher, FACHE, CPA, FHFMA
President/CEO
Marion General Hospital
Parking Garage Renovation Completed

Renovations to the Marion General Hospital parking garage are complete. This construction was a necessary building improvement to protect the safety, resiliency and longevity of the structure.

Improvements included sealing, painting, signage and new energy-efficient lighting. These changes will allow the hospital to manage parking resources in a more efficient manner, including how and when people need to park on campus.

The significant repairs to the parking garage will extend its useful life for MGH and our Healthcare Community. The project took about five months to complete.

Thank you for your incredible patience and understanding during this time.
Marion General Hospital realizes it is frustrating when you cannot get in to see a physician or a nurse practitioner when you are ill and worried about your health. When you are not feeling well, you expect and deserve timely attention and care.

MGH has heard your concerns and has continued to make improvements to MGH Access, a program that helps ensure you receive timely care when you need to see an MGH-employed family practitioner.

Currently, there are more than 25 talented family practitioners, and MGH has continued to increase the number to meet the needs of the community.

“It is working well,” says Sherree Herres, assistant practice administrator. “We get up to 20 calls a day on the referral line, and we are able to ensure that these patients are seen. We have refined our scheduling process, and we believe it is working the way it should be.”

YOU DECIDE WHAT WORKS BEST

If you currently do not have a primary care provider, you can call the MGH Access Referral Line at 765-660-MGH4 (6444). Staff will make an appointment for you with an MGH provider who is taking new patients and who is in your insurance plan network.

If you are already established with one of our MGH providers and you call your MGH provider for an appointment, MGH will ensure that you receive timely care by offering you the following options:

- The first available appointment with your regular MGH family practitioner
- The first available appointment with an MGH family practitioner at the same office
- The first available appointment with an MGH family practitioner at one of our convenient locations throughout Grant and Miami counties

When you have options, the ultimate decision is up to you. You decide which works best for you. It is that easy!
YOU STAY CONNECTED

Worried about your regular MGH family practitioner not knowing what occurred during a visit with another practitioner?

After your visit, MGH will update your electronic health record (EHR), which can be accessed by all MGH-employed family practitioners. If you see a different practitioner, your regular MGH family practitioner will have access to your EHR and what occurred during your visit.

“The electronic health record gives us the opportunity to utilize our MGH-employed physician network as a way to not only increase access to care, but to also maintain continuity of care,” Herres says. “It allows us to work as one large medical group in order to better meet the needs of our patients.”

With MGH Access, you can be sure care is there when you need it.

Need a Primary Care Provider?

Call the MGH Access Referral Line at 765-660-MGH4 (6444). We’ll make an appointment for you with an MGH provider who is taking new patients and who is in your insurance plan network.

At Marion General Hospital, your health and well-being are very important.

With MGH Access, family practitioners are here when you need them with the timely care you deserve.
MGH’s accreditation showcases exceptional standards for treatment

Oncology nurses often serve as a central point of team communication.

Learn More About MGH’s Cancer Program
For more information about treatment and services at Marion General Hospital’s cancer program, call 765-660-7800
MGH Cancer Center at Progressive
Cancer Care is a full-service cancer
center that provides high-quality
medical oncology services. The
center offers convenient, compas-
sionate care and advanced technology with the most
precise treatments available.

Following a rigorous on-site physician evaluation,
the Commission on Cancer (COC) of the American
College of Surgeons granted three-year accreditation
with commendation to the cancer program at Marion
General Hospital.

“We are nationally recognized as a cancer cen-
ter that follows the standards of care and provides
almost every available aspect of cancer care to the
community,” says Edmond Bendaly, MD, medical
oncologist and cancer committee chair.

“Achieving eight out of eight accommodations,
which is the maximum that any cancer center can
achieve, and being in the running for the Outstanding
Achievement Award for 2014 is, in my opinion,
something to be very proud of,” Dr. Bendaly adds.

MAKING THE GRADE
The accreditation program sets quality-of-care stan-
dards for cancer programs and reviews them to ensure
they conform to those standards. Accreditation by
the COC is given only to those facilities that have vol-
untarily committed to providing the highest-quality
cancer care.

Approximately 75 percent of the patients in the
cancer program are treated in an accredited cancer
program because they know that this program is
about quality and results. “We are compared to state
and national statistics among the best of the best,”
says Marilyn Pearcy, RN, OCN, MSM, administrative
director, medical oncology. “It is more difficult for a
smaller community cancer program, although we
see over 100 patients a day; it is just harder to meet
these qualities.”

The cancer care team was instrumental in MGH’s cancer program earning
accreditation from the Commission on Cancer.

The program met the standard in research, where
it is required to have 2 percent of patients enrolled in
some type of clinical trial or research.
Approximately 70 percent of all newly diag-
nosed cancer patients in the U.S. are treated in
COC-accredited facilities (there are more than 1,500
nationwide). The COC encompasses the best minds

GET TO KNOW
CANCER NAVIGATOR
MARILYN PEARCY,
RN, OCN, MSM

- At MGH for 49 years
- Administrative director of MGH’s cancer
  program since 1988
- Oncology-certified nurse and cancer navigator
- Nursing degree from Indiana University
- Bachelor’s and master’s degrees in business
  from Indiana Wesleyan University
- Relay for Life chair for 15 years, raising
  approximately $900,000
in cancer care using expertise from the entire oncology community to set the highest standards of care for COC-accredited cancer programs.

WHY ACCREDITATION MATTERS
Where you receive your cancer care does make a difference. MGH believes that when a person faces the difficult decision of choosing a treatment program, the hospital’s exceptional standards and advanced technology will stand above the rest.

COC accreditation challenges cancer programs to enhance the care they provide by addressing patient-centered needs and measuring the quality of the care they deliver against national standards. It provides value through improved patient results across all domains of care: access and service, satisfaction and well-being, quality of care and cancer outcomes.

For MGH patients and the Healthcare Community, the accreditation means:
• Comprehensive care, including a complete range of state-of-the-art services and equipment
• A team approach to coordinate the best available treatment options
• Access to prevention and early detection programs, cancer education and support services
• A cancer registry that offers lifelong patient follow-up
• Ongoing monitoring and improvements in cancer care

Most important, the accreditation means quality cancer care is available close to home. No need to travel and be away from family and friends during a time of uncertainty. To maintain accreditation, facilities with COC-accredited cancer programs must undergo an on-site review every three years.

SOMEONE TO GUIDE YOU
“You have cancer.” When you or your loved one hears those words, you may experience a number of feelings. But one thing you don’t have to feel is isolation.

Marilyn Pearcy, RN, OCN, MSM, is administrative director of medical oncology and also the cancer navigator for Marion General Hospital. A cancer navigator is an oncology-certified nurse who works with patients, families and physicians to help the cancer patient navigate the healthcare system.

“If a woman calls me and she was just diagnosed with breast cancer, I can talk to her and tell her the standard, the national cancer guidelines, and reassure her that she is not going to be alone, that this is what has to happen,” Pearcy says. “If she calls me and she wants to know a little bit about radiation or treatment, I will talk to her and guide her. I am on call 24/7; Friday night at 9 o’clock if patients or their family members call me and they are upset, I am available.”

Professional staff, which includes board-certified physicians, certified oncology nurses and a registered pharmacist, are all dedicated to patients.

Rathi Mahendran, MD, and Edmond Bendaly, MD, of MGH Medical Oncology

“More than anything, I am proud of developing my team. Working with Dr. [Edmond] Bendaly and Dr. [Rathi] Mahendran, we are a family here,” Pearcy says. “A lot of my patients I have been taking care of for many, many years. I don’t see them as patients; they are part of my family.”
Marion General Hospital welcomes two hospitalists to its medical staff: Bharat Sastry, MD, and Vishaal Veerula, MD.

Dr. Sastry received his medical education at the University of Mysore, Karnataka. His residency was completed at Metropolitan Hospital Center in New York. Dr. Sastry is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Veerula, originally from Fort Wayne, received his medical education at the Aureus University School of Medicine in Oranjestad, Aruba. His residency was completed at Staten Island University Hospital in New York. He is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine.

Drs. Sastry and Veerula join the talented physicians and nurse practitioners of the MGH Hospitalist Program.

The purpose of the MGH Hospitalist Program is to provide MGH patients with increased access to physicians and nurse practitioners during their hospitalization.

Hospitalists only see patients in the hospital, which enables them to be more immediately available to treat patients and begin coordinating their care.

The MGH Hospitalist Program operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Hospitalists stay in close contact with the entire team of caregivers, including the patient’s primary care physician, to keep him or her regularly updated and informed of the patient’s overall condition and progress.

Don’t Wait Until You’re Sick

Call the MGH Access Referral Line at 765-660-MGH4 (6444), or visit www.mgh.net and click “Find a Doctor” today.
Injury or illness is tough enough to deal with, but you can rest assured that the MGH Rehabilitation Hospital is dedicated exclusively to helping you regain the strength and stamina you need to return home. Marion General Hospital offers acute rehabilitative care in a supportive, healing environment.

The MGH Rehabilitation Hospital recently changed its name to more accurately reflect the highest level of rehabilitation care being provided within the halls of the hospital.

“We found it was very important to differentiate the level of care we provide [hospital level] that you cannot get from all of the local nursing home rehab centers or suites,” says Ryan Wilbur, director, inpatient therapies, MGH Rehabilitation Hospital. “We are more highly regulated than these facilities, and because of that we admit people who require a higher, more interdisciplinary level of care.”

THE REHAB HOSPITAL DIFFERENCE
Marion General Hospital’s rehabilitation program is the only one in Grant County that does not function under nursing home regulations. Therapy in nursing homes is different. The MGH Rehabilitation Hospital has the most specialized therapy available. The program can address complex medical conditions and rehabilitative interventions. Care is provided by a rehabilitation physician and interdisciplinary team.

The MGH Rehabilitation Hospital has specialty physicians on hand 24/7, a 4:1 patient-to-nurse ratio, staff certified in rehabilitation and an average stay of just seven to 10 days.

The MGH Rehabilitation Hospital is governed by the same regulations as other rehab facilities statewide, and it has excellent ratings and patient results, just closer to home.

The program is an option for those who have physical impairment with limited function in mobility, decreased function in activities of daily living, and decreased safety awareness. Candidates also include people whose therapy might be limited in the home setting.

People can be admitted from any setting—nursing home, assisted living, emergency room or home—but must qualify for admittance. Criteria include:
- Need 24-hour supervision.
- Need at least two of three therapies (occupational, physical, speech).
• Need to follow most commands.
• Need to be capable of three hours of therapy a day, divided up. (It is rare for a patient to not tolerate the therapy.)

All of the rooms at the MGH Rehabilitation Hospital are private, including a transition room that provides a homelike atmosphere with carpeting, a kitchen and a washer and dryer, which is used as a “graduation” room of sorts, providing patients confidence before heading home. There is a large gym area for patient therapy, along with an activities room, dining room and access to occupational therapy.

A SIMPLE MISSION
It is the mission of the MGH Rehabilitation Hospital to help each patient attain his or her personal goals, increase self-esteem, improve quality of life, restore hope and reach full potential.

“We were excited to name—or brand—ourselves so that everyone knows we are a part of the Magnet nursing culture of excellence provided at MGH,” Wilbur says. The MGH Rehabilitation Hospital is dedicated to people who have illnesses and injuries, giving them the care they need to get back to their lives.

MGH Rehabilitation Hospital patients work on real-life scenarios to improve their everyday function.
The first doctor who came to Grant County arrived before it was even a county. This doctor came down the Mississinewa River on a flat boat with a horse and a bag of medication. All the Native Americans and settlers settled along the river. The doctor built himself a log cabin. He got on his horse and started riding through the area looking for pioneers or anyone else he might be able to serve. That was the beginning of medicine.

Pierre J. Fisher Jr., MD, FACS, has documented those early years in his book *The History of Medicine in Grant County, Indiana and the Grant County Medical Society from 1830 to 1941*.

When asked what persuaded him to write the book, Dr. Fisher says, “I am interested in history, and the Grant County Medical Society was the first medical society in the state of Indiana. It even preceded the state medical association by one year.” The GCMS was recognized as a premier medical society for many years.

“The Grant County Medical Society has always been a great medical society,” he adds. “We have had some great doctors here.”

Beginning in approximately 1847, the society met monthly, and minutes were recorded. The society had a book of minutes that was 500 pages thick and falling apart, eaten away by acid. Dr. Fisher wanted to preserve this history. He took photographs of each page and compiled them in chronological order. He made a DVD that he gave to the Marion Public Library, and then he decided to write the book.

Dr. Fisher’s motivation for writing *The History of Medicine in Grant County* is noble. “Over the years, the medical society and the doctors have done a lot to improve the health and welfare of the people here, and I want to honor them,” he says.

What makes him the most proud of the book? “Just the fact that I did it, that I put in all the hours it took to accomplish this,” he says. “This is something I think is useful. I will be 82 years old, and I want to do something before I die, leave a legacy.”

*The History of Medicine in Grant County* has been distributed to several libraries and is on sale in the MGH gift shop.

**The Author’s Distinguished Medical Career**

Pierre J. Fisher Jr., MD, FACS, was born in Chicago and later moved to Marion. His father was a doctor at Veterans Affairs and went into practice here in 1933. Dr. Fisher attended Marion High School. After completing three years of college, he went into medical school and graduated in 1956.

He joined the Navy and was an intern at the San Diego Naval Hospital. After the internship, he completed a residency in surgery at the naval hospital in Portsmouth, Va. He was a staff surgeon at Great Lakes Naval Base and was commanding officer of the naval hospital in Adak, Alaska.

In 1965, Dr. Fisher returned to Marion to practice. He joined Wendell W. Ayres, MD, and they organized Surgeons Inc., which is still in business.

Dr. Fisher received his 50-year recognition in 2006 from the Indiana State Medical Association. He was with Marion General Hospital from 1965 to 1993. His leadership roles at MGH include chief of staff, chief of the Grant County Medical Society, chief of surgery, and record committee member for about 15 years. He was also instrumental in organizing a task force to set up the first hospice program at MGH.
Who’s Lighting the Halls of MGH?

Marion General Hospital honors its employees who embrace the spirit of service excellence through its Headlighter program. Here is MGH’s most recent group of employees who earned the distinction.

**HEADLIGHTERS**
- Anna Baker, medical/surgical
- Lindsey Bokinsky, RN, critical care
- Glenda Fuller, laboratory
- Polly Worl, pharmacy

**Featured Headlighter**

Glenda Fuller, laboratory, is a gift to oncology

Most patients want their blood drawn with one stick, without pain or difficulty. Glenda Fuller does that very well. But she goes beyond that. She remembers patients’ birthdays, prays with them when they’re scared and remembers little things such as if their spouses are sick. Patients look forward to seeing her behind the needle. She is mentioned as a positive employee in rounding and with callbacks.

Glenda is not just a gift to her patients. She is also a gift to her team. She is the first one to bake that cake for a fellow employee or have kind words for someone in need. She is that person who starts a sunshine basket for a fellow employee. When she has downtime, she is decorating the lab for each holiday.

Her kindness has brought such fun to patients and staff. She is a wonderful MGH employee who brightens her area every time she works.
Won’t You Join Us?

A message from MGH Auxiliary president Karen Key

The purpose of the Marion General Hospital Auxiliary is to promote and advance the welfare of MGH through service to the hospital and its patients. The Auxiliary works in partnership with MGH leadership to provide support and resources for hospital patients and visitors on an ongoing basis. By organizing fundraisers throughout the year, the Auxiliary raises funds to purchase needed hospital equipment such as wheelchairs, tables, chairs, coloring books and crayons for children, and furniture for the lobby and waiting areas of the 330 Building.

There are some exciting fundraising plans ahead for the Auxiliary that include sales of handbags, chocolate, uniforms and books. We welcome new members to the Auxiliary year-round, and dues are only $5 (sign up in the gift shop). Auxiliary members are invited to our annual luncheon the second Monday in May. Please consider joining the Auxiliary and help us support MGH.

VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

November: Linda Howard
Linda Howard wanted to give back to the community after retiring from Gorman Center for Orthodontics, where she was employed for 22 years. She has volunteered in the outpatient laboratory at MGH for almost two years. She likes meeting and interacting with people and making them feel comfortable. Howard lives in Marion with her husband, David, and their dog, Bear. She enjoys reading, gardening and spending time with her grandkids.

December: Beckie Hoke
“I have always been interested in the medical field. After retiring, I wasn’t ready to stay home, so volunteering at the hospital met both needs,” says Beckie Hoke. A volunteer at MGH since January 2012, she can be found in the laboratory in the 330 Building. Before retirement, Hoke worked in retail management and as an administrative assistant. She enjoys country music concerts, NASCAR races, bowling and golf.

January: Donna Gray
Donna Gray has volunteered at MGH for eight years. Her hobbies are reading, gardening, flowers and games. She most enjoys meeting and helping people as well as being around her co-workers. Gray volunteers at the information desk and is also on the Auxiliary board. Born and raised in Marion, she is married to Jesse and has six grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and a cat named Shadow.

February: Kathy Gray
After working as lead custodian for Marion Community Schools for 18 years, Kathy Gray retired, she says, “to use her mind instead of her back.” Gray has volunteered at MGH for 10 years and serves on the Auxiliary board. Born in Ohio, Gray says, “Marion is in my heart.” She says her husband of 52 years, Jim, is her main hobby, but she also enjoys playing cards and watching football, especially the Colts.
DONATIONS

MHG Memorial Garden
Honoring former MGH employees, physicians and volunteers

The Marion General Hospital Memorial Garden, in the courtyard west of the cafeteria, was built in memory of former Plant Engineering Supervisor Fred Gause and made possible by a generous donation and support from the MGH Auxiliary. The garden honors MGH employees, physicians and volunteers who have passed away, by displaying their names and departments on engraved bricks set around the base of a tranquil fountain.

Honored as of press time are:

• Karen Cummings, RN, intensive care unit
• Phyllis Broadwater, medical records

CALL

Purchase a Memorial Brick
Bricks to honor MGH employees, physicians and volunteers who have passed away can be purchased for a minimum donation of $25. Call Volunteer Services at 765-660-6410 for more information.

Marion General Hospital Endowment Fund

In 1994, the Marion General Hospital Endowment Fund was started to accept donations to support the hospital’s mission and vision for our Healthcare Community. Donations to the fund are sincerely appreciated. Call 765-662-0065 or mail to:

The Marion General Hospital Endowment Fund
Community Foundation of Grant County, Indiana Inc.
505 W. Third St.
Marion, IN 46952
Continuous education programs/support groups

CLASSES
DIABETES
Classes are offered monthly. Physician referral is required. For more information, call diabetes education at 765-660-6690.

PRENATAL EDUCATION
Classes provided in conjunction with Family Service Society Inc. Classes are held at various times throughout each month. Please call 765-660-7893 or visit www.mgh.net for more information.

SUPPORT GROUPS
(All support groups are free)

POSTPARTUM SUPPORT GROUP
All postpartum families are welcome. Babies will be weighed. Special-speaker topics will include nutrition, car seats and postpartum depression. Refreshments will be served. Call 765-660-6860.
Dates: Meets every Tuesday
Time: 10:30 a.m.
Location: MGH Fifth Floor, 441 N. Wabash Ave.

REFLECTIONS
Cancer support group. Call 765-660-6555.

MOMMY BLUES CONNECTION
Support group for mothers experiencing anxiety or depression during or after pregnancy. Child care is provided by approved staff. Call 765-660-6866 for location and other information.
Dates: Meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month
Time: 6:30–7:30 p.m.

BARIATRIC SUPPORT GROUP
Support group for individuals who have had bariatric surgery or are interested in bariatric surgery, as well as those who are participating or wish to participate in medically supervised weight loss. Call 765-660-7133 for more information.
Dates: Meets the third Thursday of each month
Time: 6:30–8 p.m.
Location: MGH 330 Building, Conference Rooms 1–2, 330 N. Wabash Ave.

COMMUNITY SERVICE
CAR SEAT SAFETY
Free service for parents and caregivers for inspection, fitting and instructions on proper installation of a child car seat. (Both child and car seat must be at inspection.) Call 765-660-6860 for appointment.
Time: By appointment only
Location: MGH Parking Garage, 441 N. Wabash Ave.

For More Information
Please call the numbers listed or visit our website at www.mgh.net for information about any of our programs.
TIMELY CARE YOU DESERVE.

WE WILL get you in to see:
(1) your MGH practitioner
(2) the first available MGH practitioner
...YOU DECIDE.

WE WILL . . .
• update your MGH Electronic Health Record
• allow your MGH practitioner immediate access to your visit results
...REST ASSURED.

With over 25 PRACTITIONERS...
WE WILL GET YOU IN.