



La Dame de la Mer

Lady of the Sea General Hospital Newsletter

Lady of the Sea General Hospital is

Coming Back!



Healthcare in South Lafourche is

**REBUILDING
RESILIENT
REIMAGINED**

Also in this issue:

- Dialysis Grand Opening
- Changes in Leadership
- Stop The Bleed Program



Lady of the Sea administration received official confirmation in mid-July that FEMA has approved the replacement of the main hospital facility.

“This is great news for the South Lafourche community,” said Dr. Lloyd J. Guidry, Jr., CEO of Lady of the Sea General Hospital.

“What this official confirmation means is that FEMA will provide 90% of funding, minus the insurance collected, to build a new, modern, code-compliant facility that will be designed with an emphasis on mitigation and resiliency to ensure it withstands any future storms that threaten our community.”

The FEMA funding obligation is currently in Expert Review with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Although administration had started working with architects and had even chosen a CMAR (Construction Manager at Risk), the hospital was still waiting on official word that the replacement was going to be the option chosen before proceeding any further. “By working with a CMAR, we will get ahead of long lead items and supply chain issues, which leads to a quicker, smoother construction. If all continues according to plan, we could be opening the permanent hospital in the summer of 2025,” said Tad Lafont, COO of Lady of the Sea General Hospital. Architect’s renditions of the permanent facility have already been publicized and are included on this page and the front cover. “Not only is it aesthetically appealing, but it’s also designed to ensure our community hospital will be functional for decades to come no matter what mother nature decides to throw our way,” Lafont reported.

Finally, the return of hospital services is within our grasp. After working through the necessary processes, laws and codes to build a temporary facility, the building is on our campus, and the opening date is currently scheduled for the end of 2023.



“This temporary hospital will bridge the gap of inpatient services while we continue to work toward building the new permanent hospital,” said Lloyd Guidry, Jr., Pharm.D., CEO of Lady of the Sea General Hospital.



“The temporary facility is constructed of modular buildings that are rated to withstand up to Category 4 (130-156 mph) hurricane winds. It covers over 28,000 square feet and really offers our employees a great place to offer healthcare to our community.”



Be on the lookout for more information on tours of the facility and grand opening / ribbon cutting activities as the opening date is set.

Changes in Manag



Lloyd Guidry, Jr., Pharm.D.
Chief Executive Officer

Lloyd obtained his Bachelor of Science degree majoring in Pharmacy from Northeastern Louisiana University in 1985. He also obtained his Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of Florida in 2003. Lloyd has served as the Pharmacy Director at Lady of the Sea General Hospital for 28 years prior to becoming the Chief Operations Officer at Lady of the Sea for 17 years.



Holly Griffin, RN
Chief Nursing Officer

Holly obtained her Registered Nurse (RN) license in 1981 after completing her education at Nicholls State University. Holly has 42 years of experience working as a nurse, previously working as the Director of Home Health and the Director of Dialysis at Lady of the Sea General Hospital. Holly has been the Chief Nursing Officer for 10 years.



Tad Lafont, RN, BSHA
Chief Operations Officer

Tad is a Certified Rural Health Clinic Professional through the National Association of Rural Health Clinics. He previously worked as the ICU Director at Lady of the Sea General Hospital for 11 years and most recently served as the Chief Clinic Officer for 10 years.

-ADMINISTRATION-



Tyler Duplantis, CHFP, CSAF
Chief Financial Officer

Tyler is a Certified Specialist in Accounting and Finance (CSAF) and a Certified Healthcare Finance Professional (CHFP) through Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA). He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree majoring in Finance from Nicholls State University in 2011. He is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives. Tyler brings over 11 years of healthcare experience including roles such as Accountant, Controller, Director of Clinic Operations, Vice President of Finance, and Chief Financial Officer.



Bennie Smith, MBA, BSBM, CHSP
Chief Quality Officer

Bennie is a Certified Healthcare Safety Professional through International Board for Certification Services and Management (IBFCSM). Bennie has worked in Human Resources at Lady of the Sea for 30 years, serving previously as Director of HR and Chief Information Officer. She has 29.5 years of experience on the Administrative Team. She is currently the hospital's Corporate Compliance Officer and is responsible for Human Resources, Risk Management, Education, and Medical Staff Coordination.



Christy Chabert, MHA, BSHIM, RHIA
Vice President of Revenue Cycle

Christy is a Registered Health Information Administrator through the American Health Information Management Association. Christy has been employed in various roles at Lady of the Sea General Hospital for 22 years, previously as the Director of Revenue Cycle. She also serves as the HIPAA Privacy Officer and the Custodian of Medical Records.



LaVelle Chiasson, CPHQ
VP Organizational Excellence

LaVelle is a Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality (CPHQ) through National Association of Healthcare Quality. LaVelle has 27 years of experience working in marketing and outreach, with 18 of those years at Lady of the Sea as Director of Marketing. She has also served as the Director of Quality for the last 6 years, overseeing the NIAHO and ISO certifications through DNV.

-VICE PRESIDENTS-



Paul Curole
Vice President of Facilities

Paul is a Certified Healthcare Operations Professional (CHOP-B) through Det Norske Veritas, Inc. (DNV), a hospital accrediting agency. He has over 25 years of experience in construction management. Paul was the Director of Plant Operations at Lady of the Sea General Hospital for 7 years. Paul is also in charge of Plant Operations and security of all Lady of the Sea facilities and staff.



Stacy Guidry
Vice President of Procurement

Stacy obtained an Associate Degree in Business Administration from Nicholls State University in 1991. She has been employed at Lady of the Sea for 30 years in the Materials Management department, serving as the Director of Materials Management for the past 22 years. Stacy is also responsible for Contract Management for Lady of the Sea General Hospital, Clinics and Community Pharmacies.

DIALYSIS CENTER Grand *RE*-Opening!



“We are happy to welcome back our dialysis patients who have been receiving treatment outside of our community and in a temporary unit on our campus.”

Lady of the Sea General Hospital held a ribbon cutting and open house on May 4th to celebrate the re-opening of the Dialysis Unit. Dialysis is a critical treatment for people with Kidney Failure or End Stage Renal Disease. Without dialysis treatment, which is usually administered three times each week, these patients may not survive. For this reason, it was important to Lady of the Sea Administration to get the Dialysis Unit back in service following its closing from Hurricane Ida damage.

“We were able to begin the construction work on the dialysis building in October of 2022 following approval and funding obligation from FEMA. We are very pleased with the outcome of this project,” said Dr. Lloyd Guidry, Jr., Chief Executive Officer at Lady of the Sea. “This permanent unit brings to the patients the best in dialysis treatment.”

“This unit has state-of-the-art equipment in the water room and treatment area,” said Holly Griffin, RN, Chief Nursing Officer at Lady of the Sea. “Everything is up to current codes and standards. Along with our staff providing treatment, our patients are receiving the highest level of dialysis treatment available.”

Announcing Board of Commissioners New Officers and Members

Lady of the Sea Board of Commissioners are appointed by the Lafourche Parish Council and serve for a 6-year term. At the July 2023 Board of Commissioners meeting, the following Officers were chosen:

- PRESIDENT:** Kip Plaisance
- VICE PRESIDENT:** Peter Louviere
- Secretary / Treasurer:** Ruby LeBlanc
- MEMBER:** Charles Michael Callais
- Member:** Mickey Navarre

The Board of Commissioners meetings are open to the public and are held on the first Tuesday of each month, beginning at 5:00 P.M. in the Lady of the Sea Conference Center, located at 186 West 134th Street in Cut Off, Louisiana.

MINUTES COUNT!

Someone who is severely bleeding can bleed to death in as little as 5 minutes. Buffy Lafont, BSN, RN; Lady of the Sea General Hospital ER Director and trained STOP THE BLEED® course instructor is available to educate our community to be immediate responders for a bleeding emergency.

“Often, the general public is the first to respond at an accident site,” said Lafont.

“Many people have been trained in CPR to be able to offer potentially life-saving assistance to those in distress. STOP THE BLEED® training would be another tool for people to be able to offer life-saving assistance in a bleeding emergency.”



Accidents can happen anywhere that can lead to hemorrhaging, and they are not limited to car crashes or mass casualties. Especially in the home, in public places, during work; the

possibilities are endless for a bleeding emergency. By offering life-saving training to our community, we can potentially save lives and limit injury.

The STOP THE BLEED® campaign was initiated in October 2015 through the National Security Council and the White House. The purpose of the campaign is to better prepare the public to save lives by raising awareness of basic actions to stop life threatening bleeding. Advances made by military medicine and research in hemorrhage control during the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq are taught to the general public to save lives.

Training is free and being offered to local businesses, clubs, schools and groups. If you are interested in attending a training or for more information about the STOP THE BLEED® program, please contact Buffy Lafont at (985) 632-8304 or email buffyl@losgh.org.



STOP THE BLEED






1. Call 9-1-1
2. Ensure Your Safety
3. Wear Gloves
4. Find the Bleeding Injury

5. Compress and Control

- ✓ Take gauze or Quick Clot bandages and cover wound.
- ✓ If wound is large and deep: "Stuff" gauze or Quick Clot bandages into wound.
- ✓ Apply continuous pressure with both hands directly on top of bleeding wound.
- ✓ Push down as hard as you can.
- ✓ Hold pressure to stop bleeding. When bleeding is controlled, wrap wound and gauze tightly with elastic bandage. Continue pressure until relieved by medical responders.

APPLY PRESSURE WITH HANDS



APPLY DRESSING AND PRESS



For severe or life-threatening bleeding from an arm or leg: Use a tourniquet if available

Lady of the Sea General Hospital
200 West 134th Place
Cut Off, LA 70345

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Paul received the award at the Chamber of Lafourche Employee Appreciation Crawfish Boil and Healthcare Expo, held each year during Employee Appreciation week.

**Lady of the Sea
General Hospital is
pleased to announce**

**PAUL CUROLE,
Vice President
of Facilities
as the recipient
of the Chamber of
Lafourche Employee
of the Year 2023.**



Paul Curole came to work at Lady of the Sea in 2016 as the Director of Plant Operations. At that time, his job consisted of maintaining a 40 year old aging plant and facility, while keeping our buildings in compliance for the type of healthcare we provide. Previously, Paul had worked for over 25 years in construction and HVAC. He is a licensed electrician and studied HVAC, electrical, heating, air conditioning, sheet metal and advanced math.

The hospital main facility had catastrophic damage from Hurricane Ida that resulted in the closure of our main building where the majority of our services were provided to the community, and other buildings on our campus. Paul and his staff of 5 were working onsite for the storm, doing their best to address any issues and damage as it came up. Once the roof flew off of the hospital, as seen on the viral video that was part of every media cycle covering the storm, water

began to rush through the building from top to bottom, and affected our entire hospital, including the electrical system. After an exhausting 24 hours, the storm had passed, and the hospital building was declared closed.

The real work for the Plant Operations department began at that moment. Employees returned to the building to try to salvage items, and with a three-story building, plant operations was on hand to help every single group salvage what they could. This went on for days. Whole departments relocated to other areas, and then relocated again and again through the next six months.

Staffing in all departments was reduced, and this included Plant Operations.

Now down to 3 employees plus Paul, he was not only the leader for all of the damaged buildings and the new portable buildings, but also part of the grass-cutting team, pouring cement for safe walkways, and ensuring his staff had everything they needed each day.

Paul was also assigned to the team working with FEMA, insurance, and countless other entities involved in the demolition of some buildings and repairs of others. His background in construction became something that administration could rely on, as Paul was looped in for all projects.

Paul leads his team by example. He is a proven leader who is very conscious of fiscal responsibilities and is quality driven. He has been steadfast in his approach to all of the complications in the many projects that are now part of his job. Congratulations to Paul Curole for earning this well-deserved honor.