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Pathology Lab to be Established in the Southern Regional Health Authority

Minister of Health, Dr. Fenton Ferguson says he will be making representation to seek to acquire additional funds to assist with the establishment of a pathology laboratory for the Southern Regional Health Authority.

Dr. Ferguson was speaking during the launch of the Lions Club of Mandeville's fund raising event to establish the pathology lab and for their annual "Men who Cook" charity function.

The launch was held at the Lions Club Health and Civic Centre in Mandeville on Wednesday, April 15, 2015.

"I believe in public/private partnership because it allows for a win win win situation. If you look at our economic environment it is these partnerships that

will make a difference.

The pathology lab will help with turn-around time to get the diagnostics done and to quickly detect cancer cells. This is in line with our objectives at the Ministry especially since cancer care is our 'big ideas' project. We are looking at it along the whole continuum from screening to treatment to early detection to survivorship including palliative care," Dr. Ferguson said.

He said the Region currently does not have a pathology lab and land has been identified adjacent to the Mandeville Regional Hospital for the facility.

Credit:
Ministry of Health
Communications



Minister of Health, Hon. Dr. Fenton Ferguson (right) addresses members of the Lions Club of Mandeville during the launch of the Club's fund raising activity for the establishment of a pathology lab for the Southern Regional Health Authority and the signature event, Men Who Cook which is in its 16th staging.

Also pictured (left to right) are : President of the Lions Club of Mandeville, IO Sparkes, Acting Custos Rotulorum for Manchester, Trevor Heaven, Mayor of Mandeville, Her Worship, Brenda Ramsay and Chairman of the Board of the Southern Regional Health Authority, Michael Stewart.



Greetings colleagues and friends.

The Southern Pulse has enjoyed a warm recep-

tion since its first publication. We would like to thank you for your support which has contributed to this reception.

As we continue to provide efficient and customer focused health care services to our valued customers, we encourage our staff members, clients and friends

to join us in the process as effective health care is a partnership between health care providers and our customers.

We are approaching Labour Day 2015 where the national focus will be on children. The theme is "Labour of Love...Nurture our Children" which

appropriately describes what our focus should be not only on this day but beyond.

Our children need our help, let's love them, let's keep them safe.

Stay connected to the Southern Pulse.

Facility Focus: Santa Cruz Centre of Excellence

The Santa Cruz Centre of Excellence, one of four Centres of Excellence in the island was the first to be opened in 2013.

The Centres of Excellence were developed as part of the Health Minister's thrust to enhance the provision of primary health care across the island.

The Centre offers the following services:

- Maternal & Child Health
- Family Planning
- Mental Health
- Curative (General, Rheumatic Fever

Prophylaxis, Diabetic & Hypertensive Clinics among others)

- Dental
- Food Handlers Certification
- Cervical Cancer Screening
- Dressing
- Nutrition
- Environmental Health
- Health Promotion and Education
- HIV/STI clinic

These services are supported by:

- Laboratory (HIV, VDRL only)
- Pharmaceuticals



The Santa Cruz Centre of Excellence is located at Coke Drive in Santa Cruz, St. Elizabeth.

It opens at 8: 30 a.m. and closes at 5:00 p.m.

If you have a concern or query, the contact number for the Centre is 793-8396.

The staff will be happy to hear from you.

In the News: Southern Regional Health Authority

Health Minister Encourages Public Private Partnerships

The establishment of a well needed pathology laboratory in the southern region through a partnership between the Southern Regional Health Authority and the Lions Club of Mandeville is an example of an effective public private partnership which Minister of Health, Dr. Fenton Ferguson said is encouraging.

“I believe in public private/partnerships because they allow for a

win-win situation. Oftentimes we speak of public-private partnerships but we do it in the context of it sounding good but if you look at our economic environment with limited fiscal space, it is the partnership that will make the difference” Minister Ferguson said.

The Health Minister was speaking at the Lion’s Club of Mandeville launch of their annual “Men Who Cook”

charity event which will raise some of the funds for the establishment of the lab. The launch was held on Wednesday, April 15 at the Lions Club Health and Civic Centre in Mandeville.

The southern region does not have a pathology lab and its establishment will provide critical histopathology lab services to the parishes of Clarendon, Manchester and

St. Elizabeth which the Minister said will assist with the turnaround time of getting diagnostics done.

The Minister also gave his full support to the project and said he would make representation to hasten the time of completion for the lab.

SRHA and NCU Signs MOU to Strengthen Development of Health Professionals



SRHA Regional Director, Michael Bent (left seated) and Dr. Trevor Gardner sign their respective copies of the MOU. Witnessing the signing are representatives from the SRHA and NCU.

The Southern Regional Health Authority (SRHA), a statutory body of the Ministry of Health and the Northern Caribbean University (NCU) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) designed to strengthen the development of competent health professionals.

The agreement has

now formalized and improved the partnership for training students to perform clinical rotations at the SRHA health facilities. The MOU includes cooperation in the areas of nursing, medical technology, dietetics and nutrition and public health and will enhance the partnership for students to acquire practical experience in the SRHA facilities.

Speaking on Friday, March 27 at the SRHA office in Mandeville, Regional

Director of the SRHA, Michael Bent noted that the relationship between the two entities has been a fruitful one as students who have benefitted from rotations have been employed by the SRHA in addition to the facilities gaining from the students experience.

President of NCU, Dr. Trevor Gardner pointed out that he hopes the agreement is the beginning of a wider journey as the university is exploring the addition of health complement services in its curriculum.

Facilities on the Move

Clarendon: US Medical Mission Reduces Surgical Waiting List at May Pen Hospital

With the help of US Medical Mission, the United Mission of Goodwill, the surgical waiting list at the May Pen Hospital has been greatly reduced with over 100 procedures being done, 70 surgical and 30 endoscopy procedures.

Senior Medical Officer at the May Pen Hospital, Dr. Bradley Edwards said the New York based team which recently left the island consisted of 39 members including

surgeons, urologists, gynecologists, gastroenterologists, dentists, ophthalmologists, anesthesiologists, nurses and volunteers.

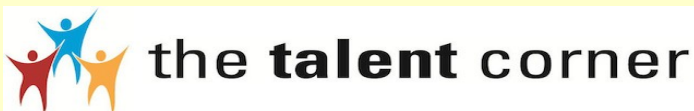
Dr. Edwards noted that in addition to the surgical procedures and a general clinic, the Mission was involved in the commissioning of a maternity ward operating theatre. The Mission donated an operating theatre bed, anesthetic and diathermy machines and other sun-

dries for the operating theatre.

“It was a successful mission and the commissioning of this operating theatre was used by the Mission in their visit from April 27 to May 1. Before the hospital was utilizing two operating theatres now we have three” Dr. Edwards

added.

Parish Manager, Mr. Joseph Grant examines an anesthetic machine in the Maternity Ward Operating Theatre.



The Family: Verol Ebanks Assistant Internal Auditor, SRHA

The family is like a big strong tree,
It gives shelter and strength to you and me.
The little birds will find a homely nest,
In peace and comfort they can rest.

The family will share the joy and the pain,
And give you sunny days and needed rain.
The family will listen and answer your call.
And hold your hand lest you fall.

The family is a garden where love will grow,
In streams of comfort where kindness can flow,
And in a world where things sometimes go wild,
There must be a family for every little child.

Facilities on the Move

St. Elizabeth:

St. Elizabeth Health Services Partners With St. Elizabeth Health Foundation

The St. Elizabeth Health Services has partnered with the St. Elizabeth Health Foundation to build the health care services in St. Elizabeth.

One major objective of this organization is to partner with a wider group of citizens across the parish to support health care and well-being of the people.

Parish Manager of the St. Elizabeth Health

Services, Sean Brissett says this will build the capacity of the health facilities within the parish to respond to the various health related issues that arise from time to time.

Some of the objectives of this partnership include:

- To mobilize, encourage and maintain the interest of the public in the well being of patients.

- To support health and wellness.
- To improve and maintain the relationship and Association between voluntary bodies.
- To supplement the resources of the St. Elizabeth Health Services by providing funds, services and amenities as the Foundation thinks fit.
- To unite the membership in bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding.
- To co-ordinate activities in matters relating to the St. Elizabeth Health Services and the provision of quality health care for all.

HR And You (Cont'd- Page 6)

SRHA recognizes that all employees act as representatives of the organization and should therefore be dressed accordingly.

The way in which SRHA employees dress and present themselves plays an important part in the image that SRHA portrays to the internal and external customers and the general public. For this rea-

son, staff members are asked to be aware of the presentation self and adhere to the dress code at all times when representing the organization.

Dress Code Requirements:

- SRHA employees are expected to dress in a manner which demonstrates professionalism, decency and respect for



colleagues, clients and the members of the general public.

- It is expected that on occasions (including Fridays) when employees have scheduled meetings with customers or external visitors from other organizations, or interviewing

candidates, that they dress in an appropriate conventional business-like manner.

- Employees must abide by the safety policies and procedures of their departments and wear required protective clothing and safety equipment.

Facilities On the Move

Manchester: Health Minister Tours Percy Junor Hospital

On Friday, May 8, Minister of Health, Dr. Fenton Ferguson toured the Percy Junor Hospital in Manchester.

The tour followed discussions of the proposed addition of the Accident and Emergency Department of the hospital.

The Percy Junor Hospital serves sections of several parishes including Manchester, Trelawny, St. Ann and Clarendon which has resulted in the need for the expansion.

See highlights of the tour below:

Dr. Carlos Wilson makes a presentation of the proposed expansion to Minister Ferguson and members of the Ministry, SRHA and PJH.

Mr. Earl McLaughlin (centre) takes Minister Fenton Ferguson on a tour of the Percy Junor Hospital. The CEO informed the Minister of the hospital's upcoming 70th anniversary celebrations in June.



HR And You (Cont'd from Page 5)

- Pants, skirts and dresses should be loose enough to prevent exposure of body parts and undergarments.
- Males should wear their shirts neatly tucked into their pants except for shirts made specifically to be

worn outside the pants.

- Jeans are allowed for employees outside of the uniformed group once there is permission from your Parish Manager, Chief Executive Officer. Jeans should be relaxed. If employees do not

conform to this, jeans will be disallowed. Employees within the Maintenance Department are allowed to wear jeans as is necessary.

- Caps are only to be worn by employees who are required to work outside.
- Sandals are only

allowed to be worn with special permission.

- Jewellery should not be excessive.

Inappropriately dressed employees will be sent home by the Head of Department to change into suitable attire and employees are expected to return to work within a reasonable period of time.

Staff Highlight

SRHA Directors and Managers in Concert

The Southern Regional Health Authority staff members realized just how talented and fun some of their colleagues are when the managers and directors hosted the Managers and Directors Concert on Monday, April 27. There was much excitement, fun and lots of laughter as the managers and directors showcased their talents.

The concert, emceed by Mr. Roger Miller is part of the Staff Welfare monthly fundraising initiative.



Mr. Michael Bent performs an original dub piece, "The whole a we a one". His performance was an encore piece.



We can see just how much laughter erupted from a skit performed by nurse Mrs. Stacey-Ann Edwards and patient Mr. Richard Allen. The duo illustrated a hospital scene depicting the correct and incorrect staff and patient procedures.



The highlight of the concert, Mrs. Herschel Ismail in costume performed "When me roast me yellow yam". This was a double encore performance.



Lets get jiggy. Staff members buss a move as they entertained the audience.

A Day in the Life of:

**Sean Brissett,
Parish Manager,
St. Elizabeth
Health Services**



1. How long have you been working with the SRHA?

I have been working with the region one year and 11 months.

2. Describe the experience.

It has been very exciting. My role encompasses a wide cross section of management and what makes it even more interesting is that I have never worked in the health sector before. It brings a total different perspective to management.

3. What inspired you to choose our profession?

I am a trained teacher but I have worked for over twenty years in management. I feel that this area (management) is where I can be most impactful in influencing human life and making a difference in a positive way.

4. What philosophy guides you?

Only the best is good enough.

5. What is the most important life lesson you have learnt?

I have learnt that we will always make mistakes but the most important thing is learning from them and moving forward.

6. Favourite meal.

I don't have a favourite meal. I eat what appeals to me.

7. What is your favourite hobby?

My favourite hobby is playing dominoes. I am a sportsman at heart and I love reading as well.

9. Five words to describe you.

Innovator
Go-Getter
Helpful
Honest
Self Motivating

11. Do you have a talent?

I don't think I am truly blessed with a talent but I have won gold and silver medals at the national level of dancing.



**Please submit your articles
and feedback to:**

latoya.laylor@srha.gov.jm

Deadline: May 31, 2015

Wellness Bytes

Stress

Feelings of stress are caused by the body's instinct to defend itself. This instinct is good in emergencies, such as getting out of the way of a speeding car.

But stress can cause unhealthy physical symptoms if it goes on for too long, such as in response to life's daily challenges and changes. Talk to your family doctor if you think some of your symptoms are caused by stress.

Tips for dealing with stress

- Don't worry about things you can't control.
- Solve the little problems. This can help you gain a feeling of control.
- Prepare to the best of your ability for events you know may be stressful, such as a job interview.
- Exercise on a regular basis.
- Try to look at change as a positive challenge, not as a threat.
- Work to resolve conflicts with other people.
- Talk with a trusted friend, family member or counselor.
- Set realistic goals at home and at work. Avoid overscheduling.
- Eat regular, well-balanced meals.

Southern Regional Health
Authority



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Mandeville
Manchester
Phone: 962-8232
Website:
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The Clarendon Health Services Team presents its 2nd annual Staff Wellness Expo & Fun Day on Friday, May 29 beginning at 9 a.m.

Come out and enjoy health checks, eye screening and medical exams, nutrition counselling, health forums and presentations,

SRHA Embarks on Facelift Project Labour Day 2015

dental and cholesterol checks and others.

Competitive events include netball, football, cheerleading dance, skipping, fluffly race and many more.

The Southern Regional Health Authority will embark on a facelift project for the Authority on Labour Day 2015, which will be observed on Monday, May 25. Staff members are encouraged to come and assist with this project. Let's come together and work.

The Manchester Mid-Wives Association will present a grand antenatal Health Fair dubbed Pregmate-Pregnant Mothers Advancing Through Education at the Porus Health Centre on Friday, May 29 at 9:00 a.m.

The Ministry of Health in collaboration with the Southern Regional Health Authority presents a Food Safety Exposition and Fair in May at the Alligator Pond Primary School. The

Expo aims to teach and sensitize the public about food safety practices in an effort to stimulate healthier food safety practices.

