Porter doctors take on leadership roles

Hospital to try a team-based model

BY JOHN FLOWERS  MIDDLEBURY

Porter Medical Center is adopting a new leadership structure that will involve more physicians more actively in management of the county’s hospital, nursing home and a dozen affiliated provider practices.

It’s a move that Porter administrators believe will lead to smoother operations and better services for patients.

And PMC’s switch from a hierarchical management system to a team-based model will be closely watched by University of Vermont Health Network officials, who could choose to replicate the new system if it pays dividends for Porter.

PMC is an affiliate of UVM Health Network.

Leading the revamp is PMC’s top administrator, President Tom Thompson. Prior to his arrival at Porter one year ago, Thompson had worked at other hospitals that possessed a collaborative leadership style with good results.

“The more people we can engage with what we’re doing and how we’re doing, the better we’ll be as a care system,” he said during a recent Zoom interview that included PMC Chief Medical Officer (See Porter, Page 14).

Local orgs team up to address nurse shortage

BY JOHN FLOWERS  MIDDLEBURY

There’s never been a better time for some people to enter the health care field if they live in Addison County.

Helen Porter Rehabilitation & Nursing and the Patricia A. Flower’s School of Nursing have collaborated on a new course for aspiring Licensed Nursing Assistants that will not only offer tuition, but also a paycheck while they are studying and gaining experience caring for patients.

The “kill season” starts in September — after Spring brings with it warmer temps, the promise of blooming maple sap and longer days. All these things are great...
ongoing vacancies, so a career—some full-time, some part-time, the bulk of the care here, from a demand for 3,909 nursing positions by 69% between 2007 and 2014. Licenses issued in the state declined the number of new Registered Nurse Vermont Legislature in March 2019, workforce report authored by Laura pandemic. more acute during the COVID-19 shortage of health care professionals, with the career center,“it’s not just getting an

We’re a 24/7 operation, so the needs are great. The LNAS provide the bulk of the care here, from a time standpoint.”

MIDDLEBURY AREA LAND Trust Programs Coordinator Caleb Basa, left, MALT EC-handler, Member Naomi Culler and MALT Executive Director Jamie Brooks check out the Garnet Brook portion of the Lincoln property that Will Jackson is donating to the town of Lincoln.

PHILANTHROPIST WILL JACKSON is donating this beautiful, 130-acre parcel of land to the town of Lincoln. The property, located off River Road near the Lincoln Community School and accessible to the public for hiking, cross country skiing and other passive recreation. The Middlebury Area Land Trust is facilitating the donation and future care of the property.

Mary Jane Nottonson

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Dawn Roberts said. “Half

We have already had a favorable working relationship with the career center.” Nottonson said. “This is really just a new level to support the needs of health care quality individuals.”

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