

Vital Signs

Familiar Face

Dr. Bissing Joins BCMH as Dedicated Heart Specialist

For many people in Bates County, Jeff Bissing, D.O., may be a familiar face.

The board-certified cardiologist has taken care of patients at the hospital and at a clinic in Appleton City for many years. Now he is bringing his expertise to Bates County Memorial Hospital (BCMh) as the community's dedicated cardiologist.

◀ Jeff Bissing, D.O.



“The BCMH board felt there was a significant need in our community for a dedicated cardiologist,” said Edward Hannon, chief executive officer. “We wanted to be able to provide our patients with the same level of care available in the city, but we didn’t want them to have to leave the community for that care. We believe Dr. Bissing is a great fit for BCMH, well-qualified and already familiar with us.”

Dr. Bissing will be available five days a week for inpatient consultation and care, along with two full days of outpatient clinic schedule. His expertise is in general adult cardiology, with a special interest in electrophysiology (pacemakers and rhythm disorders) and heart failure.

To provide heart care locally, the hospital has a procedure suite equipped so that Dr. Bissing can implant pacemakers and cardioverters/defibrillators. Sophisticated cardiac tests, including nuclear imaging, electrocardiograms and echocardiology studies also can be performed at BCMH. Dr. Bissing will interpret these tests for patients.

“I understand why staying close to home for heart care is important to our patients,” Dr. Bissing said. “In most cases, area residents won’t have to leave the community for their cardiac care. They will be able to stay right here in Butler where they can be close to home, family and friends and their local doctors.”

Most recently, Dr. Bissing practiced cardiology at Shawnee Mission Medical Center. He performed a fellowship in cardiology at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, as well as his internal medicine residency. He received his doctor of osteopathic medicine degree from the Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences, and earned his bachelor’s degree from Baker University, Baldwin City, Kan.

“I have always found everyone here to be very down-to-earth and appreciative of the care they receive,” Dr. Bissing said. “I really look forward to getting reacquainted with many of my patients from the hospital and Appleton City, and to meeting many new ones.”

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Bissing, call 1-660-200-7006.



Your Local Cardiac Connection!

With the addition of Jeff Bissing, D.O., board-certified cardiologist, to the BCMH medical staff, the hospital now has many of the services available locally to diagnose and treat heart disease that patients previously had to drive to the city to receive. These include:

- > Routine heart care in the BCMH Outpatient Clinic
- > Heart care for patients hospitalized at BCMH
- > Nuclear medicine
- > Exercise stress test
- > Cardiac ultrasound/echocardiogram
- > Electrocardiograms (EKGs)
- > Cardiac rehabilitation

For more information about the cardiac services at BCMH, call 660-200-7006.

Heart Disease Affects Bates County Residents

Based on results of Bates County Memorial Hospital's (BCMh) most recent community needs assessment, heart disease, heart attack, high cholesterol, congestive heart failure and high blood pressure are significant health problems for many Bates County residents.

More than 50 percent of people who responded to this survey stated they have been diagnosed with high blood pressure, a major risk factor for heart disease, heart attack and stroke.

But the residents of Bates County are not alone. According to the Centers for Disease Control, each year about 370,000 people die from heart disease. It is the leading cause of death in this nation. Fortunately, many of these deaths are preventable, especially for someone experiencing the symptoms of a heart attack. These include:

- > **Chest discomfort.** Most heart attacks involve discomfort in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes, or that goes away and comes back. It can feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain.
- > **Discomfort in other areas of the upper body.** Symptoms can include pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach.

> **Shortness of breath** with or without chest discomfort.

> **Other signs may include** breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness.

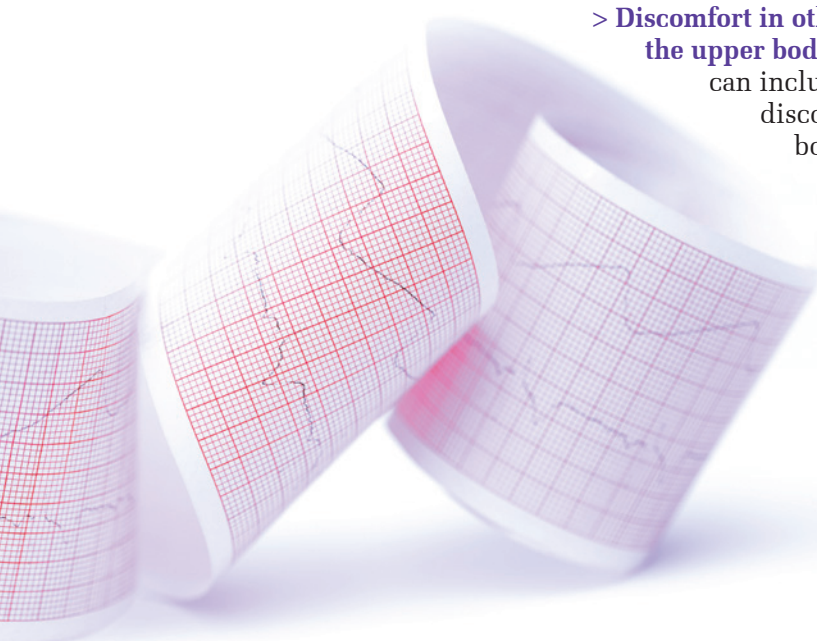
Time is critical for anyone who is having a heart attack, which is caused by a clot, or a build-up of a waxy, fatty substance called plaque, which is blocking a vessel supplying blood to the heart. Every minute that the blockage deprives the heart of life-giving blood and oxygen, heart muscle dies. This can cause long-term heart damage, or in the worst case, death.

Studies have shown that patients who receive treatment within the first two hours after symptoms begin, such as clot-busting drugs available at BCMH, reduce the risk of long-lasting heart damage.

"Our goal is to get the patient treatment as fast as possible," said Jeff Bissing, D.O., BCMH cardiologist. "The biggest hurdle we face is helping patients realize they need to get to the hospital immediately if they experience heart attack symptoms."

If you or anyone you know experiences the symptoms above, **dial 9-1-1 for help immediately.**

Don't drive to the Emergency Room. The BCMH ambulance crews are trained to administer life-saving care while en route, and the hospital Emergency Room team stands ready to take over your care as soon as you arrive.





▲ Jacque Waite, R.N., and Andrea Davis, R.N., are ready to help area patients get their hearts and lungs back in shape in Cardiac-Pulmonary Rehab.

Welcome Back!

Nurse Returns to Help Cardiac-Pulmonary Patients

The newest member of the Bates County Memorial Hospital Cardiac-Pulmonary Rehabilitation team is Andrea Davis, R.N. Andrea worked at the hospital from 2000 to 2010 in the Critical Care Unit, and also assisted in Cardiac Rehab when needed. For the past six years, she has been working in home health at another facility.

In her new position, she is helping cardiac and pulmonary patients regain their strength and endurance through exercise and close monitoring. Andrea resides in

the Appleton City area, but originally is from Rich Hill. She attended nursing school at Cox College of Nursing, Springfield, Mo. She enjoys running and bicycling. She also participates in local events.

In addition to Andrea, the Cardiac-Pulmonary Rehab team includes Jacque Waite, R.N., and Wanda Barley, exercise physiologist. They work with patients on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Medical clearance and a physician referral are required for participation in Cardiac-Pulmonary Rehabilitation.

For more information, contact Jacque Waite, 660-200-7000, ext. 7192.



Work Out with the Pros!

For only \$57 a month, you can exercise with the Bates County Memorial Hospital cardiac-pulmonary rehabilitation experts.

Before you can begin working out, you must complete a brief readiness questionnaire to be sure you are healthy enough to start exercising. The staff also checks each member's vital signs and provides some basic counseling and guidance on beginning an aerobic and strength training exercise routine.

No physician referral is required, unless your readiness score demonstrates the need for clearance from a qualified health care provider. For participation in vigorous exercise, it is recommended that men older than 45 and women older than 50 seek physician clearance. The gym membership, however, is based on the healthy adult guidelines for a moderate level of exercise intensity.

For more information, call 660-200-7000, ext. 7192.

Cardiac-Pulmonary Rehabilitation is a safe and effective way for patients with heart or lung disease to:

- > Get stronger.
- > Feel better faster.
- > Return to former activities.
- > Reduce the risk of future heart problems.
- > Live a healthier and longer life.



Therapy Helps Rich Hill Boy Improve Speech

Every Friday morning, 8-year-old Thomas Trammell has an important appointment at Bates County Memorial Hospital (BCMh)—an appointment he can't miss with Anna Campbell, the hospital's director of Speech Pathology.

Together, they work on Thomas's ability to speak clearly, a problem resulting from cleft lip and palate, a common birth defect that occurs when a baby's lip and/or mouth do not form properly during pregnancy.

To repair the cleft lip, Thomas had surgery when he was only 3 months

old at Children's Mercy Kansas City, then underwent a second surgery at 1 year old to close his palate. Two years ago, he had a third surgery to lengthen his palate.

Speech therapy is helping Thomas with his speech and language development, teaching him how to use his tongue and lips to form speech sounds and articulate his words correctly.

"We live in Rich Hill and Thomas is home-schooled," said his mother, Kathryn Trammell. "It's very convenient for Thomas to have speech therapy every Friday at the hospital, and he's making great progress."

In fact, Kathryn said before Thomas began working with Anna, he was difficult to understand, even for her. "I couldn't always understand him, and I sometimes found myself having to interpret what Thomas was saying for other people," Kathryn said.

But after two years of therapy at BCMh, his speech is significantly better. "I can see a big improvement in Thomas's ability to pronounce his words, especially when he is reading out loud," Kathryn said.

Soon, Thomas will need another surgery to complete the reconstruction of his palate, followed by additional speech therapy.

"According to his doctors, Thomas will need to continue speech therapy as he grows," Kathryn said. "It's wonderful to be able to come to our local hospital for Thomas's therapy. It's making a big difference in his life."



◀ Thomas Trammell, right, with speech pathologist Anna Campbell.

Speech Therapists Help Patients with Speech and Language Disorders

Two certified speech-language pathologists evaluate and treat patients from ages 1 to 100 at Bates County Memorial Hospital (BCMh) with a variety of articulation, voice, fluency, swallowing and language disorders. In particular, the therapists work with patients who have neurological deficits due to stroke or head injury, neuromuscular disorders and developmental delays.



The BCMH speech therapy team includes:

- > **Anna Campbell, Assistant Director**, left, 20 years of experience, masters of speech and audiology, certified in vital stimulation, certificate of clinical competency in speech and language disorders. Anna specializes in treating children and adults with swallowing disorders, but sees a wide variety of patients.
- > **Kristin Seim, Speech Pathologist**, right, a recent graduate of the University of Central Missouri. Kristin also treats children and adults with a range of swallowing and speech disorders.

PHYSICIAN PROFILE

Like Father, Like Daughter. . .

Dr. Wood Brings ENT Care to Bates County

Stuffy nose? Ear infection? Off balance? Valerie Wood, M.D., ear, nose and throat specialist (ENT or otolaryngologist) has joined the Bates County Memorial Hospital (BCMh) medical staff and may be able to help you. She is seeing adult and pediatric patients in the hospital's Outpatient Clinic every other Monday.

Dr. Wood cares for a wide range of ear, nose and throat issues, including:

- > Allergies and sinus problems
- > Ear infections and tubes
- > Enlarged tonsils and adenoids
- > Voice and swallowing problems
- > Vertigo and dizziness
- > Skin and other tumors of the head and neck
- > Thyroid disease

She will perform minor procedures and outpatient surgeries at the hospital, such as placing ear tubes or removing ear wax. "The hospital

is very well-equipped for basic ENT procedures and surgeries, and I was happy to see what a great speech pathology program there is here," she said. "As an otolaryngologist, I work closely with speech pathology on a variety of patient problems, such as swallowing disorders, dysphasia, airway and vocal cord issues."

Dr. Wood fell in love with otolaryngology while in medical school, the same medical specialty her father practiced. Though her father passed away as she finished her residency training, she learned a great deal from observing his work while growing up. "I feel a great sense of responsibility to carry on his legacy," she said.

For example, she believes strongly in patient education, and even draws pictures for her patients to help them better understand the delicate anatomy in the head and neck, a skill her father taught her. "The drawings are a great teaching tool for patients," she said.



▲ Valerie Wood, M.D.

Dr. Wood originally is from the Cincinnati, Ohio area. She earned her bachelor's degree from Tufts University in Boston, Mass., and attended medical school at Ohio State in Columbus, Ohio. She performed her residency at the University of Kansas Medical Center and she also is on staff at Saint Luke's Hospital Kansas City.

The scenic countryside and friendly atmosphere attracted Dr. Wood to BCMh. "I know there is a need for otolaryngology care in rural communities and I look forward to bringing those skills to our patients at Bates County."

In addition to her career as a physician, she also enjoys horseback riding.

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Wood, call 660-200-7006.

Some of the conditions speech pathologists treat include:

Pediatrics:

- > A child who is not understood
- > A child with cleft lip/ cleft palate
- > Two-year-old who cannot combine two or three-word phrases

- > Three-year-old who cannot carry on a conversation
- > Infants with reflux or oral aversion

Language:

- > Comprehension
- > Word retrieval

Swallowing:

- > Bell's Palsy
- > Parkinson's Disease
- > Stuttering
- > Cerebrovascular accident (stroke)

Cognitive Changes:

- > CHI/post-concussion
- > TBI
- > Memory

Speech:

- > Oral/verbal apraxia
- > Dysarthria
- > Developmental

Voice:

- > Complete loss
- > Intermittent changes
- > Decreased volume
- > Hoarseness

To schedule an appointment with one of the speech pathologists, contact the BCMh Rehabilitation Services Department at 660-200-7073.



2 Jenns + 1 Hospital = Great Care for 100s of Patients

Jennifer Schmehl, R.N., left, Nursing Manager, and Jennifer Klinksick, R.N., right, Critical Care Unit Manager, both at Bates County Memorial Hospital (BCMh), are long-term employees whose careers are focused on caring for the community.



Jennifer Schmehl's connection to BCMh dates back to her father, Douglas Ronald, who was a physician here. "Ever since I was a little girl, I wanted to be a nurse. At 15 or 16, I volunteered as a candy-striper at the hospital," Schmehl said, "then worked as a nurses' aide."

After graduating from the Research College of Nursing in Kansas City, Schmehl returned to the hospital where she has served in a wide range of roles, from a night shift supervisor to a labor and delivery nurse to her position today as nursing manager.

"I love working here because of the wide range of patients I have been able to care for," Schmehl said. But, she also enjoys the close-knit environment and family atmosphere at BCMh.

"We have a very supportive administration here," she said. "Even after 43 years, I always feel valued as an employee and very appreciated."

Jennifer Klinksick joined BCMh in 2007 following her graduation from Pittsburg State University. A native of Rich Hill, she also felt the call to be a nurse early on. "I love connecting with our patients and their families and getting to know them," she said.

Klinksick has spent most of her career at BCMh too, and said a combination of factors keep her on board. "We have a family atmosphere, competitive benefits and pay and a good nurse to patient ratio. There are always plenty of hands to help out," she said. "Plus, the hospital has been very proactive about implementing programs that benefit our patients, like the hospitalists."

At the end of the day, both Jennifers said a career at BCMh is rewarding in every sense of the word. "Our nurses work together as a team on behalf of our patients," Jennifer Klinksick said. "We have a terrific nursing practice environment, and when you walk down the hall, the CEO greets you by name. I'm not sure that happens at hospitals in the city."

Jennifer Schmehl agreed and added, "BCMh is like a second family to me. It's a great place for a fulfilling nursing career."

For more information about nursing careers at BCMh call 660-200-7008, or visit www.bcmhospital.com.

Join Our Team!

Bates County Memorial Hospital is looking for more great nurses like the two Jennifers to provide compassionate nursing care. The hospital offers:

- > Set schedules
- > Competitive pay and benefits
- > Family atmosphere

BCMh Specialty Clinics

Bates County Memorial Hospital makes quality health care convenient for area residents by bringing medical specialists to our community on a regular basis. To schedule an appointment with one of the specialists, contact the number below.

Cardiology

Jeff Bissing, D.O. 660-200-7006
Gerald Mancuso, M.D. 913-956-2250
Craig Lundgren, M.D. 913-956-2250
Jin Park, M.D. 913-956-2250
Francisco Lammoglia, M.D. 913-956-2250

Gastroenterology

Donald Clement, M.D. 660-200-7006
Todd Kilgore, M.D. 660-200-7006

General Surgery

William Joyce, D.O. 660-200-7134
Robert Wetzell, M.D. 660-885-8141

Nephrology

Ryan Lustig, M.D. 660-200-7006
Barry Wood, M.D. 660-200-7006

Neurology

Roxane Bremen, D.O. 660-200-7006

Oncology

Timothy Pluard, M.D. 660-200-7006
Aimee Kohn, M.D. 660-200-7006

Ophthalmology

Joseph Parelman, M.D. 800-628-4258

Orthopedics

Danny Carroll, M.D. 816-322-0688
James Whitaker, M.D. 660-200-7006

Otolaryngology-ENT

Valerie Wood, M.D. 660-200-7006

Pain Management

Dennison Hamilton, M.D. 660-200-7006
Roger Misasi, M.D. 800-858-8131

Podiatry

Robert Shemwell, D.P.M. 660-200-7006

Psychology/Counseling

Jerry Morris, Psy.D., MBA, 660-200-7528
MSPharm, ABPP, ABMP, NBCC, NCSP, CCM

Pulmonary

Timothy Smith, M.D. 660-200-7006

Urology

Robert F. Smith, M.D. 660-200-7006
William Wilson, M.D. 660-200-7006

For more information visit www.bcmhospital.com.

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS



- ▶ Andrea Jackson, the Hub, and Lee Anna Schowengerdt, owner and publisher of the Hub, present Edward Hannon, BCMH chief executive officer, with a special donation to the Breast Cancer Awareness fund. The newspaper, which covers Bates County, contributed proceeds from a special issue published in October focusing on breast cancer.

Miami volleyball coaches, A.J. Martin and Lisa Filtingberger; Junior high basketball coaches, Colleen Kalleck and Greg Sewell; along with players, recently donated more than \$800 to the Bates County Memorial Hospital Foundation for breast cancer awareness. The fund helps pay for mammograms for women who do not have insurance or cannot afford the test.

The students raised the funds from the “Pink Out” games and from contributions from local businesses including: Bartz Photography, El Charro, Family Center, Flaming Lantern, Koehn Bakery, KMAM 1530/ KMOE 92 FM Radio station, Max Motors, McDonald’s, Pizza Hut, Sonic and Westward Gifts, all located in Butler; Food Fair in Drexel; Angela Cook,

Shannon Crawford, Custom Steel Works and Amsterdam Cafe in Amsterdam; Kathy Bowers, Kristen Gillespie, Jerri James, Miami R-1 FBLA, Miami R-1 FCCLA, Miami PTSO, Vickie Popplewell and the Miami school district staff and organizations. ▼



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Edward J. Hannon, Chief Executive Officer

Please direct any comments or suggestions to our editor:

Melinda Jackson, PHR, Human Resources

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