



May 21, 2007

Contact: Cindy McGuire, Marketing coordinator
913-596-4854 (office)
816-989-1031 (pager)
913-680-5996 (cell)

For Immediate Release

Saint John names Employee-of-the-Year

Doing extra little things. Giving extra attention to a challenging patient. Helping coworkers in their time of need. These are all reasons why Tyrone Stinson, Cook and Food Service attendant, is Saint John Hospital's 2007 Employee-of-the-Year. Stinson's military background is evident in the way he approaches his work at the hospital. He is willing to step up and help out when needed and regularly goes above and beyond the call of duty.

For one demanding patient who was at Saint John for nearly a month, Stinson made special entrees not typically offered in order to please her. He also occasionally delivered trays to her to ensure everything was satisfactory and told her to call him if it wasn't. The patient's sister commented that he provided excellent service even when her sister was demanding and wasn't feeling well. Kristi Wendt, Saint John's dietitian, says that Stinson's positive attitude and servant's heart helped make the patient happy. "Upon leaving, the patient said that she wished she could order from him every day," Wendt adds.

"Tyrone also excels in helping cater hospital events," says Bobby Williams, Food

-more-

Page 2

Service supervisor. “He has helped prepare food for more than 40 large events this year, such as the General Medical Staff meetings and annual hospital Christmas party, while balancing his normal duties of providing food to the patients and staff.” He also serves at these events, giving each participant an extra helping of his friendly smile. He left such an impression at one Medical Staff meeting that Man Anand, M.D., Saint John Medical Staff immediate past president, thanked him publicly during the meeting.

At last year’s hospital Christmas party, Stinson prepared a special dish, mushroom stuffed tenderloin, that he created from combining several recipes. Many people asked for the recipe. One person even took a picture for his wife to show to the cooks at the health care facility where she works so they could see how it should look.

Craig Kraft, Food Service director at Saint John and Providence, says that Stinson is an excellent employee, very reliable and always willing to assist with additional duties as needed. An example of this is when a fellow employee’s husband passed away unexpectedly. “He immediately volunteered to pick up her extra shifts,” Kraft says. “He has perfect attendance this year, and has also volunteered to cover more than 15 shifts throughout the year, while balancing a second job and a family.”

Stinson’s interest in cooking began when he enlisted in the Army at age 18. He wanted to enter as a communications specialist, but the recruiter convinced him that if he became a cook, he would not have to travel outside the U.S. Since he had a young family to support, he decided this would be a good choice. Unfortunately, the recruiter misled him, and he traveled

-more-

to many places during his 10 ½ years of service: Egypt, Germany, Korea, Ft. Hood, Texas, Ft. Leavenworth and Kuwait. He was among the first troops in Iraq in March 2003.

On an average day, Stinson cooked for 500-600 soldiers. He had one assignment where he was responsible for feeding up to 2,000 troops, with a staff of 14 working under him. While serving in Iraq, Tyrone decided not to reenlist. His tour of duty was supposed to be up in September 2003, but due to the war, he served until March 2004. He joined Saint John's Food Service Department shortly after that.

Stinson grew up in Tuskegee, Ala. His parents, two brothers and extended family still live there. He decided to return to Leavenworth after his military service to be near his three children, Tiffany, age 13, Tyrone, Jr., age 11, and Christopher, age 7. He and his children enjoy camping, fishing and other outdoor activities. Stinson also likes to play football, basketball and baseball. His kids often cheer for him on the sidelines.

Recognition as Saint John Employee-of-the-Year carries honors and gifts with it. In addition to being a special guest at a luncheon at the Leavenworth Country Club, Stinson has received a reserved parking space for the year, a U.S. Savings Bond, a gift certificate to a shopping area of his choice and a gift certificate for a dinner for two.

“Tyrone is a role model for the hospital's ***Culture of Loving Care***”, which empowers our staff to live our mission and core values everyday,” says Greg Madsen, Saint John administrator. “He continually demonstrates our core values of Respect, Excellence, Response to Need, Wholeness and Stewardship in everything he does. We are proud to have him as part of the Saint John family.”

Saint John Hospital

Saint John Hospital has served as the health care beacon to the Leavenworth and Lansing community for more than 140 years. Home to 76 licensed beds, quality physicians and compassionate staff, the hospital specializes in women's services including maternity care and gynecology, senior behavioral health, oncology, emergency services, rehabilitation and ambulatory care services, including surgery. Also located on the campus is the Saint John Medical Plaza. Saint John is an affiliate of Providence Medical Center, Kansas City, Kan. and the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System. To learn more, visit www.providence-health.org.