1973-2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #1

In 1966, twenty-five concerned citizens, led by former Euless Mayor William G. Fuller, saw the need to formulate plans for a non-profit, community hospital for the Hurst-Euless-Bedford area. This hospital would be financed by the sale of shares and matched by federal funds.

Blease Tibbets, president of First State Bank of Euless, was elected president of the group, and Warren Fuller, first vice president. Second vice president was Paul Marcott, president of the Hurst-Euless Chamber of Commerce, and R. E. McManus, third vice president.
1973 - 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #2

In July 1967, members on the board of the Mid-Cities Hospital Association voted to seek a new source of revenue for the proposed $1.7 million, 75-bed community hospital for the Hurst-Euless-Bedford area. Financing would now be sought through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

However, HUD required the land and 25% of the requested total amount be obtained before a loan would be considered.

After numerous delays, Dallas developers C. T. Beckham and Bob Fanning donated 20 acres south of the intersection of Texas 121A and Spur 350 in 1969. The next step would be to raise $400,000 to $600,000.
1973 - 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #3

To assist with raising funds for the future Hurst-Euless-Bedford Community Hospital, forty-four women organized an auxiliary in the spring of 1969. Officers included Mrs. Ivan Gregory, chairman, Mrs. John Baugh, historian, Mrs. Fred Bowers, hospitality chairman, Mrs. Cecil Funicella, vice-president, and Mrs. E. L. Greer, secretary.

The auxiliary’s principal goal was to have money-making projects, then donate specific items to the hospital once it was built.
1973 - 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #4

In August 1969, with funds provided by the Auxiliary, a large sign was placed on Highway 121A just east of Central Drive in Bedford where the new Hurst-Euless-Bedford Hospital would be built.

Pictured are Mrs. Ben Pomeroy and Mrs. J. L. Greer, members of the auxiliary, and William Maxwell, executive director of the HEB Hospital Authority.
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #5

In 1969, William H. Maxwell was named the Executive Director of the newly formed Hurst-Euless-Bedford Hospital Authority. Maxwell would be responsible for the community relations and development activities of the 100-bed facility.

Maxwell estimated the cost of the hospital to be about $3.5 million and expected construction to begin in 1971.
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #6

“Let’s Build a Hospital!”

The launch of a fund-raising campaign, designed to secure 25% of the money needed to build the new hospital, kicked-off in July 1969. William H. Maxwell, Executive Director, Hurst-Euless-Bedford Hospital Authority, announced the remaining 75% of costs would come from bonds, grants and loans.

Blease Tibbets was named general chairman of the drive, and James C. Fuller, honorary chair.

As part of the campaign, civic leaders were asked to express their thoughts about the proposed hospital, which were printed in the local newspaper.

by Brenda W.
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #7

A long-anticipated groundbreaking for the Hurst-Euless-Bedford Community Hospital took place on February 26, 1970. Former Euless Mayor William G. Fuller, who four years earlier had called a meeting to discuss a community hospital, shoveled the first dirt, along with seven-year-old Pamela Dobkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Dobkins, supporters of the hospital project.

An urn filled with soil from the groundbreaking was given to Carter Hampton, president of the Hurst Junior High School Student Council. Students at the school gave $1,200 to the hospital fund after holding a penny-a-vote election to name a Valentine sweetheart and beau. Upon completion of the hospital, the soil from the urn would be returned to the same site.

Blease Tibbets, chairman of the hospital authority, officiated the groundbreaking. The mayors of the three cities who presided when planning began were introduced – Fuller, Russell Johnson of Hurst, and Bill Wolf of Bedford.
1972 was a busy year for the Hurst-Euless-Bedford Community Hospital. After a delay in construction due to lack of federal funds, production finally began in January. A contract to Durant Construction Co. was awarded on a low bid of $1,171,339. The firm won the bidding over 18 other companies. Wayne Paul Kirchoffer was named the first administrator of the hospital. By June, construction of phase one was about 35 percent complete. Due to the tremendous response from the medical community, a second phase was launched in September adding an additional 33 beds, an administrative area, basement storage, a lighted heliport, 56 parking spaces, and doubling the emergency facilities. Phase two construction was planned to be completed by July 1973.
1973 - 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #9

The new $2.4 million, 67-bed Hurst-Euless-Bedford Hospital opened with relatively little ceremony on Sunday, June 24, 1973. The next day, an Arlington man, who was under sedation after undergoing dental surgery, was the first patient admitted.

Wednesday, June 26, Jason Lahoy Matthews, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Matthews, was the first baby born at the facility. Dr. John Baugh, first chief of staff at the hospital, delivered the infant.

Bigger fanfare was expected in August after the 33-bed, phase two construction was completed.

Unusual features at the hospital included a food system similar to that used by the airlines, a colorful interior, movable walls, a four-hole Astroturf golf course, and an IBM computer system for keeping patient records and expenses.

by Brenda W.
1973 - 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #10

The Sugar Plum Tree, the hospital’s first gift shop, offered a variety of items for patients and visitors such as magazines, cards, candy, small gifts, gowns, and robes. Gift wrapping was also available. All the merchandise in the shop was purchased with money raised by the auxiliary prior to the opening of the hospital.

by Brenda W.
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #11

Despite fundraising activities, less than a year after opening, the new Hurst-Euless-Bedford Hospital was suffering from financial problems due to being over equipped, overstaffed, and a computer malfunction which caused a slowdown in the billing of patients.

Five corporations talked to the Hurst-Euless-Bedford Hospital board about a management-loan arrangement; however, rather than sell to private investors, representatives from the community hospital approached Harris Hospital of Fort Worth.

On December 11, 1973, the governing boards for both hospitals announced the Fort Worth hospital would assume a long-term lease to operate and manage the HEB hospital. The agreement was signed March 1, 1974.

Under the agreement, the Hurst-Euless-Bedford Hospital would keep its name and identity and continue to be run by Bill Wagner, who took over as administrator following the resignation of Wayne Kirchoffer. Revenues generated would be used to improve the hospital.
1973 - 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #12

The Hurst-Euless-Bedford Hospital dedicated its chapel to the hospital’s Women’s Auxiliary on June 24, 1974, in accordance with the first anniversary of the hospital.

Taking part in the ceremonies were Mrs. Carl Massey, president of the Women’s Auxiliary, Bill Wagner, Administrator of the HEB hospital, and Rev. John Schaub, associate chaplain at Harris Hospital.

Earlier in the month, representatives of the Oak Crest Woman’s Club presented Mr. Wagner with a large Bible to be used in the chapel.

Source: Mid-Cities Daily News
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #13

In February 1978, the Hurst-Euless-Bedford Hospital Authority completed the sale of $5,285,000 in tax-free revenue bonds. The bonds were sold to three underwriters: Paine, Webber, Jackson & Curtis Inc., Lehman Brothers Kuhn Loeb Inc., and Rotan Mosle Inc.

Of the total amount sold, $2,885,000 was to be used to finance the construction of new wings, and for renovation and expansion of existing facilities. Construction of a new 23-bed wing had already started and was expected to be completed in February 1979. This unit would aid in the care of the critically ill, heart patients and those who no longer needed intensive care, but were not ready for a regular nursing station. Another $2.4 million was to diffuse remaining indebtedness.

Taking part in a ceremony marking the completion of the sale was Bill Wagner, hospital administrator, Charles Ziveney, vice president of Paine, Webber, Jackson & Curtis Inc., DeWitt Baker, president of the HEB Hospital Authority, and Clay Berry, chairman of the HEB Board of Trustees.

Source: Mid-Cities Daily News
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #14

In May 1979, the Hurst-Euless-Bedford Hospital Authority in cooperation with the HEB Hospital, purchased Doctors’ Community Hospital in Euless for $3.3 million which became the HEB South Unit.

The South Unit would provide an out-patient department, out-patient surgery, and Employee Health services.

The North Unit would provide emergency room, obstetrical care, and critical care.

A full range of medical and diagnostic services were available at both locations.

Source: Mid-Cities Daily News
1973 - 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #15

The long-awaited opening of the Addiction Treatment Center (ATC) at the South Unit of the Hurst-Euless-Bedford Hospital became a reality in March 1981, offering a three-phased program for treatment of persons with alcohol or prescribed drug problems.

Vic Shaw was named Director of the ATC. Dr. Newton Galusha, an Internal Medicine specialist, was the Medical Director, and Dr. Dick Miller, a licensed psychologist, oversaw the counseling staff.

Phase I was detoxification. Phase II was a three-to-five-week intensive inpatient treatment period that included therapy, relaxation training, and exercise. Phase III provided aftercare in the form of weekly sessions for a minimum of twelve weeks. Families were required to participate in the treatment process.

Source: Micro Scoop, Hospital Newsletter

Dr. Newton Galusha

by Brenda W.
1973 - 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #16

Each summer, Hurst-Euless-Bedford Hospital would welcome its Junior Volunteers.

Junior Volunteers were easily recognizable in their red and white stripes as they delivered flowers, filed Medical Records, typed for the Business Office, or worked in Dietary.

Source: Micro Scoop, Hospital Newsletter
1973 - 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #17

In order to meet the projected growth of more than 230,000 people in Northeast Tarrant County by 1990, on September 28, 1983, a new six-story medical tower was dedicated.

The $28 million expansion increased the hospital’s capacity to 313 patient beds. The main campus had 218 beds with 95 additional beds located at the South Unit in Euless.

Included in the tower were 30 medical-surgical rooms, 24 intensive care beds, a 16-bed progressive care unit, and six surgical suites. All 130 rooms in the medical tower were private suites.

The structure also included new administrative offices, a lobby, gift shop, chapel, large cafeteria, pharmacy, and laboratories. Renovation of the old portions of the building was expected to be completed in 1984.

Dr. Denton Cooley, renowned Houston heart surgeon, was the featured speaker at the dedication and Open House.

The hospital’s name was changed at the same time to Harris Hospital HEB to reflect the hospital’s affiliation with the Harris Methodist Hospital System.

Source: Mid-Cities Daily News
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #18

Harris Hospital HEB opened its new obstetrics/gynecology ward in February of 1984 after renovations at the North Unit were complete. That meant seven babies at the South Unit had to take a trip.

The hospital transported the babies by ambulance and by station wagon. Mothers who had given birth by caesarian section rode by ambulance. Each mother was accompanied by a nurse or volunteer.

At North, the new complex, with a 20-bassinet nursery, six private labor rooms and four surgical suites, awaited the babies. A four-bed special care unit for premature babies was also available.

Source: Mid-Cities Daily News
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #19

The year was 1984 and President Ronald Reagan was making a visit to the area. The White House needed an “official” hospital in the event of an emergency, and Harris Methodist HEB was designated.

Secret Service toured the hospital. A red phone marked “White House” was placed at the emergency room’s nurses’ station. A single Secret Service agent manned the phone.

All the Secret Service required was for the heliport to be left open, the emergency room staff to be aware of the possibility they may have to treat the President, and to keep an intensive care suite open throughout the visit.

The only medical history the hospital was jotted on a piece of paper and taped to a wall above the red phone: “Blood type O; allergic to sulfur drugs; takes allergy shots; no residual on X-ray from assassination attempt; 74 in Jan.”

No one ever knew why Harris Methodist HEB was chosen. To quote one agent, “You would have to be cleared to the ridiculous to have the details.”

Source: Mid-Cities Daily News
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #20

R. William (Bill) Whitman became the administrator at Harris Hospital HEB in November 1984.

One month prior to his arrival, the hospital, along with Bedford paramedics and police and firefighters from Euless, conducted one of its two yearly disaster drills.

On August 2, 1985, nine months after Whitman started, the unthinkable happened – Delta Airlines Flight 191 went down at DFW Airport.

Patients were triaged at the scene and designated for various hospitals in the area including Harris Hospital HEB which received five. Injuries ran from burns to multiple fractures. The more serious burn victims were stabilized and then transferred to Parkland Hospital.

Mr. Whitman would later tell the media he had confidence in his team knowing they treated trauma patients on a regular basis and had board-certified trauma surgeons in the emergency department when the crash occurred.

Source: Mid-Cities Daily News and Fort Worth Star-Telegram
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #21

September 1985 brought the groundbreaking for a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Unit at the hospital. MRI offered the hope of earlier detection of diseases such as cancer and multiple sclerosis and was considered worth the $1.8 million cost.

In December, workers unloaded a 7-ton magnet from Holland to be placed in the new MRI wing.

Besides sharper images, MRI was touted for its safety as, unlike an X-ray, MRI didn’t use radiation and therefore had no side effects. Harris Hospital HEB hoped to schedule 10 exams a day. An average MRI examination at the time cost about $750.

An ad in the Fort Worth Star-Telegram promoted the Harris Hospital-Methodist MRI Centers as the area’s first in Tarrant County.

Radiologist Dr. J. Leslie Derdeyn was quoted as saying, “We won’t utilize this machine as a screening exam because of the cost and the time. Maybe in the 21st Century we’ll have a machine that can quickly scan you, a la ‘Star Trek’.”

Source: Mid-Cities Daily News and Fort Worth Star-Telegram
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #22

“A Night in Central Park: Turn of the Century” was the hospital’s first gala held on April 26, 1986. Gloria Siratt co-chaired the event along with The Hospital Event Board.

Gloria called herself a “notorious” fundraiser but had a personal stake in this celebration. When her husband, Don, found out his arteries were blocked, he had to go to Dallas for help. Gloria wanted to make sure that wasn’t the case in the future. The proceeds from the party went toward a catheterization lab at Harris Hospital HEB so patients would not need to be transported out of the area.

The evening included live and silent auctions, food samples, cocktails, and entertainment by Brenda Lee.

Source: Mid-Cities Daily News
1973 – 2023

50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #23

In May 1987, with $87,000 from monies raised by The Hospital Event Board, and another $100,000 pledge from the Auxiliary, Harris Methodist HEB opened Northeast Tarrant County’s first cardiac catheterization lab fully equipped with the area’s most advanced equipment.

Dr. David Eisen, cardiologist at the hospital, predicted more than 200 catheterizations would be done in the lab’s first year.

The lab was considered spacious and aesthetically soothing to allow optimal patient comfort. Patients were awake with only mild sedatives and experienced little pain. After the catheterization, patients remained in the hospital overnight for observation.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram and Healthline Employee Newsletter
1973 - 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #24

The Grand Opening of Harris Fitness Center HEB was celebrated on April 11, 1987. Festivities included a road race, one-mile kiddie race, two-mile fun run, 10-kilometer sanctioned race, fitness fashion show, aerobic class demonstration and skate-board demonstrations. Even a few Dallas Cowboys were available for autographs.

The 14,000 square-foot center, which was adjacent to Harris Hospital HEB, offered family membership rates and included a workout area with Nautilus equipment and free weights, an aerobic dance classroom, steam rooms and whirlpool.

In July of that same year, Harris Fitness Center HEB added a comprehensive cardiac rehabilitation program. The program was designed to help individuals with a high risk for heart disease establish healthier lifestyles through progressive exercise and education monitored by a professional cardiac rehabilitation team.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram and Healthline Employee Newsletter
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #26

Harris Methodist HEB Hospital opened Northeast Tarrant County’s first unit for open heart surgery in January 1988 making Harris Methodist HEB only the sixth hospital in Tarrant County equipped to offer this procedure.

That meant residents needing heart surgery would be able to get care from physicians in a hospital close to home. Before the new unit, patients had to be transferred to hospitals in Fort Worth, Arlington, or Irving.

Dr. David Carter, one of four heart surgeons on staff, performed the unit’s first two operations. “Within six months,” said Carter, “heart patients should be able to get everything they need at Harris Methodist HEB.”

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram
1973 - 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #27

Harris Methodist HEB Hospital officially opened its Edwards Cancer Center on March 15, 1990, even though it accepted its first patient on January 31. The ceremony was attended by members of the chamber, the Mayors from Hurst, Euless and Bedford, medical personnel, and community leaders.

The Edwards Cancer Center brought radiation therapy to Northeast Tarrant County for the first time and enabled the hospital to offer a full range of comprehensive cancer services on one campus. Harris Methodist HEB was the first entity of the Harris Methodist Health System to provide a cancer center.

The center was dedicated in memory of A. B. “Kirk” Edwards Jr., a rancher who lived and worked in North Texas for 83 years. Upon his death, the Kirk Edwards Foundation was established to help fund important projects that would benefit North Texans. The Edwards Cancer Center was one of the foundation’s recipients.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram and Mid-Cities Daily News
1973 - 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #28

Most days you would not see animals at Harris HEB Hospital. However, beginning in February 1990, PAWS Across Texas brought Jocko, Hilda, and Lady - a Scottie and two Schnauzers - once a month to the hospital as “therapists”.

Trained by their owners in pet-assisted therapy, the dogs would play catch with patients, or jump over walking canes to force stroke victims to use the impaired side of their body. The dogs also entertained wheelchair-bound patients for treats by jumping through a hoop or retrieving a ball.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #29


The two-story facility offered psychiatric services and chemical dependency treatment.

The building, which cost $8.5 million, had administrative offices, an auditorium, cafeteria, occupational therapy room, a day room, a 30-bed adult psychiatric unit, a 20-bed adolescent psychiatric unit, and a 20-bed adult chemical dependency unit.

The hospital originally offered services to fight addiction at a site on State Highway 10 in Euless.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram and Mid-Cities Daily News
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #30

Harris Methodist HEB opened its $10.25 million Ambulatory Care Center on September 8, 1993, a facility that offered a range of surgical procedures from heart catheterization to gastrointestinal work on a one-day, outpatient basis.

The 70,000-square-foot addition was the first stand-alone outpatient surgery center at a hospital in Tarrant County and could operate on as few as 55 people a day.

A 15,000-square-foot section of the existing facility was renovated and added to the new section.

The building housed a gastrointestinal/pulmonary laboratory, a pain management clinic, expanded surgery facilities, outpatient surgery rooms, holding and recovery beds, physician conference space, a separate admissions and discharge area, and family waiting areas.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram and Mid-Cities Daily News
Thu, Jul 27, 2023
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #31

Recognizing its mission, and to provide a partnership between the hospital and the community, in 1993, Harris Methodist HEB approved funding the salaries and benefits for six nurses in the Hurst-Euless-Bedford Independent School District.

The addition of the six new positions, at a cost of $165,000, meant that all of the district’s 18 elementary and eight secondary schools would have full-time nurses. Before the hospital provided the funding, some of the campuses were sharing nurses on a part-time basis.

Having a full-time nurse meant so much to the students, they sent letters to the hospital filled with “thank yous”.

Harris Methodist HEB already funded HEBISD’s Transitional Classroom, which aided students returning to school from psychiatric or addiction-treatment programs, and worked with the district’s Adopt-a-School program.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram and Mid-Cities Daily News

by Brenda W.
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #32

In 1993, Margaret Russell, a teacher with the Hurst-Euless-Bedford Independent School District, developed and taught a course for 20 juniors and seniors at Trinity and L.D. Bell High Schools to see real-life medicine at Harris Methodist HEB while taking a health science technology course at the district’s Technical Education Center.

Students were able to watch births in the delivery room, as well as see firsthand what happened in the emergency room, recovery room, intensive care, and radiology and physical therapy departments. In all, the students would visit 20 units at the hospital.

The course began with classes in health-care science, during which students studied medical terminology, anatomy, nutrition, first aid, and ethics. Throughout the second tier, students visited the hospital twice a week. The third tier allowed students to work as pharmaceutical or nurses’ aides.

“It offers the students realistic exposure,” Russell said at the time. “Our kids witness birth, they witness death. They wear scrubs and see it all.”

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #33

Harris Methodist HEB hosted its inaugural Bluebonnet Retreat, the first adult cancer camp in North Central Texas, September 23 – 25, 1994 at Lyle Lodge on Eagle Mountain Lake.

Guest speaker was Patch Adams, M.D., an internationally known comedian, social activist, clown, author, and founder of the Gesundheit! Institute, who gave a program on the health benefits of humor.

Bluebonnet Retreat provided, at no cost, a unique experience of support for adults 18 or older. The retreat included arts and crafts, music, dancing, exercise, a physicians’ panel, nutritional information, a time for listening and learning, and a time for sharing and caring.

Each camper was paired with a counselor who was either a member of the hospital’s cancer team, or community volunteer. Staff included physicians, nurses, social workers, dietitians, physical and occupational therapists, radiation therapists, pastoral care associates, and volunteers.

Bluebonnet Retreat’s goal for the campers was to focus more on living than dying, to give them the opportunity to be with others who could relate to what they were going through, and to give families and caretakers a breather.

Campers slept on bunkbeds in dormitory-like facilities, and all meals and transportation were included. Plans were to host two camps a year. Each camp was estimated to cost $25,000 and was funded by activities conducted by the Hospital Event Board.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #34

Nurses from the emergency room at Harris Methodist HEB Hospital, brought the usual gifts to a baby shower honoring first-time mom and co-worker, Beth McKinney, in the summer of 1995.

At around 8:30 pm, McKinney started to nurse the 3-week-old baby. “He stopped sucking and started turning gray. I kept looking at him, wondering what was wrong,” said McKinney. “Then I started screaming.” The baby had stopped breathing.

Several nurses, including Ann Thompson, Billie Schroeder, Connie King, and Mary Walls, rushed into action. One nurse started CPR. Another one called 911. They did chest compressions.
They improvised, using a turkey baster from the kitchen, to clear his mucus-choked throat.

Finally, his color began to get better. The baby was taken to Harris HEB emergency room where he was stabilized and transferred to the neonatal intensive care unit at Cook Children’s Medical Center.

The baby was put on antibiotics for pneumonia and underwent surgery for a restricted esophagus. After two weeks, his parents took him home.

McKinney counted herself blessed. “There are little angels sitting on his shoulder,” she said. “In fact, there are little angels everywhere.”

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram
Beth McKinney of Hurst holds her son, 10-week-old Kyle, who recently survived a life-threatening scare during a baby shower.

by Brenda W.

Thu, Aug 24, 2023
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #35

Lynne Moffatt and Kathy Hill met following a stillborn birth. After talking and
healing with one another, they decided to establish a local chapter of SHARE, a
support group of parents who have experienced infant loss, so others could
participate in their discussions.

In 1999, they began work on a project to help parents through the grief of losing
a child by having a place to go to remember.

That project ended up being a statue of an angel based on the New York Times
a widow who mourns the loss of her only child at the base of an angel
monument in a small cemetery. The book is fiction, but the statue existed in a
Salt Lake City cemetery.

After the original monument was destroyed by a flood, Evans commissioned a
statue and dedicated it in 1994 in Salt Lake City at the request of fans and
grieving parents. Communities nationwide began asking for permission to
dedicate a replica angel.

Beverly Wallach, SHARE support leader and a nurse at Harris Methodist HEB,
wrote Evans asking permission to place the same statue, called Angel of Hope,
in Remembrance Park at the hospital where SHARE had operated for 17 years.

The local SHARE chapter raised the $10,500 to have it built, and the statue was
dedicated in 1999, on December 6, the date on the angel in Evans’ book. Each
year on that day, the hospital held a candlelight service.

At the time, it was only the eighth monument in the nation, and the only one in
the State of Texas.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram
Cathy Hill, left, and Lynne Moffatt, co-founders of SHARE, sit near a sculpture of a tree near the hospital to children who have died.

by Brenda W.
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #36

The Siratt Women’s Center at Harris Methodist HEB, devoted exclusively to the obstetrical and gynecological needs of women, opened in May, 2000, with 12 labor, delivery, recovery suites, and 36 new rooms, and was made possible by a generous gift from Don and Gloria Siratt.

A bronze statue of an angel was dedicated Wednesday, October 25, 2000, in the Siratt Women’s Center Garden. The angel was created in the likeness of Gloria and has four children at her feet representing Gloria’s grandchildren.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #37

Teresa Montes looked down at a 15-year-old boy who had just been struck by lightning. He wasn’t breathing. She ran to the house to get her 13-year-old son, Andrew, who had taken a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) course during a baby-sitting safety class offered at Harris Methodist HEB. Teresa knew Andrew could help.

Another individual began mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. The two continued CPR for five minutes until paramedics arrived. The boy regained a pulse en route to the hospital. Paramedics on the scene told Andrew his work was vital to the boy’s survival.

Andrew took the safety course at Harris Methodist HEB because he was asked by aunts and uncles to baby-sit younger cousins and his mother wanted him to be prepared for an emergency. Andrew never thought he would use the training.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram
1973 - 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #38

Starting in 2002, mothers who gave birth to premature or sick babies at Harris Methodist HEB no longer had to be separated from their newborns.

Babies born up to 10 weeks could be treated in the hospital’s new four-bed, $2 million neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). Before the opening of the level III NICU, babies who could not breathe on their own had to be sent to another hospital making it hard on the parents who had to remain at Harris Methodist HEB.

The NICU had four new $25,000 ventilators, and the nursery had new cardiac and respiratory monitors, and miniature intravenous units. In addition to the equipment, the hospital had 15 neonatal nurse practitioners, and added more neonatal nurses and neonatologists.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram
1973 - 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #39

Many community members who were touched by their own health care experience, or that of someone they loved, were compelled to give back through volunteering at Harris Methodist HEB.

These Volunteers assisted with office and clerical needs, at information desks, in the emergency department, in surgery and intensive care waiting rooms, and on patient care floors.

In 2005, the Volunteers celebrated reaching the one million-hour mark with a luncheon at the Four Seasons Resort in Las Colinas.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram

by Brenda W.
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #40

To help combat cardiac arrest in children, Harris Methodist HEB Hospital provided each of the 18 high schools in Northeast Tarrant County, along with Tarrant County College-Northeast, with an automated external defibrillator, or AED, at a presentation on August 1, 2005. Statistics at the time indicated 7,000 children died from cardiac arrest each year.

Early defibrillation in the first three minutes of cardiac arrest has been shown to be the key to saving lives. AEDs are specially designed to allow people with no medical training to automatically deliver a lifesaving “shock” to reset the heart’s rhythm.

In addition to the AEDs, each school received a mounted wall cabinet with alarm, AED/CPR certification training for five people, quarterly online refresher training, on-site assessment to determine placement of the AEDs, online program management and asset tracking for one-year, monthly maintenance email alert, and a post-event data download. The equipment was valued at $50,000.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram and The News Courier
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #41

In July 2006, Harris Methodist HEB was the first hospital in Texas to provide every baby born in the hospital with comprehensive metabolic screenings for 54 disorders at no cost to the parents. At the time, the State of Texas mandated infants be screened for only the seven most common metabolic disorders.

Newborns were tested before they were discharged home by taking a few drops of blood from the baby’s heel. The sample was sent to Pediatrix, one of the nation’s most experienced metabolic testing laboratories, for analysis. If the results were outside normal parameters, the family’s pediatrician would discuss them with the family, schedule a follow-up test, and make any necessary referrals.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram and The Pulse Check Employee Newsletter
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #42

One minute, in 2006, Ronald Pence was sorting the mail, and the next he was on the way to the hospital after his heart stopped beating and had to be shocked four times. In the emergency room, the doctor suggested hypothermia therapy. The medical staff at Harris Methodist HEB had just finished training and Pence would be their first patient.

During sudden cardiac arrest, the heart stops pumping blood. When the brain is deprived of blood for more than seven minutes, it can lead to neurological damage.

Most patients who experienced sudden cardiac arrest never made it to the hospital in time to undergo the treatment and ended up in a persistent vegetative state.

For those who qualified, as Pence did, cooling the body, using hypothermia therapy, could prevent the irreversible brain damage that often occurred.

To bring Pence’s body temperature to 91 degrees, he was wrapped in cooling blankets and infused with iced saline solution. After 24 hours, he was gradually warmed up. In his case, being kept cool for 24 hours allowed him to recover completely and resume his life exactly where it left off.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #43

In early May of 2008, the Harris Methodist HEB Hospital Auxiliary reached a milestone. The 200-member auxiliary passed the $2 million mark in money raised since it started in 1969.

Volunteers worked in a variety of capacities and locations including in the gift shop, rocking babies in the nursery, and filing paperwork.

The Auxiliary raised money through book sales, bazaars, and other means.

Over the years, the gifts had gone toward the Siratt Women’s Center, the radiology department, an expansion of the emergency department, and a new oncology unit.

Having volunteers freed up hospital employees for other tasks and provided crucial funding for projects that provided advanced care to the community.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram and The Promise Press Employee Newsletter
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #44

Donors, volunteers, community members and hospital employees gathered in August 2011 for the dedication of the Payton Family Lobby, Helen Payton Chapel, and Anderson Meditation Garden at Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital HEB.

The dedication honored Jimmy and Helen Payton, as well as Edna Anderson, for their philanthropic gifts to the expansion and renovation of the lobby, chapel, garden, and gift shop.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram
1973 - 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #45

Students from the Hurst-Euless-Bedford Independent School District painted ceiling tiles to help relieve stress and anxiety, decrease pain, and offer hope for patients in the emergency room at Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital HEB in May 2015.

The hospital held a gallery night to show off the “Healing Ceiling” tiles. The students who hand-painted the tiles, their parents and art teachers, hospital staff, and community leaders attended the exhibit titled, “Evening at the Gallery”.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #46

Work was completed on the new $25 million expansion of the intensive care unit (ICU) at Texas Health HEB in September 2016.

The three-story building tied to the hospital’s existing tower and featured an 18-bed ICU. Four of the rooms had ceiling lifts for moving patients, and two were isolation rooms for patients with infectious diseases.

The new ICU provided a more natural setting for patients and were large enough for their loved ones to stay with them.

Also included in the expansion was an interventional radiology suite.

Source: Fort Worth Star-Telegram
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #47

In October 2020, Pricey Francis of Hurst was the first to have surgery in one of the newly remodeled operating rooms (OR) at Texas Health HEB.

The surgery in the expanded OR came after years of planning and construction and was part of a $10 million project that included demolishing and rebuilding four of the hospital’s eight operating rooms, remodeling the remaining ORs, and expanding the Sterile Processing Department from 630 square feet to 3,105 square feet.

The new ORs averaged 720 square feet, compared to the original 500 square feet providing more space for more complex care.

Source: Texas Health (Hurst Euless Bedford) Facebook
1973 - 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #48

Jim Adams was known for being tough. The 76-year-old former Marine served in Vietnam, was a retired FBI agent and did contract work including security and firearms instruction in Iraq and Afghanistan.

When Adams began feeling sick in March of 2020 with a cough and low-grade fever, he initially brushed it off as the respiratory infection that always accompanied his allergies. He went to an urgent care facility and received a steroid prescription, but two days later, still didn't feel any better.

He called his family doctor, who prescribed antibiotics and medicine for his cough, but since he only seemed to be getting worse, his doctor sent him to the emergency department at Texas Health HEB.

His wife, Linda, would not see him again for weeks. Adams was intubated and transferred to the intensive care unit where he tested positive for COVID-19. That began the ordeal of 18 nights on a ventilator.

Linda couldn’t visit Adams in the hospital, but nurses and the hospital’s chaplain kept them connected on the phone and through FaceTime.

The first attempt to take Adams off the ventilator was unsuccessful. The second time, he breathed on his own. Even the doctor did a dance in the hall.

On April 29, 2020, Adams was discharged to a transitional care hospital, and from there, the “Miracle Patient” went home.

Source: Texas Health (Hurst Euless Bedford) Facebook
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #49

In 2022, Texas Health HEB announced its newest therapy team members – Ricky and Lu-Seal (Lucy).

Ricky and Lucy are therapeutic, interactive robots who were used, and are still being used, with Dementia and Alzheimer patients needing relaxation and motivation. These seals have been found to reduce stress, stimulate interactions between patients and caregivers, and improve socialization.

Ricky and Lucy have sensors which perceive people and their environment. They learn to behave in a way the patients prefer. By interacting with people, the robots respond as if they are alive, moving their heads and legs, and imitating the voice of a baby harp seal.

The hospital also introduced Roxi and Moxi, two robots that help support the nursing staff with non-patient facing tasks.

Roxi and Moxi are still part of the care team and assist by running supplies, delivering lab samples, returning equipment, and delivering medication at the hospital. The robots are dispatched by colleagues using a tablet and navigate throughout the hospital without human assistance.

Source: Texas Health (Hurst Euless Bedford) Facebook
1973 - 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #50

Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Hurst-Euless-Bedford welcomed the next generation of physicians on July 1, 2022, through a new Graduate Medical Education (GME) program in conjunction with Texas Health Presbyterian Denton.

Having an internal medicine residency program increases patient safety and quality of care, as well as improves the pipeline of physicians.

The Internal Medicine residency is a three-year program. During the first year (or intern year) their primary role is to rotate through several areas of patient care and learn as much as they can from their patients.

In their last two years of residency, they will be responsible for teaching the incoming interns, as well as deepening their own medical knowledge so they can sit for the Internal Medicine Board exam after completing their training, and practice independently.

There are currently 20 interns in the program. Twenty new interns will be selected each year.

Source: Texas Health (Hurst Euless Bedford) Facebook
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #51

The Commission on Magnet Recognition conferred Magnet designation on Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Hurst-Euless-Bedford on October 19, 2022. The news was delivered by Dr. Jeanette Ives Erickson, D.N.P., R.N., NEA-BC, FAAN, Chair of the Commission for the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Magnet Recognition Program®.

The Magnet Recognition Program® is considered the gold standard of nursing excellence, a distinction earned by only a small community of hospitals and health care organizations internationally.

Eight exemplars were awarded to Texas Health HEB for outperforming the national mean and a comparison cohort in a given area. “It is unusual for a hospital to have eight recognized in a first-time Magnet designation,” said Dr. Erickson. “Especially since much of the preparation and record-keeping required for the application was done while the hospital was battling COVID-19 surges.”

Source: Texas Health (Hurst Euless Bedford) Facebook
1973 – 2023
50th Anniversary Throwback Thursday #52

We hope you have enjoyed our Throwback Thursday posts over the past year in celebration of Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Hurst-Euless-Bedford’s 50th anniversary.

These posts have given us a chance to pause and reflect on the outstanding work that has been achieved over the last half a century. If you missed them, they are available at www.TexasHealth.org/HEB.

We want to conclude our year-long celebration with the video below. It is a collection of interviews of individuals that illustrate the history, experiences, and perspectives of Texas Health HEB then and now.

Our campus may have grown, but one thing has not changed and that is our commitment to providing quality healthcare. As we celebrate the past, we look forward to continuing our mission: “To improve the health of the people in the communities we serve.”

by Brenda W.
1973 – 2023
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