



Established 1972

By and For the People of Love County

**Richard Barker,
Administrator**

**Ambulance Emergency
911**

**Clinic Appointments
276-2400**

**Hospital Information
276-3347**

**Adult Day Center
276-1542**

**Community Resources
211**

**Domestic Violence Help
276-2042
Hotline - 226-6424**

**Growers Market
276-9410**

Respiratory Therapy Services

In the hospital, respiratory therapists visit every bed patient to determine their need for breathing assistance and to administer inhalation treatments, as needed.

In the emergency room, the therapists start oxygen or, in extreme cases, initiate ventilators or devices to open airways. They also run and log EKG tests of the heart to learn whether heart disease may be causing shortness of breath.

For the clinic, they conduct tests to measure lung function and teach patients how to manage asthma, emphysema, chronic bronchitis, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder (COPD).

Numerous aids to smoking cessation are on hand and available to any patient who is ready to quit. There are patches, gum, drugs, and expert guidance. "Anyone who wants to can quit," says Michele Lively, head of the respiratory therapy department.

Michele Lively RRT, RCP

Department Head

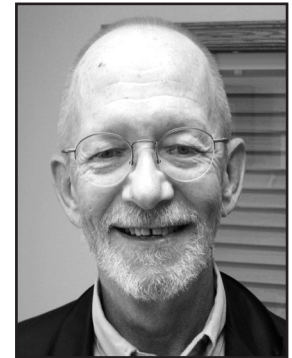
Michele Lively is celebrating her 30th year in the field, the last eight years at our hospital, where she heads the Respiratory Therapy Department.

Respiratory therapists work closely 24 hours a day with clinicians of the emergency room, hospital, and doctor's office. "This is an awesome place to work. Suggestions on patient care are well received, and we are able to spend the time that is needed for each patient," Lively said. Highlights for her are having former patients, including a lung transplant recipient, drop by to tell her how they are getting along.

Ron Kimery, RRT, RCP

Ron Kimery has watched the field of respiratory therapy grow during an impressive 43 years of practice, the last 11 at this hospital.

New medications and improved breathing aids have emerged to help patients better manage respiratory diseases. "This is encouraging for patients and therapists," Kimery said. His life goal as a youth was to serve in health care. "I love my work to this day," he said.



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