

2753

Cardiopulmonary employee earns CRT certification

11

Oswego resident Pam Methot, who works in the Cardiopulmonary Services Department at A.L. Lee Memorial Hospital, recently achieved status as a certified respiratory therapist after scoring high on a national examination.

A December graduate of Onondaga Community College, she earned her degree in respiratory therapy and began working at Lee Memorial shortly thereafter. She took the national Certified Respiratory Therapist exam in February.

"The test has 160 multiple-choice questions involving a variety of patient scenarios," Ms. Methot related. "You have to read them carefully and then choose (the) response that meets the needs of each scenario." The test, given to all graduates of respiratory-therapy programs by the National Board for Respiratory Care, takes three hours.

"It is a very difficult examination," noted Chris Cincotta, RRT, clinical manager of Cardiopulmonary Services. "We're very

proud and excited about Pam's accomplishment."

Ms. Methot decided upon respiratory therapy for her second career. "I had worked in the business office of a nursing home doing financials, payroll, and accounting," she said. "I decided that I needed a change. I couldn't see myself spending the rest of my life behind a computer crunching numbers."

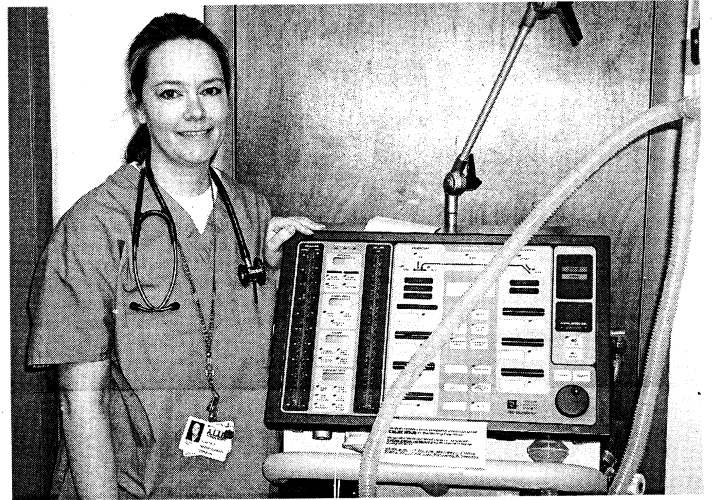
Because she liked being in the health-care field, she felt respiratory therapy was a good choice. "I will learn so much from my co-workers at Lee Memorial," Ms. Methot noted. "Everyone here is very nice and helpful."

She added, "Our work allows us to perform a wide variety of respiratory procedures, such as pulmonary function tests, EEGs, and EKGs. I'll be fortunate enough to learn the full range of respiratory skills, and I'll never get bored with my job."

The Cardiopulmonary Services Department at Lee Memorial Hospital holds

Quality Respiratory Care Recognition from the American Association for Respiratory Care. To receive this recognition, all of a cardiopulmonary department's staff

must be certified respiratory therapists or registered respiratory therapists and meet quality care and procedural guidelines in accord with national standards.



Pam Methot
Certified Respiratory Therapist