New! A healthy, made from scratch dining experience.

We Love the staff and care we received at WCH
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 the other areas of the upper body. Symptoms can include pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck or jaw.

Shortness of breath. This feeling can occur with or without chest discomfort.

Other Signs. These may include breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness.

As with men, women’s most common heart attack symptom is chest pain or discomfort. But women are somewhat more likely to experience some of the other common symptoms, particularly shortness of breath, nausea, vomiting, and back or jaw pain.

Learn the signs, but remember this: Even if you’re not sure it’s a heart attack, have it checked out. Minutes matter! Fast action saves lives - maybe your own. Don’t wait - call 911 or emergency response number.

Source: American Heart Association

Now Open!

With This public proclamation, the Board of Governors of the Wooster Community Hospital would like to thank, and recognize, our outstanding employees and medical staff. Your dedication and commitment to patient care through this two-year virus pandemic has been a beacon of strength for our community.

You have led the way in community education, provided prevention through voluntary public vaccinations, provided testing and therapeutic treatment – and serving hundreds of inpatients who were in need.

Thank you for all you have done and continue to do. We are all very proud of you.

Board of Governors

Leadership, fiscal oversight and strategic vision are all provided by the Wooster Community Hospital Health System’s Board of Governors, who give freely of their time and talents to advance our mission.

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Locally sourced, healthy and made from scratch! All buzzwords Bill Sheron, CEO of WCH, took very seriously when he set out to transform the dining experience at WCH. While other areas of the hospital have been updated over the years, the food court remained pretty much the same, said Sheron. All that changed in January, when it underwent a major renovation.

Partnering with Unidine, which provided a hands-on chef and manager, the new Beall Avenue Grill officially opened in February. “Everything is made from scratch,” said Sheron. The new space offers different stations including a large salad bar with homemade salad dressings and soups, and a made to order action station to prepare fresh omelets, stir fry, and much more.

Some of the fruit and produce during the summer months will come from the hospital’s GreenPoint Garden located at the WCH north campus. While the former cafeteria has always used produce from the garden, “this will give us a broader opportunity to use more,” said Sheron.

As the prime operators, the hospital has the freedom to expand the food court as they see fit. “We’re looking at offering take-out service among other things,” said Sheron. The area includes a courtyard for eating outside, weather permitting.

This “fresh foods” dining experience is consistent with the hospital’s commitment to health and wellness, “said Sheron. “We wanted to give our employees and the public healthy options.”

This Spring Community Focus magazine is a promotional publication of Wooster Community Hospital (WCH) Health System. The intention of this magazine is to provide the reader general information about services available at WCH Health System and is not a substitute for consultation with a personal physician.
Cared for 232,000+ Cardiac Patients Since 1996

Why
I left a large system and CHOSE WCH for ALL of my HEALTHCARE Needs

Exceptional, LOCAL, Heart Care

After her heart attack in 2017, Diana wasn’t taking any chances with her cardiovascular health. While traveling in May 2021, her Apple smartwatch notified her that she was showing signs of atrial fibrillation (AFib), or irregular heartbeat. Diana contacted her cardiologist in Cleveland as soon as she returned home to Medina, Ohio. Unfortunately, the cardiologist was not available for an appointment for many weeks. At her daughter’s recommendation, Diana made an appointment at Wooster Heart Group at Wooster Community Hospital (WCH). Within just a few days, she was able to see Dr. Cyril Ofori and discuss her AFib concerns.

“He’s just wonderful,” Diana says. Although no longer in AFib at the time of her appointment, Diana did go into AFib again the next day. Dr. Ofori met her at the WCH emergency room, where he was able to monitor her and determine the best course of action.

Diana has been particularly concerned about blockage around her heart. “I saw four cardiologists before coming to WCH, and [Dr. Ofori] was the only one that assured me that I would be okay,” Diana says. The other cardiologists knew about the blockage, but “they wouldn’t even address it,” she says.

Under Dr. Ofori’s care, Diana is currently on the appropriate medication for AFib, and is getting regular checkups. She has not had another episode of AFib since June 2021.

Thanks to her experience with Dr. Ofori and the WCH staff, Diana has moved all her healthcare, including her family doctor and gynecologist, to WCH providers. Her previous family doctor with a large health system in Cleveland often did not have appointments available for up to six months.

When Diana was later concerned about her husband’s heart health, her previous cardiologist had no available appointments for six weeks. Dr. Ofori was available to see him sooner to perform a heart catheterization and confirm a need for urgent bypass surgery. “I attribute my husband’s improved quality of life to Dr. Ofori,” Diana says. “I just feel that if we hadn’t gone to him, my husband would possibly have had a heart attack.”

Navigating a larger health system can get overwhelming, which is not a problem at WCH. “It’s a hometown hospital,” Diana says. “I just feel more comfortable there.” Being able to see a physician promptly with a very competent office staff is so important. In addition, the staff has made the most impact on us. “I don’t care who I talk to, everyone is so pleasant and nice,” she says. “[Dr. Ofori] and the staff at Wooster Heart Group and Wooster Community Hospital, you just can’t beat it.”

The word “electrophysiology” can sound intimidating, but it simply refers to the heart’s electrical activity. “At WCH, we have the ability to fully consult, assess, test and perform therapeutics and device procedures on those with electrical heart rhythm disorders,” says Dr. Emile Daoud.

WCH’s electrophysiology program originally launched as a collaborative effort between OSU and the Wooster Heart Group. The program has experienced “excellent patient outcomes and provides ready access to the full scope of heart care,” says Dr. Daoud. The electrophysiology lab opened in 2021, further expanding and advancing care for patients in the Wooster Community.

Dr. Daoud has been practicing at WCH for more than eight years. He has more than 20 years of experience performing invasive electrophysiology procedures, which include ablations and implantable devices. “We provide customized care plans for each patient,” he says. “We take into account their unique medical history and provide each patient with the most innovative, evidence-based treatment plan. The best feeling is when patients comment on how their treatment has changed their lives for the better.”

The Seaman Family Foundation and the Burton D. Morgan Foundation for their continued support of and commitment to the important work of the Cardiovascular Institute. The expansion of our electrophysiology services will help the Heart program to continue to grow in excellence and in its medical capabilities.

Expanded Heart Care Changes Lives for the Better

(Dr. Emile Daoud, Dr. Paul Moodispaw and Dr. Cyril Ofori.)

(C) 2022 WCH Foundation
After four years in Florida, OB/GYN Dr. Jennifer VandeVelde, has returned home to Wooster. The opportunity to work with Dr. Sharon Marcanthony – her “best friend in the world” – made the decision to leave the sunny climate and join Bloomington Women’s Care, an affiliate of Wooster Community Hospital Health System – a “no brainer,” Dr. VandeVelde revealed.

“All of us, including my husband, my son and my daughter, wanted to come back home,” she said. “When Dr. Marcanthony asked me to join the practice I immediately accepted.”

Dr. VandeVelde joined Dr. Marcanthony and Certified Nurse Practitioner Molly Hastings at Bloomington in October.

Before moving to Florida, Dr. VandeVelde worked with Dr. Marcanthony at another family health center in Wooster for six years.

“Working with her is going to be like having a friend over for coffee everyday,” Dr. VandeVelde said. “Each provider explained what was happening and what to expect.” During rehab, Sandi thoroughly enjoyed the staff and other patients that she encountered. “There was always positive encouragement,” she said.

Today Sandi is doing well. She is so grateful for the excellent care and positive experience she had at WCH; and for the steadfast crew around her that kept her calm.

For most people, experiencing a heart attack is a traumatic event. But Sandi Sloan admits she never felt “panicked” during the incident. It started one September evening when Sandi was feeling a “little off.” She didn’t think too much about it until she felt some stabbing pain. “It felt like an icepick in my chest,” she said.

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Sandi’s Story
I’m grateful for the cardiac care received at WCH

September evening when Sandi was feeling a “little off.” She didn’t think too much about it until she felt some stabbing pain. “It felt like an icepick in my chest,” she said.

Her husband brought her to the WCH emergency room (ER) where testing confirmed she had experienced a heart attack. Still, Sandi said she remained calm. “The ER staff were so professional, and their comfortable banter helped keep me calm.” A heart catheterization showed 100 percent blockage in her left anterior descending artery, often referred to as the “widowmaker.” The interventional cardiologist inserted a stent into her artery to open the blockage.

After a brief stay in the ICU, she was discharged and referred to WCH cardiac rehabilitation.

Through it all, Sandi felt she was in very good hands. The cardiac care in the ER, Cardiovascular Institute and cardiac rehab “was awesome,” Sandi said. “Each provider explained what was happening and what to expect.” During rehab, Sandi thoroughly enjoyed the staff and other patients that she encountered. “There was always positive encouragement,” she said.

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Remaining on the cutting edge of medical practice and technology. Assuring the highest quality medical care is available right here where it’s needed most: closer to home, family and support systems. That’s why your gift to Wooster Community Hospital truly is an investment in your family’s health care... today, and for generations to come. Opportunities to support our mission include:

Area of Greatest Need
- Beaverson EMS Fund
- Cancer Care Programs
- Cardiovascular Institute Programs
- Community Care Network
- Continuing Nurse Education
- Diagnostic Programs
- Emergency Department
- Intensive Care
- Labor and Delivery Program
- Sapphire Legacy Society
- WCH Endowment Fund
- Naming Opportunities
- WCH Endowment Fund

For more information or to discuss a gift, please contact Angela Rincon, Director of Development, at 330.263.8701.