

# ASANTE® News

ASANTE ASHLAND COMMUNITY HOSPITAL | ASANTE PHYSICIAN PARTNERS | ASANTE ROGUE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER | ASANTE THREE RIVERS MEDICAL CENTER

## Midnight Snacks: Food Cart Rounding Debuts at Rogue

Night shift employees at Asante Rogue Regional Medical Center are test-driving a new calorie-replacement option. A 60-day pilot project for nightly food cart roundings began Oct. 19 and has been received positively by its in-house customers on all patient-care units and floors.



Tina Kelly, the nutrition services manager for Asante Rogue Regional, said the test program is “in response to staff wanting more food options at night,” and addresses comments and suggestions that have been made [on Flagpole](#), the employee feedback intranet site.

One night shift employee commented on Flagpole earlier this year, for instance, that he and his late-night colleagues “work the least favorable hours” and deserve more healthy food options. “We deserve, just as much as any shift, to have all the (same) options as the day and swing shifts do, if not more so,” the employee wrote.

The new food cart offers a variety of snacks and drinks, including bottled water, whole fruit, packaged crackers, humus and crackers, peanut butter and crackers, teriyaki jerky, trail mix, granola bars, almonds, celery and peanut butter packs and gluten-free cookies.

The cart makes its nightly rounds from 10:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m., and customers make their purchases by supplying their names and employee numbers.

Julie Hale, Asante Rogue Regional’s support services director, developed the idea for a food cart last summer, and Tina and her nutrition services staff took a couple months to adjust schedules and provide staffing for the cart.

Tina said that while the cart’s roundings have been received positively during the pilot program’s first month-plus, its future remains uncertain. The food cart program will be assessed at the end of its 60-day trial program, she said.

Other food options for overnight employees at Asante Rogue Regional include the Ramblin’ Rogue Café, which is open each night from midnight to 2:30 a.m.; the Pear Blossom Espresso Bar and Café, open from 9 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., Monday through Friday; and vending machines that are located throughout the hospital. At least 50 percent of the items in the vending machines are considered to be healthy food or drink options.

Both of the other Asante hospitals offer overnight food cart services for employees.

***(read more, next page)***



The cafeteria at Asante Ashland Community Hospital closes at 6:15 p.m. each day, but a security guard rounds to all departments with a food cart at about 11 p.m. The cart includes sandwiches, salads, meat and vegetarian entrees, and various snacks and beverages.

Asante Three Rivers has had nightly food cart service for several years, and also recently extended its nighttime café hours to midnight to 2 a.m.

Asante News is published every Tuesday. Deadline for submission of articles is every Friday. Send via e-mail to [asantenews@asante.org](mailto:asantenews@asante.org).

**Question or suggestions:** Call Communications and Marketing at (541) 789-3510 or extension 13510.