



**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**

# Dietary Services

During admission to the hospital, every patient receives a doctor's order for what type of diet he or she should be eating. Menu items are guided by a registered dietician and food preparation specialists to ensure a variety of healthy foods to suit popular tastes.

## **Ermalinda "Erma" Watson**

When asked her specialty in the kitchen, Erma Watson quickly replies, "My smile!" And it's true, the zest and pleasure she takes in serving patients by preparing a healthy diet is reflected in her demeanor.

For the past six years, Watson has shared the daily kitchen responsibilities with department head Valerie Brown. "I have gained a lot of training and experience in preparing the regular and special meals we serve here," she said.

Watson set a bowl of thick, rich chicken-noodle soup in front of the reporter, along with a dish of sliced, cooked carrots. Mmmmm! "When we serve this soup to the patients, the nurses ask if we have any left over for them," she said with a smile and a laugh.



## **Cassandra "Cassie" Longoria**

"We want to help the best we can with good meals to make the patient's stay more comfortable," said Cassie Longoria. She has quickly made the transition from restaurant to hospital cook in her 16 months with the dietary department.

"I had six years of experience as a cook, but I have learned a lot from Valerie and Erma about hospital food preparation and cooking methods. We check closely to be sure foods are fresh and reach the proper temperature to be thoroughly cooked."

On the weekend shift, Longoria gives the kitchen a deep cleaning. Nurses and other staff members offer her encouragement. "Overall this is a great place to work. I've never worked in a place where everyone was so welcoming," she said.



***We're YOUR Hospital, Clinic and EMS***

# Mercy Health/Love County

**300 Wanda - Marietta, OK 73448**

**[www.mercyhealthlovecounty.com](http://www.mercyhealthlovecounty.com)**

*The Small-Town Hospital  
with the Big Heart*

