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GIBSON AREA HOSPITAL & HEALTH SERVICES QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

THE PAXTON CLINIC 2

NEW AMBULANCE 3

NEW COMMUNITY WELLNESS CENTER 4-5

NEW FMPI OYFES 6

INTERGENERATIONAL PROGRAM 7

PIANO DEDICATION 8

GOLF OUTING 10-11

SUPPORT GROUPS 13

NEW HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN FAIRBURY 15

GAH FOUNDATION WELCOMES THREE NEW BOARD MEMBERS 16







In Affiliation with Gibson Area Hospital and Health Services

The Paxton Clinic



n 1989 Gibson Area Hospital (GAH) opened the Paxton Clinic. With that first step, GAH made a commitment to provide quality healthcare to the residents of Paxton. As time passed, others have come and gone, but GAH and the Paxton Clinic have continued to stay steadfast in their commitment to the residents of Paxton. GAH CEO Rob Schmitt said, "Gibson Area Hospital has invested over \$35 million in the Paxton area over the past 22 years in infrastructure, jobs, and services. In Paxton we currently have 53 employees and our annual operating budget exceeds \$4 million, which continues to grow."

Presently the Paxton Clinic already provides x-ray, ultrasound, aqua therapy, physical therapy, athletic training, and patient education services. These services complement the Physician Specialties provided at the Paxton Clinic, which include Obstetric and Maternity Care, Sports Medicine, Primary Care, EMG services, Balance Testing, and Anti-Aging services.

To continue the commitment to the residents of Paxton, GAH and the Paxton Clinic Physicians will offer weekend hours to compliment these specialties starting in November. The additional hours will be for patients requiring non-emergent medical attention. Schmitt explained, "There are emergency rooms available in every direction from Paxton, for emergency situations. We want to expand patient's access to medical care for non-emergent care in Paxton. In most cases, a weekend trip to the emergency room wouldn't be necessary if the patient had access to a primary care provider."

Schmitt noted, "Adding these additional hours to the services already provided at the Paxton Clinic gives the community a more comprehensive medical center to seek care and treatment locally. As part of a not-for-profit hospital, the Paxton clinic serves all patients regardless of their ability to pay or income level."

GAHHS Adds Another Ambulance to Paxton Station

ecently Gibson Area
Hospital and Health
Services (GAHHS)
added 6 new EMS employees
to the Gibson Area Ambulance
Service (GAAS) Taft Street
Station in Paxton. These six new
EMS employees will allow the Taft
Street Station to staff 2 ambulances
24 hours a day, seven days a week.



"Before the addition of the 6 new EMS employees only one ambulance could be staffed at the Taft Street Station," GAHHS EMS and Safety Director Joe Higgins said. "With only one ambulance in Paxton the response time to a second call would average 20 minutes, because that ambulance would have to come from Gibson City. Now with a second ambulance in Paxton we are able to reduce our response time to around 5 minutes."

The six new employees join the fifty plus other employees the hospital has in Paxton. According to GAH CEO Rob Schmitt, "We started with just six employees in 1989, when the Paxton Clinic opened. And now we have over 60 employees working in Paxton between the ambulance, clinic, therapy, and the new wellness center."

With the additional employees, the GAAS now has the ability to offer more community educational programs. Currently, the GAAS is providing free CPR classes within the community and to the Long-Term Care facilities. "Offering free classes is the right thing to do, " GAHHS EMS Operations Coordinator Adam Elder said. "In Illinois, all nurses and CNAs are required to take CPR classes every two years. From a community standpoint it doesn't make sense for them to have to travel to Champaign to take these classes, especially when we have the resources readily available here in town."

Schmitt added, "The additional ambulance is just another example of Gibson Area Hospital's commitment to Paxton and serving the patients in the Paxton area".

Gibson Area Hospital has been the only consistent healthcare provider serving Paxton and providing healthcare services in the Paxton area since 1989. ■

Gibson Area Ambulance Service Hosted Benefit Cookout for Alex Faulkner



Front left-right Kneeling: Carrie Schneider, Alex Faulkner, Jimmy Willoby, Bob Holloway, Joe Higgins. Back left-right Standing: Norma Schmidt, Terry Carnahan, Adam Elder, Robin Stadeli, Doug Olsen

mall communities have a tendency to rally around each other when someone is in need; Paxton and Gibson City are no different. So when the Gibson Area Ambulance Service (GAAS) heard the touching story of Alex Faulkner, a local seven-year-old boy battling cancer, GAAS EMS Operations Coordinator Adam Elder knew they had to help anyway they could.

With this task at hand the GAAS team braved the heat and humidity of the outdoors on July 22, 2011, to host a benefit cookout for Alex Faulkner. The benefit cookout was held outside of the Paxton IGA and provided \$5 pork chop meals to a hungry crowd. From 4p.m. to 7p.m. the GAAS served approximately 170 pork chop meals and helped raised over \$800 for Alex Faulkner and his medical cost.

Elder explained that the GAAS had a great time and were happy with the results. "We were very happy with the turn out to the benefit cookout. Alex truly has many supporters in Paxton and the surrounding area's," said Elder. "With this cookout we were able to spread Alex's story and now he has many supporters within GAHHS. I am proud to be part of an organization that continues to rally around community members in need."

To learn more about Alex and ways you can help support him in his fight visit his website www.caringbridge.org/visit/alextf. ■

GAHHS Opens Fitness Center in Paxton



Pictured left to right: Paxton Chamber of Commerce Board Member Cliff McClure; Vice President of the Paxton Chamber of Commerce Nancy Ecker; Paxton Chamber of Commerce Board Member Don Rasmus; Paxton Chamber of Commerce Board Member Pat Harris; President of the Paxton Chamber of Commerce Karen Abbe; GAHHS CEO Rob Schmitt, Paxton Mayor Bill Ingold; GAH Board Member Carl Hudson Jr., GAHHS CFO John Jacobson, Ford-Iroquois Public Health Department Representative Nick Snyder.

n May, when Champion Fitness closed its door in Paxton, it created a void in the Paxton Fitness Community. With the only fitness center in Paxton now closed many members had to seek other options outside of Paxton. Some members even began driving to Rantoul, adding extra time and money to workout. With an obvious need for a fitness center in Paxton, Gibson Area Hospital and Health Services (GAHHS) CEO Rob Schmitt began to look into how Gibson Area Hospital (GAH) could help the Paxton Community. "I was approached by several community members asking what [GAH] could do to fill the void. We immediately started planning and thinking about where we could provide the service, discussing if we should provide the service, and strategizing overall how best to meet this particular need in the community." Schmitt continued, "After several months of planning, discussion with our Board of Directors, and our physicians in Paxton, we decided to move ahead with the new facility."

With an open space available next to the Gibson Area Ambulance Service (GAAS), 239 N. Taft St., the real work began. "We started by removing walls from what was the prior clinical space to allow for more space for fitness equipment," said GAHHS EMS Operations Coordinator Adam Elder. "The lighting and electrical were all updated, as well as painting and cleaning the entire facility. Rubber flooring was added and we updated all the phone and data lines to allow for two flat screen TVs, for members to watch while on cardio equipment." Elder continued, "The outside of the building was also repainted, the natural lighting improved, and a new awning was installed. Many more changes were made and all was possible due to a combined effort from the hospital's facilities department, marketing, administration and the board of directors."

Five weeks later the renovations were complete, the fitness equipment was moved in, and everything was set for the



Community Wellness Center (CWC) Open House on September 6, 2011.

While the open house was scheduled from 4 to 7p.m. quite a few Paxton residents couldn't contain their excitement. The very first CWC member, Nick Fiorillo, called the CWC at 10a.m. to get signed up. GAHHS Marketing Coordinator Drue Hilligoss said the open house was a great time and a great success for the CWC. "Our open house was very successful and well received by the community of Paxton. During the first hour of the open house we had over 100 people stop by to see the center. By the end of the night we had close to 60 people signed up for memberships."

In addition to the 10 percent off any membership that night the CWC held drawings for 3 one-year memberships and door prizes from Monical's, Casey's, and Candy Blossom Bouquet. Sue Naccarato, Wanda Thompson, and C. Swanson each won a one-year membership while Nick Fiorillo and Terry Riggins each won a \$10 Casey's gift card. The winners of the Illini and PBL themed candy bouquets were Vanessa Piott and Sharon White with Lori Epps taking home one of the \$10 Monical's gift cards.

The CWC is open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. from Monday thru Friday and 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, giving members 75 hours a week to use the facility. An individual membership is \$35 per month, and is \$335 per year. Family monthly and yearly memberships are also available and can be obtained at the Wellness center. We will also offer a "punch pass" good for 15 visits for only \$45 per month. This option is designed for flexibility and can be used one at a time, perfect for the occasional member, student, or weekend warrior. Senior citizen discounts are also available for monthly and yearly passes.

While the CWC has officially opened, GAHHS is not done meeting the needs of the Paxton Community. GAHHS plans to continually improve the CWC based on the members' requests and needs. The community has been very supportive of the CWC so far and GAHHS looks to continue to give back to the Paxton Community.



GAHHS CEO Rob Schmitt with the First Member Nick Fiorillo



Doctors Richard Foellner, Bashar Alzein, and Jeffrey Wingate



Chief Compliance Officer Mike Meunier with Door Prize Winner Vanessa Piott.



Rob Schmitt shaking hands with Tom Bennett.

The Family Health Clinic of Farmer City Welcomes New Nurse Practitioner



In July, the Family Health Clinic of Farmer City hired Kara Moody, an accomplished Nurse Practitioner, to complement the excellent care they provide. "Since day one when Kara joined the Family Health Clinic of Farmer City, she has been a valuable asset," said Darrin Ray, M.D. "With her on board, we will be able to expand our access to better meet our patients' needs. She has a very broad knowledge base and has a patient-oriented approach to providing care."

Kara, raised in Mahomet, IL, always knew that she wanted to be a part of the medical field, but she was unsure at what capacity. Kara explained, "My mom is a nurse and I saw a variety of options a nursing career provides, so I chose to go to nursing school."

After graduation Kara became a labor and delivery/post-partum nurse. Kara enjoyed this position, but she knew she wanted to be able to provide patient care at a higher level. This led to her decision to enroll in the Mennonite College of Nursing's Family Nurse Practitioner program. "I felt like getting my degree in Family Practice would give me the option of working in any arena, and once again I liked the idea of having a career that allowed for variety," explained Kara.

Kara added that it was this idea of variety that led her to the Family Health Clinic of Farmer City. "Originally, I thought I would end up working in a convenient care setting or orthopedics." Kara continued, "However, when I interviewed for the Family Health Clinic position I immediately knew it was the right fit for me. Here, I have the ability to see patients of all ages in all walks of life, including OB patients and this excites me."

With the addition of a nurse practitioner, the Family Health Clinic of Farmer City will become designated a Rural Health Clinic (RHC). As a RHC the Family Health Clinic of Farmer City will be able to increase primary care services for Medicaid and Medicare patients. This decision only increased Kara's desire to work for the Farmer City Clinic. "As a nurse practitioner I believe that it is our duty to bring medical care to our communities or to people who are unable to seek medical care because of life circumstances," said Kara.

Kara enjoys working with all the Farmer City staff because they are committed to providing upstanding evidence base care to anyone who walks into the clinic. Kara added, "It is a great feeling to work with Dr. Ray. He is up-to-date on cutting edge medical information, procedures, and treatment for our patients. This is what every patient deserves and I know they will receive it here at the Family Health Clinic in Farmer City."

Gibson Area Hospital Names Karen Christensen as the New Long-Term Care Annex Administrator

n June the Gibson Area Hospital and Health Services (GAHHS) hired Karen Christensen as the GAH Long-Term Care Annex Administrator. GAHHS CEO Rob Schmitt said ultimately the decision was an easy one. "The Annex is a distinct unit of



GAHHS and really needed to have a full-time Administrator to run the day to day operations. I knew Karen as a member of the Gibson City Lions Club and I knew she did a great job at Heritage Manor in Gibson City." Schmitt added, "So when we decided we were going to have a full-time Administrator again, I knew exactly who I wanted it to be. I am thrilled to have Karen here as Administrator of the Annex. She is an excellent addition to the Leadership team at GAHHS."

As Administrator at Heritage Manor in Gibson City Karen gained valuable knowledge, which she is able to utilize at the Annex. "This experience has allowed me to continue the high quality and personalized nursing care that the residents at the Annex deserve." Karen continued, "Advocating and supporting this population is where I belong and where I am meant to be."

When Karen was asked what she enjoys most about her new position, she said the residents. "I have enjoyed getting to know the Annex residents and the staff that work here. There is a definite family atmosphere at the Annex." She continued, "The staff truly care about the residents as if they are members of their own families."

Karen is excited for the future of the staff and residents of the Annex. "In the near future the Annex will be transitioning to computerized charting," said Karen. "This project, spearheaded by the Annex Director of Nursing Kristy Elder, will allow the nursing department to become more efficient, thus providing the highest level of care possible to all the Annex residents."

Karen added, "Even though we have a great looking home for our residents and we are upgrading to computerized charting, the biggest and best advantage we can offer our residents, is that fact that we are attached to the hospital. We are able to fully utilize all the resources the hospital has, without the wait."

Karen received her business administration degree with minor in Sociology from Illinois State University in 1997. After graduation she worked in the Marketing Department at Heritage Enterprises for ten years, before becoming the Administrator at Heritage Manor in Gibson City.

Karen enjoys shopping, reading, and spending time with her husband Corey, a native of Gibson City, and their two children Sadie, 8, and Jason, 2. ■

Intergenerational Program at the GAH Long-Term Annex Begins a New Year



GCMS Students pose with Annex residents after a visit.

Humanitarian Award Winners from Left to Right: Kristin Wilson, Miranda Leonard, and Courtney Hohulin.

ast year GCMS teachers Courtney Hohulin and Kristin Wilson were given an assignment in one of their Master's courses. The assignment was to design a project that enhanced academic curriculum through community service. After the completion of the project they knew they had created something special. "We wanted the project to come to life in order for the students of GCMS to learn how to give the gift of friendship to an older generation," said Kristin.

With the idea of enhancing the curriculum of GCMS students and the lives of an older generation, Courtney and Kristin met with Gibson Area Hospital Long-Term Care Annex Activity Director Miranda Leonard. With Miranda and the Annex on board, Kids creating A Relationship with the Elderly or K.A.R.E. was created. Miranda explained, "It was our hope that through intergenerational programs we will learn from one another by sharing life experiences through meaningful communication."

The 2010-2011 school year became the pilot year for the K.A.R.E. program. This first year Courtney's 3rd grade and Kristin's Kindergarten classes visited the Annex once a month. Each visit had a different theme and encouraged the students to learn directly

from the Annex residents. "The residents are a great resource to teach the students about our past history of Gibson City and the world as a whole," said Kristin. "These lessons are able to go beyond what we teach in the classroom."

It is this ability to reach students beyond the classroom that earned Courtney, Kristin, Miranda, and the K.A.R.E program recognition within the area. Their first year was so successful they were awarded the GCMS Humanitarian Award for demonstrating sincere caring, respect, and friendship between young citizens and senior citizens. This recognition has increased the number of additional classes interested in joining the K.A.R.E program.

While the obvious benefit is to the students, Miranda noted that the residents benefit from the K.A.R.E. program as much as the students. "These children help the residents remember by rekindling the memories of their lives. Whether it is the memories of love or the joy they shared, the children are nurturing and enhancing the residents quality of life." Miranda continued, "With our intergenerational programs our goals are to create meaningful connections that span across lifetimes by sharing experiences, building friendship and self-esteem, and to stimulate the mind. Our community is better served when generations work together and this program is a working example."

As the new school year begins the K.A.R.E program will enter into its second year. "We look forward to continuing this program and are anxious to watch the students grow from their experiences with the residents of the Annex," said Courtney.





From Left to Right Pianists Bill Ogg and Stephanie Swearingen with Dr. Paul Sunderland and Commentator Rev. Edward Taylor.

The damage was so extensive that the piano could not be moved. This sharply increased the difficulty when others tried to play the piano for the residents. "The piano had brought a lot of joy to the residents of the Annex," said Dr. Sunderland. "So not having a functional piano was not an option."

It was this love of music that led Dr. Sunderland and his wife, Mildred, to donate their 30-year-old upright Baldwin piano to the Annex. "The Baldwin was in good shape, but the residents deserved better," explained Dr. Sunderland. "So after meeting with the Administration Team and Bill, Bill and I looked into trading in

the Baldwin towards a baby grand."

On March 9th Dr. Sunderland and Bill traveled to The Piano People in Champaign to look for suitable pianos and prices befitting the Annex. There, Bill played many different pianos of all shapes and sizes, but it was a 13-year-old Korean made Samick that grabbed their attention. Dr. Sunderland said, "When Bill began playing the Samick it made the most haunting mellow sound that we had ever heard. We both knew that this was the piano for the Annex because we had not heard anything that compared to the great sound it made."

Dr. Sunderland and Bill were so impressed with the price and performance of the Samick that Dr. Sunderland put down a deposit for the Samick on the spot.

Given this information the Administration Team approved the purchase of the Samick with memorials donated to the Annex. The contract with The Piano People was finalized and they delivered the Samick on March 24. Dr. Sunderland concluded, "The Samick is a great piano to help remember those who have touched our lives by bringing joy and music to current and future residents of the Annex family."



Jani with her sons. Left to Right: Matthew Blair, Jani Fraim, and Lucas Blair

n 1987, when Jani Fraim was 13 years old, she was diagnosed with Muscular Dystrophy (MD). MD is a disease that slowly weakens the muscles of the body until they have very limited use. As Jani's condition progressed she continued to live her life to the fullest. Eventually, she would fall in love and give birth to 3 boys. However, in 2009 Jani's disease progressed to the point where she could no longer perform daily tasks. It was at this point Jani decided to become a resident of the Gibson Area Hospital Long Term Care Annex. At the Annex, she is able to receive the best possible care and therapies she is unable to give herself.

While MD may make even the simplest tasks considerably more difficult, Jani has not let that slow her down one bit. If anything, it has made her more determined to help others with MD. In 2010, Jani began to raise money for the MDA Labor Day Telethon. In her first year she was able to raise \$1000 for the Central IL Chapter of the MDA. Not satisfied with this, Jani stepped up her efforts with the help of those who work at GAHHS.

In 2011, Jani and the GAHHS staff have organized a MDA Bowl-A-Thon, a Scentsy Fundraiser, a cookout themed raffle drawing, and collected funds from the GAHHS "Jean Day". Through her efforts Jani has been able to raise awareness of MD, as well as collect over \$3000 for this years MDA Telethon. "I enjoy fundraising for the MDA because it is for such a great cause," said Jani. "Because of those who donate, either time or money to the MDA, it means to myself and others with MD, that someone will always be there to help people and that is what is important."

Because of her determination not to give into MD, Jani was able to present a check to the MDA during the 2011 Labor Day Telethon. In addition to her time in the spotlight, Jani was nationally recognized as a MDA "2011 Be a Star".

Jani's 2011 MDA Fundraisers:

MDA Bowl-A-Thon (April 2011) \$1,328.00
Scentsy Fundraiser (May & August 2011) \$130.63
GAHHS "Jeans Day" (Total So Far) \$730.00
Raffle \$815.00



2011 Total \$3,003.63

GAHHS Congratulates Dr. Sethakorn on His Retirement

n 1987, Dr. Amnuay Sethakorn, M.D. joined the Gibson Area Hospital family. After 24 years of service to the Gibson Area Community Dr. Sethakorn announced his retirement on October 1. Dr. Sethakorn said that while he looks forward to slowing down after he leaves his practice, he will deeply miss his patients.



enjoyed catching up with my patients and talking about their lives," said Dr. Sethakorn. "My favorite subject to talk about with them however was politics. I will truly miss my patients."

It was his relationships with his patients that made Dr. Sethakorn a great doctor and an asset to the medical staff at GAH. According to Rob Schmitt, CEO of Gibson Area Hospital, "Dr. Sethakorn is a true asset to the community and the patients he served. His dedication and commitment to his patients and the hospital over the past 24 years will be missed." Schmitt went on to say, "From the Board, Administration, and staff at GAH, we want to thank Dr. Sethakorn for his 24 years of dedication and service, and we wish Dr. Sethakorn a happy and healthy retirement. He's earned it."

Chief of Medical Staff, Dr. Katherine Austman, said that Dr. Sethakorn is a great example of what physician patient relationships should be. "Dr. Sethakorn's patients have a deep respect for him and he did a wonderful job of caring for their medical needs. The medical staff looks forward to continuing this tradition of excellence."

While it is not uncommon for physicians to move and practice at different hospital and clinics, Dr. Sethakorn said that this never occurred to him. "This is a great area to live in and I have enjoyed practicing medicine in this community all these years."

On October 13, 2011, Gibson Area Hospital will celebrate Dr. Sethakorn's retirement at Railside Golf Club from 4 to 7p.m. Everyone is invited to help us honor him for his 24 years of services to our community.

Gibson Area Hospital Foundation Golf Outing Results



Thanks to Country Financial for being our major event sponsor.



Country Financial Employees from left to right: Janice Allen, Patti Percy, Guy Percy, Doyle Williams, Wade Harrison, Chris Giroux, Chad Allen. and Carrie Schumacher.

he Gibson Area Hospital (GAH) Foundation held its 22nd annual golf outing and fundraiser on July 14 at Railside Golf Club in Gibson City. Over 210 golfers and hospital supporters participated in the event.

Trophies for this years outing were awarded for Men's, Women's, and Mixed Divisions. In the morning flight, the first place men's team was Gene Everett, Chuck Aubry, Grant Conibear, and Mike Bleich, while the second place trophy was awarded to Steve Anderson, Kevin Hitchcock, Don Craig, and Bud Garard. The third place men's trophy was awarded to Jim Gulliford, Jerry Austman, Denny Davis, and Steve Metz. Andy Hildenbrand, Mike Reed, Cody Schmidt, and Joel Moore received fourth place.

Rob Schmitt, Linda Schmitt, Terry Overman and Shelley Overman received first place in the mixed division.

Kevin Hitchcock won the longest putt contest, Mike Bleich received the trophy for the longest drive, and Rob Schmitt was awarded the closest to the pin trophy.

Men's Division first place PM flight was Jack Kollross, Dax Garrisen, Kenny Hawthorne, and Joe Wier. The second place trophy was awarded to Neil Zerrusen, Chuck Martin, Phil Martin, and Dan Punkay. The third place men's trophy was awarded to Patrick Hartman, Chas Holder, Mick LeVanti, and Greg Tresslar. Ishwar Jagasia, M.D., Michael Woods, M.D., and Tracy Campbell received fourth place.

Napoleon Knight, M.D., Debbie Schmidt, Anne Curtiss, and Brent Harseim received first place in the mixed division. With Brenda Mott, Rodney Mott, Tyler Mott, and Michelle Mott placing second.

The first place women's division was awarded to Angie Woodward, Mikayla Woodward, Katie Spangler, and Emily Spangler. Second place was awarded to Greta Siemsen, Jo Anderson, Diane Hays, and Patti Bolton.

Debbie Schmidt won the longest putt contest, Dave Miller received the trophy for the longest drive, and Chuck Martin was awarded the closest to the pin trophy.

The GAH Foundation would like to thank the following for sponsoring the 2011 golf outing: Major Sponsor: Country Financial. Dinner Sponsor: MCS Office Technologies. Beverage Sponsor: Cardinal Health. Lunch Sponsor: Strategic Reimbursement, Inc. Putting Contest Sponsor: Insurance Providers Group. Driving Range Sponsor: Jeremy Henrichs, M.D. Event Sponsor: Eck, Schafer & Punke, LLP. Gold Sponsors: Advocate BroMenn Medical Center, Busey Bank, Carle Hospital, CDS Office Technologies, Farmers-Merchants National Bank, Heartland Bank & Trust, Martin Graphics, Nebo Systems / Passport Health, OSF Saint Francis, Inc., Personal Care, Ryt-Way Industries. Silver Sponsors: Alliant Management Services, Hess Farms, Midwest Energy, Inc, Wilcox Electric & Service, Inc. Bronze Sponsors: Clark Schaeffer Hackett, Chris Dangles, M.D., Henneman Engineering Inc., Hood's Ace Hardware, Shive Hattery.

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For more pictures visit the GAHHS Media Gallery at www.gibsonhospital.org.



Gibson Area Hospital Continues to Grow







D&D Demo hard at work



Parking lot is now open

No Parking....For Now!

f you have driven by Gibson Area Hospital (GAH) over the summer you may have noticed some heavy machinery just south of the hospital. The reason for this is because as GAH continues to grow, so too does the need for more parking, storage, and services. For this reason, GAH acquired the property just south of the hospital, to expand the parking options, and a garage behind the Ambulance station, to become the new hospital storage site.

The only problem with the property south of the hospital was the fact that an old house stood in the way. To remedy this problem D&D Demo was called for their expertise. In June work began to remove all the trees on the property thus making way for the demolition. On July 20, the gas line was removed and the real work began. Within two days the house was demolished and

removed, leaving just a hole where the basement use to be. After the house was down, D&D Demo set their sights on the garage behind the Ambulance Station. Within minutes the garage was rubble and was soon hauled away.

With the removal of the house and the garage, crews have started prepping the sites for the construction phase. Soon the parking lot will be completed and when the new storage facility is completed the current storage room, located above the emergency department, will be emptied. This will give the hospital the much-needed space to continue to expand and grow, allowing GAH to continue to meet the needs of its patients.

To watch the house come down, visit our Media Gallery on our website, http://www.gibsonhospital.org/media-gallery/. ■

GAHHS Congratulates Susan Walker on Her Retirement



leven years ago Susan Walker moved from Chicago back to the area and joined the Gibson Area Hospital & Health Services (GAHHS) family. As a registered nurse, Susan brought with her 30 years of experience, making her a great asset to everyone at GAHHS. As with all great things they must come to an end and on June 22, 2011, Susan officially retired from GAHHS. GAHHS CNO/COO Robin Rose said, "She was a valuable member of our OR staff and she will be greatly missed by her co-workers, patients and the community."

Gibson Area Hospital & Health Services wishes Susan the best in her retirement.



Susan Walker with Cheryl Bond

Find Support In Numbers

Support Group Opportunities at GAHHS

CANCER Support Group

The Gibson Area Hospital & Health Services Cancer Support Group meets the second Monday evening of each month at 6:00 pm. We offer emotional support and are willing to provide links to any education or support the community needs. In the last year we have had speakers on Chemotherapy from a pharmacy view and lymphedema from a certified therapist's view.

If you need any other information please contact Missy Stiger in the Cardiopulomonary Rehabilitation Department at GAHHS, 217-784-2667.

DIABETESSupport Group

For people whose lives have been affected by diabetes, Gibson Area Hospital & Health Services provides a diabetes support group that is a forum for learning about diabetes, and for sharing ideas, concerns, and feelings about living with this disease. Each meeting usually features a presentation by a professional staff person who provides information to better help manage diabetes. Questions and general discussion usually follow the presentation. Topics for the past year have included, "Tips for the Holidays", "Medications", "Reading Food Labels", "Diabetes and Stress", and "Heart Healthy Living".

The group is open to all those with diabetes and their family and friends, or those simply interested in learning more about the disease. The diabetes support group meets the 2nd Thursday of every month, excluding December and January, from 7 pm to 8 pm at the hospital.

If you have questions, please call Eileen Woolums at 217-784-2344. ■

ARTHRITISSupport Group

Arthritis causes pain and often disability to one in every seven Americans. Find out how the numbers can work for you. You'll find friendship and support when you join the Arthritis Support Group at Gibson Area Hospital & Health Services. Topics of discussion will include pain management, diet and exercise. All ages are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Meetings will be held the first Monday of every month beginning March 7, 2011 from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at the hospital. Call Julie Bowen at 217-784-2259 for more information or to register. ■

Support Group Time & Date at a Glance

Arthritis Support Group

1st Monday of every month beginning March 7, 2011 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm in the Radiology waiting room

Cancer Support Group

2nd Monday of every month – 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm in Outpatient waiting room

Diabetes Support Group

2nd Thursday of every month – 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm in Radiology waiting room

Total Joint Class

1st and 3rd Tuesday – 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm in the EDUP meeting room

GAHHS Doctor Receives
Illinois Rural Health Physician of
Excellence Award



IRHA President Mark Stevens presents Darrin Ray, M.D. with his award.

n September 20, 2011, Dr. Darrin Ray, M.D. was recognized by the Illinois Rural Health Association (IRHA) as an outstanding rural physician. Dr. Ray received the Rural Physician of Excellence Award because of his outstanding service and dedication to improve the health and well–being of the rural and underserved residents in Central Illinois.

Dr. Ray currently practices at the Family Health Clinic in Farmer City and said that the reason he received

this award is because of the support he receives from the community and GAHHS. "Without the support of the people of Farmer City and Gibson Area Hospital I would not be able to continue to provide such great patient care." Ray continued, "I may have received this award, but it is actually for everyone who continues to support me."





Gibson Area Hospital to Open Health Care Facility in Fairbury



n an effort to better meet the needs of the rural communities in our area, Gibson Area Hospital has taken the step necessary to open a health care facility in Fairbury.

Starting October 10, 2011 these efforts will come to fruition when Rachel Wenger, M.D. opens the doors to the Family Health Care of Fairbury.

"I am originally from Strawn and I have always wanted to practice in the area where I was born and raised," said Dr. Rachel Wenger. "For over a year now I have been able to with the Prairie Family Medicine & Obstetrics Clinic in Forrest. While I am sad to leave my colleagues, I am very excited about the opening of the Family Health Care of Fairbury and the ability to continue to serve my community."

Wenger looks forward to practicing in Fairbury and plans to continue to provide the excellent patient care she provided in Forrest. "I plan on providing a complete family practice with maternity care, pediatrics, geriatrics and in-office procedures." Wenger continued, "My philosophy for taking care of my patients has always been to provide the best care possible and I look forward to continuing that in Fairbury."

The Family Health Care of Fairbury is located at 401 S. Clay Street and will be open on Monday from 7:30 a.m. To 2:00 p.m. and on Tuesday thru Friday from 7:30 a.m. To 4:30 p.m.

Come visit Dr. Wenger and her staff at the Family Health Care of Fairbury Open House in early November. Check the GAHHS website, <u>www.gibsonhospital.org</u>, or call (815) 692-1150 for more details.

GAH LTC Annex Employee is Recognized for Statewide Award

he Health Care Council of Illinois (HCCI) recognized Sandy Shelton, a CNA with the Gibson Area Hospital Long Term Care (GAH LTC) Annex, as one of their "Heroes in Long Term Care." Sandy was recognized for this award because of her outstanding contributions to the enhancement of the quality of life to the San residents at the GAH LTC Annex.



Sandy Shelton

As part of National Nursing Home Week, HCCI recognizes the "heroes" in Illinois LTC facilities. Award winners are chosen among the many dedicated and caring staff members and residents who have made meaningful contributions to the lives within their facilities.

GAHHS Relay Team Raised over \$10,000 for the American Cancer Society



very year Gibson Area Hospital and Health Services (GAHHS) employees band together to raise money for the Ford Country Relay for Life. This year was no different and on June 4th and 5th the GAHHS team battled the daytime heat and nighttime rain to raise over \$10,000 for the American Cancer Society. "Despite the harsh weather this relay was a success," said GAHHS Physician Clinic Lab Director and Captain of the Hospital Relay Team Patrick Bean. "17 teams from all over Ford Country came together and help raised almost \$70,000 for the American Cancer Society. Bean noted, "Given the state of the economy, I don't think we could of asked for more support."

GAH Foundation Board Welcomes Three New Members

Jerry Minion



Jerry now calls Elliott, Il home, but he has never been one to let the grass grow beneath his feet. For the first 17 years of his life Jerry called Memphis, Tennessee home. In 1964 he left his hometown and headed north to Minnesota to seek his fortune with

McDonalds. Two years later Jerry heard the call and joined the Army. During the next two years he would travel to Missouri, El Paso, Texas and Korea.

After his tour of duty was over, Jerry returned back to his civilian life at McDonald's. A year later in 1969 Jerry met his future bride Helen. Soon they were married and headed to the Chicago Area. Over the next 7 years Jerry and his family lived in Chicago, Kansas City, St. Louis, and then to Gibson City. Once in Gibson City they opened the first Mini Mac for McDonald's in 1977. The next year they bought the store and would acquire two more stores in Rantoul and Urbana. Over the next 32 plus years they would employee over 5300 people.

In 2008, Jerry sold the stores in Rantoul and Urbana and then in 2010 he sold the Gibson City store. Even though he no longer has three restaurants to run Jerry still keeps busy. When he is not traveling you can find Jerry working around his house, at the Gibson City and Foosland gun ranges, working with the local Tea Party, and volunteering with local committees and groups. While he is new to the GAH Foundation Board he hopes his experience can be an asset. "I hope that my experiences and insight as a business owner and employer will benefit the board as they continue to grow the Foundation."

Jerry and Helen have 4 children Ross, Leena, Jodi, and Ryan and 4 grandchildren. Ross currently lives in California with his wife. Leena recently returned to California after living in Singapore for two years. Jodi lives in Ohio and Ryan and his wife call Gibson City home.

June Bishop



June was born and raised in Gibson City and it wasn't until she married the love of her life, Richard Bishop, that she moved a way... b u t

not too far. The newlywed couple relocated to Roberts and began a In Roberts they raised 4 children: Richard, Laura, Timothy, and Christina. In addition to raising her children, June owned and operated a salon in Roberts. After 25 years of service June decided to close the doors of her salon and work for Carle Clinic as a medical transcriptionist. After her career change Richard was diagnosed with cancer. For 2 years she provided inhome care to her husband, while working at Carle Clinic. In 2002 Richard passed away and June retired from Carle Clinic after ten years to spend more time with her family. Currently, June has six grandchildren, one step-grandchild, and one great grandchild, which she spends most of her time attending one of their many activities. When she is not with her family, June enjoys reading and traveling the country.

Serving on the Gibson Area Hospital Foundation Board of Directors isn't June's first experience with the hospital. She is a volunteer as a hospital greeter and serves on the Ford County Mental Health Board. June said she looks forward to being a member of the Foundation. "I feel it is an honor to be asked to serve on the GAH Foundation Board and to continue to give back to this area."

Diane Heyman, O.D.



Diane was born in Columbus, Nebraska and was raised on a farm in rural Columbus. From Columbus Diane attended Doane College in Crete, Nebraska. After she graduated

from Doane College, Diane traveled over 700 miles east to attend The Ohio State University College of Optometry. In 1983 she graduated with her doctorate in Optometry with her husband Flavel. After graduation Diane and Flavel moved to Paxton to take over the practice of the retiring W.W. Sauer, O.D. They continued to grow Heyman & Heyman Optometrists and eventually opened satellite offices in Gibson City and Onarga.

In Paxton, as Diane and Flavel continued to grow their business, they also began a family, eventually having 3 children. The oldest, Flavel Jay, is a computer software developer and is married to Megan (Knilands) formerly of Roberts. She is currently a doctoral candidate in Statistics at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. Their second son, Forrest, is completing his 3rd year of Law School at the University of Illinois and is currently interning with the Meyer Capel Law Offices. Their daughter Claire is currently a senior at PBL High School.

In the past Diane has served on the Gibson Area Hospital Home Health Care Committee and said that she is excited to be on the Foundation Board. "I enjoyed my work with the GAH Health Care Committee and this opportunity with the GAH Foundation Board excites me because I will be able to continue to serve my community."

Katherine Austman, M.D. Bill Herriott, P.A.

Family Practice including Maternity Care 122 E. Wabash St. • Forrest, IL 61741 815-657-8707

George Bark, M.D., PhD

Family Practice

Paxton Clinic

227 N. Market St. • Paxton, IL 60957 217-379-4864

(2nd location)

Family Health Care of Hoopeston

837 E. Orange St. • Hoopeston, IL 60942 217-283-5530

Benjamin Brewer, M.D. Bill Herriott, P.A.

Family Practice including Maternity Care 122 E. Wabash St. • Forrest, IL 61741 815-657-8707

Joseph Y. Chung, M.D. * *

General Surgery #1 Doctors Park • Gibson City, IL 60936 217-784-4297

Chris Dangles, M.D.** Laura Brinkley, A.P.N.

Orthopaedic Surgery #10 Doctors Park • Gibson City, IL 60936 217-784-4340

Gregory J. Delost, M.D. * *

Family Practice #3 Doctors Park • P.O. Box 525 Gibson City, IL 60936 217-784-4030

Richard P. Foellner, D.O. Lisa Oakley, F.N.P.-P.N.P. Celia Hethke, R.N.C., A.N.P., A.P.N.

Family Practice and Anti-Aging 227 N. Market St. • Paxton, IL 60957 217-379-4864

Sue Gray, F.N.P. Wamaitha Sullivan, F.N.P.

109 N. Chestnut • Onarga, IL 60955 815-268-4840

David J. Hagan, M.D. * * Mary Allen, C.N.P. * *

Family Practice and Geriatrics
222 N. Sangamon Ave. • Gibson City, IL 60936
217-784-8148
(2nd location)
104 S. Third St. • Fisher, IL 61843

Jeremy Henrichs, M.D.

Family Practice and Sports Medicine 227 N. Market St. • Paxton, IL 60957 217-379-4864

Ishwar Jagasia, M.D.

Radiologist

217-897-1692

1120 N. Melvin Street • Gibson City, IL 60936 217-784-4251

Gary W. Kerber, M.D. **

Radiologist

1120 N. Melvin St. • Gibson City, IL 60936 217-784-4251

Cristina Medrano, M.D.

General Surgery Wound Care

No. 7 Doctors Park • Gibson City, IL 60936 217-784-5500

Scott Morgan, M.D.

Urologist

Outpatient Clinic

1120 N. Melvin • Gibson City, IL 60936 217-784-2340

Neil R. Nelson, M.D.** Anne-Marie Richmond, P.A.**

Internal Medicine and Pediatrics #8 Doctors Park • Gibson City, IL 60936 217-784-8580

Joseph Norris, M.D. **

Orthopaedic Surgery #10 Doctors Park • Gibson City, IL 60936 217-784-4340

William Price, M.D. Chris Nelson, P.A. Lori Fitton, A.P.N.

Orthopaedic Surgery #10 Doctors Park • Gibson City, IL 60936 217-784-4340

Bernadette Ray, M.D.

Family Practice including Maternity Care 227 N. Market St. • Paxton, IL 60957 217-379-4864

Darrin Ray, M.D. Kara Moody, F.N.P.

Family Practice including Maternity Care 1230 George Rock Dr. • Farmer City, IL 61842 309-928-9192

Anthony L. San Diego, M.D. * *

General Surgery #1 Doctors Park • Gibson City, IL 60936 217-784-4297

Mark M. Spangler, M.D. * *

Family Practice #3 Doctors Park • P.O. Box 272 Gibson City, IL 60936 217-784-4030

Chad Tattini, M.D.

Cosmetic and Reconstructive Plastic Surgery 1117 N. Melvin • Gibson City, IL 60936 217-784-2238

Rachel Wenger, M.D.

Family Practice including Maternity Care
Family Health Care of Fairbury
401 S. Clay St. • Fairbury, IL 61739
815-692-1150



The following is a listing of Gifts of Love received May 14 through September 7, 2011. As you read through the list you will see that contributions can be made in memory of someone, in honor of a person, in recognition of a special occasion (birthday, anniversary, new baby) or accomplishment.

Gifts of Love

In Memory

Marie Barnes

Noel & Carol Hutchcraft Darrel & Carol Kroon

Weldon "Deke" Benway

Jerry & Durlene Lawless Kimberly Benway Mr. & Mrs. Dale Farney

Edwin Biefeldt

Joyce Lindelof

Velma Biehl

For the Annex

Glenn & Mildred Davis

Peg Godsey

Adolph Bielfeldt

Elinor Nelson **Erma Borchers**

Joyce Lindelof

James Bridgwater

DTHS Class of 1948

Melody Cochran

Larry & Ursula Hustedt

Vivian Comer

For the Annex

Ron & Wanda Baird Terry & Cindy Bell

Family & Friends

Don & Janet Jensen

Gail & Vicki Reiners

Michael & Pat Tipsord

Douglas & Patricia Troyer

For Annex Activities

Neva Rohrer

For the General Fund

Gayle & Judy Glascock **Ted Swanson**

Fred & Mary Friday Florence Hensen

Tony Heideman

Jane Froidcoeur

Ted Kendrick

Dorothy Hendricks

Chris Thorp

Frank Henry

For the Annex

William & Jean Arends Donald & Sherilyn Bathgate

Weldon Benway

Ron & Carol Bielfeldt

Larry & Donna Dueringer

Mildred Ferri

Philip & Pat Goembel

Erma Jean Hamilton

Cheryl Hampstead Family

Curt & Lori Hinrichs

Jerry & Durlene Lawless Camilla Lohmeyer

Norvin & Rose Martin

Howard & Jo Nettleton

Paul & Patricia Reitz

Amy Jo Rohrer

Steve & Kathy Swearingen

Don & Carol Tjarks

Mr. & Mrs. E. L. Vetter

For the General Fund

Dan & Fay Gentes

Roger & Edna Huppert

Erma Hoover

Jane Froidcoeur

J. D. Hutchcraft

Ron & Betty Meiners

Catherine Gail Kincade

Darlene Bell

Norvin & Rose Martin

Irene Schaefer

Goldie Kincade

Gayle & Judy Glascock

Pat Miller

Gayle & Judy Glascock

Marilyn Morano

Helen Dueringer

Noel & Carol Hutchcraft

Darrel & Carol Kroon

Nancy List

Genevieve Nickrent

Helen Dueringer

Gayle & Judy Glascock

Donna Poe

Jane Froidcoeur

Ronald Probus

Village of Siblev

Grace Redmond

Jeff & Cheryl Bond

Doris Cox Jerry & Durlene Lawless

Mary Schuler

Robert & Beverly Zebarth

Jane Sharp

For the OB Department

Geraldine Gravlin

Gene & Lisa Heap

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Chris Thorp

Marilyn Shields

For the Annex

Gibson Area Music

Foundation

For the General Fund

Loren & LeEtta Bane

Jeff & Cheryl Bond

Class of 1948

Jan Culbertson

John & Ruth Davis

Herb & Mary Green

Peter Hartford

Tom Hartford

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Dwaine & Barbara Horsch

Val Hunt

Larry & Ursula Hustedt David & Deborah Keith

Joyce Keith

John & Susan Kollross

Lisa Kramer

Darrel & Carol Kroon

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Gary & Judy Reitz

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Roger Shields

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Steve & Kathy Swearingen

Frank & Lynne Titus Thomas & Janet Townsend

Barbara Williams

Sharla Williams

Virginia Williams

Richard & Rebecca Young

Leoan Stevens

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19-34 Club - Canasta

Don & Milly Alexander

Larry & Janet Butler Howard & Kathy Eagleson

Family & Friends George & Leann Hale

Vernon Jacobs **Lorraine Kingsley**

Dean & Sharon Stevens

Gene & Anna Stevens James & Lorene Wick

James & Bonnie Wurmnest Wallace & Betty Ann Yoder

Martha Zimmerman

Nancy Taylor

Gayle & Judy Glascock

Paul Verkler

Richard & Dorothy Shields

Louis & Gertrude Wissmiller

Pamela Norris

Charles & Mary Rhoda

In Honor of

Curly & Jan McNutt's 50th Wedding Anniversary

Florence Hensen

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Mark & Jill Arends

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Kenneth Kulow

Tim & Miranda Leonard

Brian Lozier

Denise McMahan

Dianna McMurry Clyde & Mary Alice McRae

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Robbin Peeken

Cindi Philipchuck

Deborah Robbins

Neva Rohrer

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Brian Slinde

Paul & Mildred Sunderland Somchai & Amporn

Supawanich

Theresa Swift

Chad & Sheila Vaughn Rebecca Wainwright Steve & Marsha Warsaw Ron & Eileen Woolums

Golf Outing

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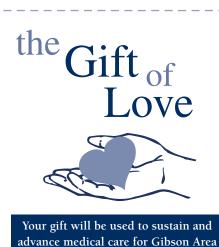
Dawn Merkle Steve & Rita Metz Melody Meyer **Robert Meyer** Midwest Energy Inc Midwest Energy Inc Joel & Melisa Moore Chad Morgan Scott & Janel Morgan Rodney & Brenda Mott Rodney & Brenda Mott John Newman M.D. One Earth Energy LLC OSF Saint Francis, Inc Paxton True Value, Inc Cindi Philipchuck William Price **RA Seeding Solutions** Radiation Protection Services, Ltd. Nick Roesch Terry & Tera Roesch Terri Rostek Ruyle Mechanical Services Salyards Insurance

Cody Schmidt
Tim Schmidt
Rob & Linda Schmitt
Joseph Setter
Steve & Greta Siemsen
Pramern Sriratana
Tony & Kat Streenz
The Fashion Store, Inc
Toll Packaging Group, LLC
Wilcox Electric & Service, Inc

Red Carpet Event

Mark & Jill Arends
Jeffrey & Katherine Austman
Millie Baier
Chris Dangles M.D.
Tracy & Lori Epps
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