

# MONTHLY PULSE

*The latest events, community news, and much more!*

## Upcoming Events

- HCHS Lab Fair - 11/7
- Veteran's Day - 11/11
- National Rural Health Day - 11/19
- Thanksgiving - 11/26
- Lung Cancer Awareness Month

## HAPPY HCHS ANNIVERSARY!

- Kylee Noonan - 11/1 - 8 years
- Brooke Langley - 11/1 - 8 years
- Christel Wilson - 11/4 - 7 years
- Carla Mapes - 11/6 - 3 years
- Karen Wright - 11/8 - 20 years
- Elaine Rosane - 11/9 - 11 years
- Charity Kindler - 11/19 - 6 years
- Jane Robison - 11/20 - 12 years

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

- Foundation Meeting - 11/10
- Trustees Meeting - 11/16

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- Brooke Langley - 11/3
- Amy Bunch - 11/6
- Dr. Finkner - 11/20
- Diane Fegter - 11/25



***"Hard work doesn't guarantee success, but it improves its chances."***



## DR. FINKNER NAMED FIRST CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HCHS

For nearly 20 years, Dr. Mike Finkner, has been a crucial member of Harlan County Health System. Not only as a dedicated and trustworthy Physician, but also as a friend, a colleague, and some may even say family. He has made a tremendous impact on our community and we're so thrilled for him to continue making one as our FIRST EVER Chief Medical Officer! This is a new position to HCHS and we feel that this is the right step to take in order to improve our services even more for the Harlan County community and surrounding areas.

As the Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Finkner, will overlook the entire medical staff and will also be involved in the strategic planning and operations of HCHS, but will still continue his normal clinical activity. He will be a part of the Senior Administrative Council, which will involve our CEO, CMO, CNO, CFO, and our Division Director of Professional/Support Services. Finkner will attend meetings for this council, as well as attend the monthly Board of Trustees meeting. He will also be more involved in community activities that Harlan County Health System is regularly a part of.

In his new role, Dr. Finkner will be working closely with the Senior Administrative Council on program development. His familiarity with physicians in Kearney will make it easier to form those connections and hopefully start bringing new programs to HCHS. More specifically, we've been working closely with Kearney Regional Medical Center and Platte Valley Medical Group. Two highly, respectable organizations that could bring amazing new services to HCHS. As always, Dr. Finkner's main goal is to better improve patient experience. Through this added role, he'll do his best to help support those improvements in any way possible.

Harlan County Health System and the Board of Trustees look forward to what Dr. Finkner will be able to accomplish as the Chief Medical Officer. We have full confidence in him, as should the entire community. The future of HCHS is very promising and we should all be very excited for what's to come!

FROM THE DESK OF  
**DR. PATRICK AUMAN**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear team,

It's hard to believe that it's already November and that the year is quickly coming to an end soon! We've accomplished many things in the short amount of time that I've been here so far and I'm proud of everyone's hard work each and every day, as this has been a very stressful year for all. COVID numbers have been rising in our community, but I feel our team has handled everything very well up to this point. Keep it up!

Not only have we been struck with a pandemic this year, but we've also been challenged to fill some very important positions in our health system. Our most recent hires include a new CFO, Shelli Shelton and Dr. Finkner has accepted the position as our first ever Chief Medical Officer. We're very excited to have our executive team completed now and look forward to their contributions to HCHS. I am also pleased to announce that we have a new PA joining our provider team, Matthew Gatlin. Be sure to make our new team members feel welcome and help them out if needed!

The Fiscal Budget for 2021 is coming together and we plan to present it to the board this month. We're also working on adding several new services to HCHS. I recently went to visit the CEO of Kearney Regional, Bill Calhoun, about future opportunities for our health system. Including our recent partnership with Kearney Regional Medical Center for all of our Information Technology needs. The IT Director, Jerry Waddel, and his team have been here several times in the last few weeks working to get everything transferred over to their system. They will be available 24/7 and will be make in-house visits when needed. This will be a huge improvement for us and we look forward to building a lasting relationship with them!

A Studer plan has been created for our health system to begin implementing very soon. There will be some supplemental reading, as well as online courses to take. Your department heads will be in charge of communicating with you what will need to be completed each month. We're looking forward to finally getting things rolling and really encourage everyone to put forth their best effort to fully participate. We want HCHS to be a part of the best and this is a key step in order to reach that goal.

Lastly, we've got several appreciation activities coming up for our staff. Hopefully they'll brighten everyone's day and encourage you all to keep working hard. Be on the look out for more details on dates/times. I hope you all have a wonderful November...let's keep showing our community what a wonderful health system HCHS is!

Best Regards,  
Dr. Patrick Auman

# HCHS FOUNDATION *BINGO postponed until 2021*

The Foundation board has made the difficult decision to postpone all bingo nights until 2021 due to the rise of COVID-19 cases within our community. We want to not only protect ourselves, but our community as well. However, we do have a new fundraiser going on right now...you should've received more information about it via email. We are selling all unique, hand-crafted Alma Cardinal gear (shirts, sweatshirts, etc.) that can be purchased by following the link here (insert link). 15% of the sales will be donated directly back to the Foundation. You'll not only get to support a wonderful cause, but rep our local school as well. Orders will be due Nov. 11th at the latest. If you want them by Christmas, you must order no later than Nov. 1st.

## AVAILABLE POSITIONS

- Medical Technologist\*
- Medical Laboratory Tech.\*
- RN or LPN\*
- Patient Care Technician

\*Indicates a sign-on bonus.

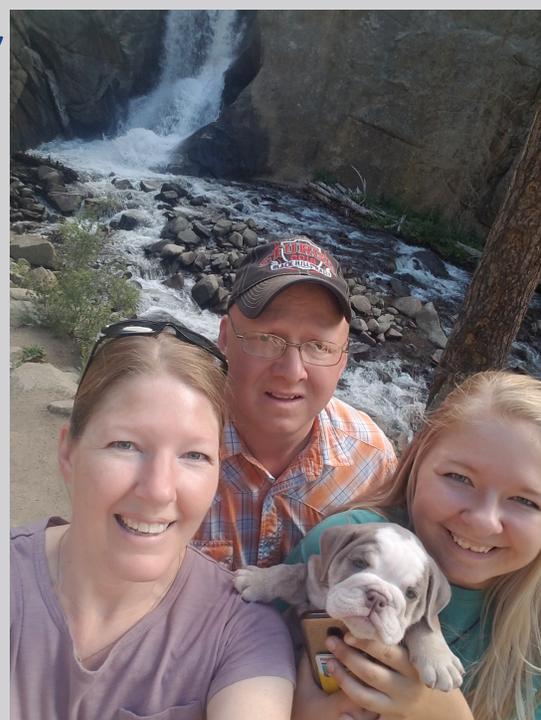
## MEET THE NEW HIRES!

- Shelli Shelton - CFO
- Gina Prtichard - Patient Care Tech.
- Donna Kindler - Purchasing Clerk

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT: *Laurel Barwick*

- This month's employee spotlight is, Laurel Barwick.
- She is our HIM clerk and has been with HCHS for 19 years! What she loves most about her job are the people she gets to work with and the variety of things she gets to do. In her free time she enjoys spending time with her family & pups, and also loves to bake new recipes. Laurel is also an Avon rep, she enjoys traveling and relaxing at home when she can. One of her biggest weaknesses is sweets and if she could travel anywhere it'd be to any cabin by a lake.

Thank you for all you do for HCHS!



# *the* **HARLAN HERO**

Congrats to, Karen Wright, for being this month's 'Harlan Hero.' This award was presented based on their ability to go above and beyond normal work duties, as well as their teamwork and commitment to HCHS. Way to go, Karen!

Last Month's Nominations:

- 1. Karen Wright
- 2. Kevin Meek
- 3. Sam Dietz
- 4. Renae Pool
- 5. Carli Whetstine
- 6. Amanda Spady
- 7. Mary Jo Christensen
- 8. Shannon Lynch

This Month's Nominations:

- 1. Shannon Lynch
- 2. Karen Wright
- 3. Christel Wilson
- 4. Diane Fegter
- 5. Jana Cochran
- 6. Jason Calhoon



## **HAPPY RETIREMENT!**

After nearly 13 years, Kelley Pollard has decided to retire from HCHS. Due to gathering restrictions though, her party has been postponed and we will keep you all informed once we're able to set a new date. However, we still wish, Kelley, a happy retirement and hope she enjoys all her free time!

## **UPCOMING STAFF EVENTS:**

- 1. Tailgate Lunch - 11/6
- 2. 🍕 Pizza Party - 11/12





# NOVEMBER

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## LUNG CANCER

AWARENESS MONTH

November is Lung Cancer Awareness month! 1 in 15 Americans will be diagnosed with lung cancer.

Although it typically takes about 3-6 months for most lung cancers to double their size, a low-dose CT screening can: 1. Detect lung cancer at earlier stages and 2. Provide results using less radiation than a standard chest CT scan. Make it a priority - talk about screening!

AUXILIARY



## Gift Baskets

FOR SALE

The Auxiliary will be selling gift baskets on the HCHS FB page. There will be a set bid and will close at noon on Friday of each week. These would make great holiday gifts! Raffle tickets also need to be turned in by Nov. 30. The drawing will take place on Dec. 1

## UPCOMING EVENTS:



### Alma Cardinals

- 11/9 - One Act Competition - @North Platte High School - 3PM-6PM
- 11/17 - JH Wrestling @Alma - 2PM
- 11/24 JH GBB - vs. SO Valley - 2:30 PM

## BENEFITS SPOTLIGHT:

### ***Flex Spending Account***

A flexible spending account is a pre-tax benefit account that's used to pay for eligible medical, dental, and vision care expenses that are not covered by your healthcare plan or elsewhere. With an FSA, you use pre-tax dollars to pay for out-of-pocket healthcare expenses up to a maximum amount.

- 11/3 - Fall Fine Arts Festival - 6:30 PM
  - 11/10 High School Play - 7 PM & 8 PM
  - 11/17 - JH GBB vs. Arapahoe - 2:30 PM
- SO. Valley Eagles**





This year's Holiday Preview will take place on **Nov. 20th in downtown Alma from 5 PM - 7 PM.** The Auditorium will be closed, but all other businesses will be open with special sales, giveaways, etc. This is a great excuse to start your holiday shopping and you'll be supporting the local community!

## 5 SURPRISING HEALTH BENEFITS OF TURKEY

1. Turkey is rich in amino acid L-tryptophan, which produces sleep-promoting serotonin and melatonin.
2. Removing the turkey skin takes out much of the fat content
3. Turkey is very high in protein
4. Improves Eyesight
5. Turkey is high in selenium, a mineral that supports your immune system and acts as a powerful antioxidant that promotes heart and thyroid health



This year I am thankful for \_\_\_\_\_.

The holiday season is quickly approaching, have you got your dessert recipes ready?! Here are 34 of the best Thanksgiving pie recipes that'll sure be hit for all of your guests! [Thanksgiving Pie Recipes.](#)

This year is coming to an end quick! Although, it's been a crazy and uncertain year, there's still something to always be thankful for. What are you thankful for this year?! Share what you are thankful for on the bulletin board by the kitchen!