Congratulations, Kelly Davidson
Kansas Health Care Worker of the Year

“The measure of achievement is not winning awards. It’s doing something that you appreciate, something you believe is worthwhile.” Julia Child
Fall is here! This is one of my favorite times of the year. The brisk air in the morning, football, homecoming and the associated parades—it’s a great time to see people gathering and having a good time. That is small town living at its best!

I want to apologize for not having a column last month and probably delaying the publication of The Insider for September. Our family lost our cat of 16 years, Kitty. (I know, real original, right?) For whatever reason, probably that darn cat, I just didn’t have it in me to write. He was a $15 cat who wound up costing thousands of dollars in medical bills, but his companionship and his presence were worth every dollar. We still miss him every day. We are so grateful to have had Dr. Thorpe and his crew to help us with all of Kitty’s needs and care. Again, small town living at its best!

Ok, on to positive things.

Congratulations to Kelly Davidson for being selected one of the Kansas Hospital Association’s Health Care Workers of the Year at the recent convention in Wichita. We also congratulate Stephanie Weston and Maggie Ele for being name Outstanding CNA/CMA of the Year and Outstanding Dietary Aid of the Year, respectively, at the recent Kansas Health Care Association recognition luncheon. We are all so proud of you and are very blessed to have you on our team. This recognition is very well-deserved.

Finally, I want to thank Tracy Campbell and Virginia DuBuke for all of their work on the recent nomination of the entire CHS Leadership Team for the American Hospital Association Rural Hospital Leadership Team Award for Small or Rural Hospitals that will be announced in November. As I have said several times recently, no matter the outcome, I feel like we are already winners!

Thank you, everyone, for all you do!

Leonard R. Hernandez
Chief Executive Officer

Cleaning out your closet?
Kids outgrowing shoes every other day?
Teenager hoarding shoes under the bed?

Don’t throw those old shoes away!

Coffey Health Foundation will conduct a shoe collection this fall to benefit the “From Day One” obstetrics campaign.

All shoes collected will be weighed and proceeds will be determined by the total weight. The shoes are then sent to charities in developing nations – so your generosity helps newborns here at Coffey County Hospital AND people around the world who desperately need shoes. All types and sizes are welcome.

Collection points and details will be announced later.
Coffey Health System is partnering with the Burlington school district to support the “Bridges” program. During the August board meeting, Chief Quality Officer Stacy Augustyn explained that the program offers job opportunities for young adults ages 18 to 21, who benefit from job training. Two participants have since begun work at Coffey County Hospital.

“(The school) approached us with this new grant-funded program for students 18 to 21 years old who’ve taken all of the high school classes that they can—most have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or some sort of a special need. They’ve named the program ‘Bridges’ so they can bridge from high school to the work force.”

Participants work two hours a day, five days a week, and are accompanied by an individual career coach at all times. Augustyn has developed policies for participants and their job coaches, who are all held to the same accountability as all CHS employees.

“Hopefully, when they turn 21 and they phase out of this program, they’ll have a skillset where they can go out and get a job,” Augustyn said. “We are going through the application process with them, interviewing with them, and trying to make this as lifelike as possible. They will do an internship with us doing various tasks throughout the facility.”

Chief Operating Officer James Higgins also explained that the program follows the same calendar as the school district. If the job coach is ill or unable to attend work, the participant will not attend work on that day. If school is cancelled due to inclement weather, Bridges is also cancelled.

Bridges also fits within the scope of CHS’s strategic plan and community needs assessment by filling a need within the community and another opportunity for the hospital and school to work together.

Within the consent agenda, the board approved seven new appointment to the medical staff. These include Physician Assistant Kaitlin Vaughn, dermatology; Cardiologist Klomjit Saranapoom, M.D.; and five Teleradiologists, Bradley Baker, M.D., Sean Burns, M.D., David Huyette, M.D., Jeffrey Judd, M.D., and William Mehard, M.D. Seven providers were approved for reappointment: Oncologist Adrian Caracioni, M.D.; Cardiologist Chen Chow, M.D.; Emergency Department Nurse Practitioner Mary Cummings; Teleneurologist Jonathan Scott, M.D.; Gastroenterology Nurse Practitioner Jayda Rupp; Pathologist Indira Valamani, M.D.; and Cardiology Nurse Practitioner Diane Wilkins.

In follow-up to discussion at the July meeting, the board revised Section 1.8.5 of the bylaws to read, “Trustees must be mindful that when representing themselves as a CHS board member, that in essence the individual is representing the entire Board of Trustees and CHS, and be mindful of any potential ramifications and respect for other board members and the System.”

Executive Finance Committee Chair JoAnn Osburn reported that July financials show net profit at $2.08 million and expenses at $2.14 for a slight loss of just over $57.

Shell and Hernandez are meeting with area providers to increase surgical procedures at Coffey County Hospital.

In other business, Shell reported on activities of Coffey Health Foundation, including a NASCAR “Stay & Play” raffle and the October 12 “Night in the Country” fundraising event.
Workplace Health & Safety

Use and inspect personal protective equipment and tools

Personal protective equipment (PPE) is used to reduce or minimize the exposure or contact to injurious physical, chemical, ergonomic, or biological agents. A hazard cannot be eliminated by personal protective equipment, but the risk of injury can be reduced.

- Make sure to wear the proper personal protective equipment for every job and task based on the potential risks;
- Make sure the personal protective equipment is in good working condition and properly fits the employee wearing it;
- Wear personal protective equipment when cleaning up spills or other material, such as broken glass or plywood;
- Wear basic personal protective equipment such as closed-toe shoes and safety glasses while performing housekeeping;
- Regularly inspect, clean and fix tools, and remove any damaged tools from the work station.

Job Openings

Clinical Positions
- Registered Nurse
- Ortho Mid-level Practitioner
- Mid-level Practitioners (ER & Clinic)
- CMA/CNA (LTCU)
- CNA (day & evenings CCH, LTCU, HHA)
- LPN or RN (YCMC)
- Medical Technologist
- Physical Therapist
- Speech Therapist
- Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant
- Radiology/CT Tech
- Certified Dietary Manager

Non-clinical Positions
- Cook
- Cook/Dietary Aide
- Dietary Aide/Dishwasher
- Dietary Aide
- Environmental Service Aide
- Environmental Service Tech
- Maintenance Technician
- Patient Care Coordinator
- Receptionist

Visit coffeyhealth.org/careers for detailed information and requirements. For more information, call Ext. 4254.

Congratulations!

Stephanie Weston and Maggie Ele were honored by the Kansas Health Care Association for their exception care at Sunset Manor, the long-term care division of Coffey Health System. Photos from the award luncheon and a full article will be in the October issue of The Insider, but if you see Stephanie and Maggie, be sure to congratulate them!

Great job, Stephanie and Maggie!
Congratulations, Kelly Davidson,

Kansas

Health Care Worker of the Year

Longevity is hard to come by in today’s world, but Kelly Davidson is an exception. She began her nursing career at Coffey County Hospital as an aide in high school. Four decades later, she is a License Practical Nurse and a pillar of professionalism and compassion. On September 6, she was awarded the Kansas Hospital Association’s Health Care Worker of the Year Award.

In May, Kelly was elected by her colleagues as the Coffey Health System Health Care Worker of the Year, securing her nomination to the state level. She was among 14 nominees from hospitals across Kansas.

“On behalf of the board and all of our staff, I congratulate Kelly,” said Chief Executive Officer Leonard Hernandez. “Kelly is an example of everything we hope for in a nurse. But, more importantly, she is everything our patients hope for in a nurse.”

To read more about Kelly’s career of caring for our patients, visit the June issue of The Insider at www.coffeyhealth.org/HumanResources/EmployeeNews/.

Kelly was joined at the KHA Awards Luncheon by her husband, Mark (second in back row), and members of her CHS family: (front row) Trustees Jodi Thomas and JoAnn Osburn, Melissa Hall, Juanita White, Joni Hernandez, and Terri Tweedy and (back row) James Higgins and Leonard Hernandez. Virginia DuBuke was on the other side of the camera.
Ladies, it’s time!
Register now for the CHS Women’s Health Conference

An annual tradition continues on October 9 with Coffey Health System’s 27th Annual Women’s Health Conference. The event takes place in the commons area and theater at Burlington High School. A social hour with appetizers begins at 5 p.m. in the commons area. Presentations begin in the theater at 6:30 p.m.

The Women’s Health Conference combines lifesaving information with a fun atmosphere. Women of all ages are welcome. Admission is free, but advanced registration is requested. Call (620) 364-2121 Ext. 4174 or register online at www.coffeyhealth.org. Only pre-registered participants will be eligible for door prizes.

“We look forward to this event each year, but this marks a special occasion as we celebrate the arrival of 3D mammography at Coffey County Hospital,” said CHS Marketing Director Tracy Campbell. “3D is a game changer for everyone! This is the same technology found at big hospitals, and we can’t wait to introduce it to the community at the Women’s Health Conference.”

Peggy Sanders will share information about Hologic’s state-of-the-art Genius™ 3D Mammography™. The new screening technology provides a three-dimensional image of the breast using several low-dose x-ray images from different angles. Providers are able to see a clearer, more detailed image of breast tissue allowing for earlier detection of breast cancer.

Participants will also learn about new services at Coffey Health System from Speech-Language Pathologist Jessica Jones.

“Jessica is doing amazing work with both children and adults,” Campbell said. “Her services are having a tremendous impact with speech, swallowing, memory, and communication skills in ways that most people would never imagine. It’s not just ‘speech,’ these services help individuals with autism, Parkinson’s, Alzheimer’s Disease, dementia, and much more.”

Participants will also meet Lucinda Schneider, A.P.R.N, who offers an endocrinology clinic at Coffey County Hospital. Schneider’s practice is based at Stormont-Vail Health in Topeka. She

Join us to learn about our NEW 3D mammography!

Social hour at 5:00
Presentations 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Burlington High School
Register online at www.coffeyhealth.org or (620) 364-2121 Ext. 4174.
Thank you, Thyra!

We sincerely thank Thyra Davis for her generous donation of a new chair for the lab’s draw room. Thyra made the gift in memory of her husband, John.

This thoughtful and kind gift will make blood draws a little more comfortable for our patients. Thank you, Thyra.

Shown here, Thyra is joined by Laboratory Supervisor Jana Morray, Phlebotomist Tammy Fanning, and Chief Executive Officer Leonard Hernandez.

A Night in the Country

October 12, 2019
6-9 p.m.

Coffey Health Foundation presents “A Night in the Country”
Events 181, 181 11th Road, Hartford
All proceeds benefit the makeover of the birthing rooms at Coffey County Hospital.

Visit Coffey Health Foundation on Facebook for more information and to purchase tickets.

Win a NASCAR fan’s dream Stay & Play Package!

Race day Oct. 20
Raffle tickets $5 each or 3 for $10
Proceeds benefit renovation of birthing rooms at Coffey County Hospital.
Drawing Oct. 4 at the Yates Center homecoming football game.

Package includes:
$500 Cash
Hotel Accommodations Oct. 19 at County Inn & Suites by Radisson at The Legends
NASCAR VIP Package includes:
• 1 Parking pass
• Pre-race Access to sign the start/finish line, watch the pre-race concert on infield grass, visit Fanwalk & Gatorade Victory Lane, get close to the pit road
• Two seats close to Hospitality Village
• Two tickets to Hospitality Village
(Total prize package $1300 value)

Purchase tickets at:
Any Coffey Health System facility
Citizens State Bank
Trustpoint Insurance & Real Estate
American Family Insurance

Proudly sponsored by

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Shown here, Thyra is joined by Laboratory Supervisor Jana Morray, Phlebotomist Tammy Fanning, and Chief Executive Officer Leonard Hernandez.
For the eleventh straight year, Friends of Coffey Health System earned the Gold Award of Excellence from the Hospital Auxiliaries of Kansas. Co-chairs Lois Brinkman & Sherry Voland accepted the award on behalf of our wonderful volunteers. To earn this award, the auxiliary must meet 17 criteria, including a service project, scholarship presentation, membership recruitment, participation in legislative activities, and several reports. Congratulations!

New cookies are in the gift shop. Prices are now .40 cent per cookie or 3 for $1.10. The volunteers have also decorated the gift shop beautifully with new fall decor. Be sure to swing by, take a look, and grab a snack!
You can Help a Soldier Stationed Overseas

You can easily brighten the day of a local soldier stationed overseas! For the eleventh year, Friends of Coffey Health System is compiling care packages to send to local troops stationed overseas, including canine units. Everyday items such as toiletry/hygiene items; snacks; playing cards; crossword/Sudoku books; gently-used magazines, CDs & books; and leftover Halloween candy are greatly appreciated by service men and women deployed overseas.

Additional names and addresses are also being sought of military personnel who are stationed overseas. If you know of someone who should receive one of these care packages, call the project coordinator Linda Booth at (620) 364-8015 or the hospital gift shop at 364-2121 Ext. 4267.

A soldier in the 1st Infantry Division (The Big Red One) wrote, “Your gifts bless us this holiday season and brought us a taste of home ... one soldier even remarked that this was the only mail and gift he received this year. Thank you for making that possible and for being a blessing to so many.”

Over the past ten years, Friends of Coffey Health System have collected and sent 1,170 care packages. Last year alone, they shipped 200 flat-rate boxes to four different military units including four canine units. Monetary donations help to cover postage expenses and purchase additional goods. Monetary donations can be made at the hospital gift shop located at the main entrance of Coffey County Hospital. The care packages also include handwritten cards and letters from local schoolchildren.

“There are so many ways to participate and help us reach even more soldiers,” said volunteer Linda Booth. “Individuals, families, churches, businesses, and civic groups can help collect items or contribute toward the postage expense. We also welcome help in putting together these care packages filled with everyday items like personal hygiene products, snacks, and books, which might not seem like much to us, but are powerful morale boosters and are greatly appreciated by the soldiers who receive them.”

Collection boxes are placed in the Coffey County Hospital gift shop, Hoover’s Thriftway, and the Coffey County Register of Deeds Office. Other civic groups are also involved in the collection process. Volunteers will collect items until November 1.

Friends of Coffey Health System will have tables set up at Hoover’s Thriftway on October 5th and 19th.

“We’re grateful to Hoover’s for working with us and making it easy for their patrons to participate,” Booth said. “Shoppers can pick up a list of requested items as they enter the store, then drop off their donations with our volunteers on their way back out.”

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Women’s Health Conference

You can Help a Soldier Stationed Overseas

joined the CCH Specialty Clinic team earlier this year.

Participants are invited to help the hospital auxiliary, Friends of Coffey Health System, with their annual military care package project.

“We are excited to once again partner with the auxiliary to send care packages to female soldiers stationed overseas. We’ll have a special booth during social hour and invite everyone to bring a little something to brighten holidays,” Campbell explained. “Things that we take for granted are actually great luxuries to female soldiers in foreign lands. Items such as travel-sized toiletries or lotions, hair bands, lip balm, magazines, books, or socks are greatly appreciated.”

Visit coffeyhealth.org for more information about the Women’s Health Conference and the military care package project.

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SUGGESTED CARE PACKAGE ITEMS

- Deodorant
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Lip balm
- Sunblock (non-aerosol)
- Clorox wipes
- Baby wipes
- Feminine hygiene products
- Body wash
- Laundry pods
- Small coffee, tea, cocoa
- Single-serve food items
- Instant foods
- Crackers/cheese
- Protein bars, healthy snacks
- Dried fruit, nuts
- Microwaveable popcorn
- Instant soup
- Small canned meats
- Fruit cups
- Beef jerky
- Microwaveable meals
- Socks
- Gently used magazines, CDs, books
- Playing cards
- Crossword puzzle books
- Sudoku books
- Writing materials, pens
- Holiday cards
- Water enhancers
- Travel-size tissues
- Lotion, hand sanitizer
- Razors
- Foot care items
- Leftover Halloween candy

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Items for canine units
- Kong brand rubber balls
- Canine shampoo & conditioner
- Canine eyewash
- Made in USA treats
- Collapsible nylon dog bowls
- Large rope chews
- Booties
- Goggles
**Note of Thanks**

Dear hospital staff,
Thank you for the lovely retirement party and beautiful fern. I already have a place for the fern and it looks lovely.
Much love to my Coffey County Hospital family,
Toni Ahlgrim

Dear Mr. Hernandez,
Thank you so much for your generous donation to the Burlington Lions Club vision screening activities through the work of your employees. Your support is changing lives in your community and state each day.
Sincerely,
Burlington Lions Club
Wanda Weldin, Secretary

Thank you for your contribution to Friends of Coffey Health in my mom’s name (Sharon Boehm). Your kindness is greatly appreciated.
The family of Julie Scott

I thank each and every one of you as nice and kind as any medical facility I have ever been in. Thank you very much!
Sincerely,
Gynn

**Condolences**

Our sincere condolences to Becky Houston on the loss of her father on September 7.

Congratulations to **Samantha Kuhlmann**, CCMC and husband John on the birth of their baby, Athena Anne weighing 7 lb. 14 oz. on August 23.

Congratulations to **Belinda Link**, Med-Surg for 40 years of service!

Congratulations to **Jordan Janzen**, radiology and husband Ryan on the birth of their baby, Brynlee Paige weighing 7 lb. 11 oz. on September 6.

**Brynlee Paige**

**Athena Anne**
Each year the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services conducts direct surveys of nursing home residents. Sunset Manor residents gave the staff and facility 100 percent scores for overall satisfaction and willingness to recommend Sunset Manor to others. They also placed Sunset in the high 90s for quality of care, quality of life, and quality of service.

Jeanerosty raised $144 on Sept. 6. This month’s contributions were distributed to the Coffey County Cancer Support Group. Thank you so much for your continued support!!

Kudos to The Meadows staff for all the fun activities, food, and preparation for Assisted Living Week! It was appreciated and enjoyed by the residents.

When the bungy cord broke on the marketing department’s travel cart, Amilia Marchant, clinic, replaced it herself with two very sturdy new cords. What a kind and generous gesture!

Amilia also received a kudo from Stacy Augustyn who writes, “She is always willing to help and has a smile on her face! I really appreciate her.”

Thank you to Toby Paige for helping to get our Bridges participants started with us!

Kudos to Bridges participant Adrian Schulte. We received a wonderful compliment from a patient who said that Adrian was kind, cheerful and really just brightened their day!

Simeon Ogundiran, lab, co-authored two scholarly articles that were published in the Journal of Environmental Science, Toxicology and Food Technology and Involvement of Schistosoma Haematobium in Hepatic Injury in Papa Village, Southeast Niger. Watch for more information in the October Insider and on social media. We’re very proud that Simeon is sharing his expertise and representing CHS on a national scale.

Thank you to Terri Tweedy for all that she does. She works quietly behind the scenes, but the impact she makes is HUGE to our organization.

Marketing has been getting drone video of CHS facilities, but hit a snag at The Meadows. The facilities team saved the scene by putting a fresh coat of paint on the top of the sign. Thanks so much!

Terri Johnson went above and beyond for this year’s outage MRO processing and keeping up with her regularly assigned job duties.

Mallory Luney jumped in to help CCMC registration when short-staffed and during high patient volumes.

A big thank you goes out to the Sunset Manor CNAs, RNs, and LPNs for stepping up to cover shifts as we have been short and also recently have an increased resident population. There is a reason you are NUMBER 1!!

A patient took the time to write thank you cards to Michelle Sellman and Kelsey Jones for taking such good care of them during their surgical procedure.

A nurse writes: “My mother-in-law recently went to Joan Kuhlmann for dry needling and she just kept saying how wonderful she was and much she loved Joan.”
Our employees are our greatest resource. Each month, we include a list of employees who will celebrate their anniversary with Coffey Health System. Here's to each of you, and thank you for your service to our patients!

Domains & Questions | Previous QTR April-June | Current QTR July-Current |
--- | --- | --- |
Rate hospital 0-10 | 85% | 62% |
*Would recommend the hospital | 95% | 71% |
Communication with Nurses | 92% | 69% |
Response of Hospital Staff | 84% | 78% |
Communication with doctors | 92% | 71% |
Hospital Environment | 95% | 89% |
Communication about medicines | 70% | 58% |
Discharge information | 88% | 81% |
Care Transitions | 66% | 68% |
*Survey items in the top 10 priority index
*Based from 13 returned surveys.

Tena Hawkins 42 years
Belinda Link 40 years
Jolleen Palmer 21 years
Sara Grogg 18 years
Margaret Ele 16 years
James Turner 12 years
Melissa Davis 9 years
April Cox 8 years
Megan Bangs 7 years
Jennifer Newman, Kelly Petit 6 years
Gailyn Ledom 5 years
Leonard Hernandez 4 years
Heather Riley,
Laura Tovar-Ornelas, 3 years
Vicki Boyle, Kristen Hughes,
Rebecca Short 2 years
Angela Miller, Jennifer Schimmel,
Rhayne Snovelle, Craig Stukey 1 year

Environmental Service Week
Sept. 8-14
Assisted Living Week
Sept. 8-14
IT Professionals Day
Sept. 24

Rinsing your nose with salt water can help keep you healthy and ward off allergy symptoms.

It all started back in 1998 when I started working at the switchboard and later moved to outpatient clinic. That’s when I knew I wanted to be in the healthcare field. Just being around the medical side of things sparked an interest. I never really had one specific role model. I just always admired the work everyone around me did of helping patients.

I decided to go to nursing school. I have been an LPN for 17 years now and worked a couple other nursing jobs in between working at the hospital, but I really missed working with the hospital staff, so I came back in 2012.

Recently, I enrolled in nursing school. After working in healthcare, I wanted to learn and know more. I am excited to further my education and move on to being an RN.

Keri Criqui
Licensed Practical Nurse