



Wyoming Hospital Association

NEWSBRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

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Saying Goodbye to my Friend Sandy Ward

This past week, we said goodbye to a good friend, Sandy Ward. I was grateful to have a last chance to thank him and tell him how much his friendship and mentorship had meant to me.

My last time talking with Sandy was about old times including the time we skipped out on LeadingAge meetings in Thermopolis to make a mad dash to Dubois to see all the antlers on sale during the big antler show. We lamented the fact that we never made it to the big show in Jackson but then I reminded him he had enough antlers of his own to hold his own show. We talked about the many meetings we attended over the years in Jackson and how he tried to get his CEU certificate early so he could sneak out to see the wildlife.

We talked about our other friend, Dan Lex, that lost his battle to cancer years ago, and Sandy told me he hoped to be sitting under a tree with his friend Dan soon. When I received word Sunday morning, in my mind's eye, I could see their joyful reunion.

I am grateful I got a chance to tell Sandy how much he had meant to me and many other people around the state. He was a mentor to many of us and I am forever grateful for the example he was to me. He was passionate about his facility in Buffalo and

had spent more than 30 years serving his community and building a facility his community could be proud of. As a new nursing home administrator in the late 1990's there was no one better for me to learn from or example to follow. He was always available and willing to help in any way.

Not only did Sandy keep the hospital on budget for three decades, he has also brought state-of-the-art medical equipment to the facility and overseen the addition of new surgical, birthing and emergency room facilities, along with renovations of the center's clinic and nursing home.

Sandy was also proud of spearheading the effort to build the renovated Amie Holt Care Center.

Staff at the hospital learned a lot from Ward over the years. One of those things was how to be a servant.

"There was a time awhile ago when we were really low on CNAs," Schueler said. "Because of this, Sandy decided to receive CNA training so that he could fill in while we were trying to hire people."

As staff members reflected on Ward's love of chocolate and the time he pranked an employee by pretending to be a corpse, the fondness in their voices made it



clear that they were no longer talking about their boss. They were talking about a mentor. A friend. A father figure. Over 30 years, he had become like family to them.

There is no way to put in to words what an impact Sandy had on many of our lives or to extol all of his accomplishments and virtues. Needless to say, I learned a great deal from Sandy. He taught me courage and determination. He taught me love and humility. He taught me service and selflessness. He taught me unwavering faith and he taught me a lot about love as I watch his intense love for his wife and family.

I will never forget Sandy or the lessons I learned from him. I look forward to the day we will see each other again.

Services are pending and will be held at a later date. Donations to honor Sandy may be made to the Johnson County Hospital General Donation.

PAC CONTRIBUTORS 2018

Irene Richardson
Heidi Baskfield
Barry Burkart
Wyo Behavioral
Institute
Eric Boley
Doug Faus
Shelby Olind
Doug McMillan
Andy Fitzgerald
Margie Molitor
Ryan Smith
Mike McCafferty
Maureen Cadwell
Cheyenne
Regional Medical
Center
Patrick Madigan
Bren Lowe
Carol Solie, MD
Michele Chulick

Total to Date
\$6,550

Annual Goal
\$8,500

Washakie Hospital Raises the Bar in Services Offered

Don't forget to send us a story about your hospital so we can feature you in our Member Spotlight

Banner Health Washakie Medical Center CEO Jay Stallings states that one of the benefits of Banner Health partnering with the county is that the hospital can afford the newest and best equipment available.

During the hospital's \$25 million transformation a new state-of-the-art lab was created which has given the hospital the ability to do microbiology.

One of the first pieces of equipment to be upgraded in 2015 was the

mammogram technology called breast tomosynthesis. This technology creates a 3D image.

Completing the cancer department allows the hospital to offer full service cancer treatments with the exception of radiation oncology.

The hospital now offers procalcitonin which is sepsis detection. They also offer podiatry, wellness labs, aromatherapy, aesthetics such as chemical peels, Botox, cardiac and pulmonary rehab, stress testing, Holter monitors and home sleep studies.

With all the new technology and determination to be the best that they can be along with making sure that everyone is treated with kindness and respect, the hospital has been earning many recognitions in the state and nationally.



MHSC is Celebrating 125

Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County (MHSC) is celebrating 125 years serving the community.

Although the hospital's actual birthday is Dec. 2, they're starting the celebration early ... and, starting big.

There is a picture of the big birthday cake on the wall just inside the lobby

of the main entrance.

The hospital is asking for family birthday photos to share on the cake. Whether it's a picture of your grown child's first birthday or of a loved one who has since passed, they would be happy to post it on the wall. The more, the merrier.

Email photos to 125@sweetwatermemorial.com.

Copies of photos also can be dropped off at 1200 College Drive. However, make sure it's a copy.

The date of the birthday party will be Thursday, Nov. 8 at the hospital. You won't want to miss it.

There will be cupcakes, ice cream, old-time candy, face painting, a photo booth, lots of history, goodie bags and prizes.

Fund for Employees Affected by Hurricane Michael

The Florida Hospital Association has established a fund to help hospital employees who experienced significant property loss or damage during Hurricane Michael.

"Our dedicated hospital teams were on the job – before, during, and now after the storm – helping their patients, colleagues

and communities," FHA President Bruce Rueben wrote today in a message to members. "Although the storm's full impact is still being assessed, we know that many of our hospital colleagues lost homes or experienced significant property damage. Those in the Panhandle need our support now more than ever."

All administrative services are being provided in-kind so that 100 percent of donations will assist those in the Federal Emergency Management Agency-designated disaster areas.

Visit FHA's webpage at <http://www.fha.org/health-care-issues/emergency-preparedness/donate.aspx> to make a donation.

