

Patients give Coffey County Hospital a five-star rating



Tracy Campbell
For The Republican

BURLINGTON – Patient satisfaction ratings place Coffey County Hospital in Burlington among the top 7 percent of hospitals across the nation. This earns the hospital a coveted five-star rating.

Only five community-based hospitals in Kansas are among the 266 facilities in the top tier.

“This is the best reward we can get because it comes from our patients” said Coffey Health System Chief Executive Officer Leonard Hernandez. “We made a commitment five years ago to assure that Coffey County Hospital is the place our community chooses and trusts. I couldn’t be more proud to see our team’s commitment come full circle.”

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

assigned a patient experience star rating based on the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS) scores collected throughout 2019.

“When a patient is dismissed from a hospital, they receive a patient satisfaction survey,” Hernandez explains. “This five-star rating is the culmination of those surveys.”

The other four community hospitals are: Clay County Medical Center, Clay Center; Mitchell County Hospital Health Systems, Beloit; Neosho Memorial Regional Medical Center, Chanute; and Pratt Regional Medical Center, Pratt.

Five specialty hospitals in Kansas were also recognized: Salina Surgical Hospital; Manhattan Surgical Hospital; Mercy Specialty Hospital Southeast Kansas, Galena;

Kansas City Orthopaedic Institute, Leawood; and Kansas Surgery & Recovery Center, Wichita.

In addition to the 266 five-star hospitals, CMS assigned ratings to another 3,212 hospitals. 1,120 hospitals received four stars; 1,479 received three; 528 received two; and 85 received one star.

Coffey County Hospital is an entity of Coffey Health System. In addition to the

hospital, five physician clinics serve patients in Burlington, Gridley, LeRoy, Waverly, and Yates Center. The CHS continuum also includes Coffey County Emergency Medical Services; The Meadows, CCH Home Health Agency, and CHS Rehabilitation & Wellness Services in Burlington; and Sunset Manor long-term care in Waverly.

—Tracy Campbell is director of marketing for Coffey Health System.

Contest

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High schools in The Coffey County Republican coverage area fall into three leagues: the Pioneer League includes Burlington and the Lyon County League includes Hartford, Lebo, Southern Coffey County and Waverly. Each of the area schools are conducting in-person learning (some with the option to choose remote learning instead) and are holding fall sports practices.

The Republican will host its annual football contest, along with area businesses as sponsors, on a week-by-week basis, beginning next week.

Entrants in the contest try to predict the winners of area high school, college and pro football games. The top entrant with the fewest number of misses each week will receive a prize. Winners are encouraged to spend their prize money at the businesses sponsoring the contest. All en-

tries received throughout the entirety of the contest will be eligible to win the grand prize.

Simply write your predictions for each week’s games on the entry form by choosing a winner of the match-ups listed in each advertisement. Drop off the completed entry form before 5 p.m. each Friday at The Republican office, 324 Hudson Street, Burlington, or at any area post office (must be postmarked by 5 p.m. Friday each week). Only one entry per person is allowed and only newspaper entries will be accepted. Copies of the entry form will not qualify for prizes. Please read all instructions on the contest page for more information.

Contestants should fill in the “tiebreaker” section, which is a guess at the total of all points scored among all teams included in the football contest for that week.

For an entry form, games and rules, see the Pigskin Picks Contest each week in The Republican, available at the newspaper office, on newsstands throughout the county

and by subscription.

Good luck, and see you at the game.

Paige

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Operating Officer James Higgins. “Several departments volunteered to clean their workspaces so that Environmental Services could focus on COVID efforts. It would have been easy to simply check those departments off his list, but Toby made sure that everyone was trained to assure safety. He conducted ‘walk-throughs’ to point out high-touch areas, provided appropriate cleaning products, and demonstrated exactly how to clean each surface. His attention to detail and concern for others is vital in containing the disease spread.”

Since taking on the Environmental Services Supervisor position in 2018, overall patient satisfaction scores

related to hospital environment and cleanliness have risen significantly. CHS was ranked in the 74th percentile for Overall Hospital Environment in 2015. When Paige took on the role of Environmental Services Supervisor scores climbed to the 97th percentile in 2018 and the 98th percentile in 2019. CHS is on track to be in the 99th percentile in 2020.

He meticulously monitored cleaning chemicals to ensure adequate supply and appropriate use, while also educating all staff (not just environmental services, but ALL staff) on how and when to use products in their workspace. Most importantly, Paige was a calm, positive presence throughout the surge in COVID-19 patients at CHS. His professionalism, kindness, and willingness to help at any moment brought reassurance and confidence to all of CHS staff during a very trying time.

—Tracy Campbell is the marketing director for Coffey Health System.

Johnson

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three years representing Rock Creek Township.

Johnson said he has an interest in serving people, which piqued his interest in seeking the county commission seat. “I am a conservative and I want to watch our spending and make our county the best it can be,” he said. “I want to make Coffey County better for my kids (and others) to want to stay here and live here in the future.”

He also is concerned about the condition of rural areas in District 4 and wants to find ways to clean up those areas and make the area more attractive.

“I’m easy to talk to. I want to talk to people who have a con-

cern in District 4,” he said.

Precinct committee members residing in District 4 tasked with making the selection were: Pottawatomie Township – Sharon Henry and Greg Kropf, Rock Creek Township – Georgia Masten and Tim Johnson, Star Township – Susan Mueller, Avon and Spring Creek townships do not have any elected precinct committeemen or committeewomen.

Johnson was both a candidate for the commission seat and an elected precinct committeeman. During the rules meeting Tuesday night it was determined that Johnson could sit in on the interviews, but not ask questions. He was excluded from a closed session Thursday night where the candidates were discussed. However, Johnson was able to vote, since was elected to represent Rock Creek Township.

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