

October 2012	November 2012	April 6, 2013
Family Birth Center recognized for providing quality care in a national survey by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	Rice Community Healthcare Foundation awards more than \$22,650 in grants to fund community projects to improve health	Rice County Health Fair from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Celebration Centre; Lab analyses, carotid Doppler screenings, pulmonary function tests, blood pressure evaluations and other services will be offered to the general public



RCH Sterling Medical Center
Left to right: Rachel McClure, Shirley Gamble, Lisa Stout, Christina Tittel, Treva Kintigh, Kobi Williams, Shelly Burgess, Alisha Koch, APRN, Dr. James Decker, Amy Pieplow, Tracy Mims; Not pictured: Dr. Stacy Dashiell, Dr. Kristina Darnauer, Jamee Kizzar, Jessica Boor, Julie West, PA, Viki Bishop.



RCH Health Information/Medical Records Department
Left to right: Teresa Crowl, Pam Suhler



RCH Materials Management/Pharmacy Departments
Left to right: Rick Ludwick, Laurie Winkelman

Dale Hoover, Maintenance Department Rice County District Hospital

Maintenance employee enjoys his work

By LOUANN COBB
It's just about time for Dale Hoover to clock out when he gets a request to replace a ceiling light for a resident at Noble Place Independent Living. He grabs a bulb and the stepladder and heads for the residential complex. Hoover works for the Rice County District Hospital's maintenance staff. He came to the hospital in May 1976 when Noble Place to its north and the Bolton Activity Center and parking lots to the south were both empty lots. He came with experience, seventeen years at American Salt, working his way up from the loading dock to maintenance and later as the head electrician of their electrical department. "I know all about boilers and electrical systems," Hoover said. "I'm capable of rebuilding and repairing just about any piece of equipment. That's one of the reasons the hospital hired me." Back then, hospital maintenance was more about housekeeping, cleaning and painting, Hoover said. Most repair work took place in the boiler room. Yard work was hired out. Hoover worked with L.A. Wallace, maintenance manager and later took his position, hiring Dick O'Hannolin and John Payne as full-time employees.

Location of the maintenance shop shifted over the years, due to construction and remodels; from the basement of the current boiler room, across the hall from where the air conditioning system is located today, to a free-standing building they share with laundry northwest of the hospital.



The hospital didn't have computers under Hoover's watch. He recorded everything he did in large notebooks. Hoover recently installed lights to the outdoor emergency signs, making them more visible to motorists. "I love my job, the people I work with and the people I help," Hoover said. "Sometimes I get caught up in what I'm doing but welcome the challenges each day brings." The work is stressful at times, but Hoover said he'll take it any way he can so he can continue to do what he loves and use the talents God has blessed him with. Hoover has had the opportunity to travel to an orphanage in Haiti several times as a missionary for Haiti Love and Faith of Lyons. "To see how the rest of the world lives and how very handicapped they are was an eye-opening experience," he said. "We are so blessed to live in the United States, especially in the center, where people are less affected by the world systems and have the freedom to move in the countryside and travel." At age 77, he's still in good health. "I'm going to keep going," he said, "doing what I love until they throw me out."


When he retired in 2000, everything went online. He returned three months later as a part-time employee. Most of what he does day-to-day is routine; fixing things that need to be fixed, painting, maintenance at NP, cleaning up from construction and odd jobs assigned by his manager, Herman Hoffman.

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RCH Maintenance and Environmental Services Department
Left to right: Wilbur McBeth, Lisa Havard, Herman Hoffman, Dale Hoover, Daren Bottom, Fina Wiering, Karen Martinez, Byron Westerman, Sharon Mead; Not pictured: Sandra Estabrook, Dave Saunders.



DALE DIENER - PA
LYONS MEDICAL CENTER

Medical School/schools:
• Wichita State University Physicians Asst. Program
Internship:
• Twelve months rural clinics in KS
Residency:
• Family Practice
Why did you choose to practice in a smaller rural community as opposed to a bigger urban hospital?
What sets them apart?
"I enjoyed rural practice during my internship, being able to get to know the clinic population outside the clinic environment
What do you like most about your job?
"I enjoy my patients and the camaraderie we have developed over the last 30 years, knowing their families and their history. It makes the everyday practice of medicine fun. I love being able to ride my bike to work without any traffic jams. The fellow employees at the clinic are a fun group which makes for an easy work environment."
Dale is married to Anita and they have four children and two grandchildren.



RCH Radiology Department
Left to right: Deb Ledford, Roma Brown, Amy Evans, Tiffany Webb.



RCH Lyons Medical Center Business Office
Left to right: Lori Viramontez, Barb Loutzenhiser, Paula Plum, Charlotte Larsen, Denice Loburgio, Wendy Arriola; Not pictured: Melissa Thompson.

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