

Clara Barton Hospital & Foundation

July 2015 Progress Edition

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ANNIVERSARY PARTY

CLARA BARTON HOSPITAL



Hospital celebrates with supper and blood drive

25 years for Clara Barton Hospital Foundation

History is retold this year, marking the 25th year of the Clara Barton Hospital Foundation, with special events planned. The Foundation celebrated at the Annual Benefit last week, with a theme of "Then and Now: Continue the Vision" and will be hosting an anniversary celebration July 10, with a blood drive with the American Red Cross from 11:15am to 5:45pm and live radio remote on KHOK Eagle Radio with free community supper to the first 500 people from 4:00 to 6:00pm.

The supper, sponsored by the Foundation, is a big "thank you" to all of our supporting community: including staff, providers, businesses, donors, and citizens. The Foundation has had much success

throughout the years, thank to these supporters. Hamburgers, brats, and hot dogs will be served on the northwest lawn of Clara Barton Hospital, near the new Therapy Services entrance, to the first 500 people.

The new donor recognition wall for the ongoing capital campaign will be on display and self-guided tours of the Therapy Services and Laundry addition will be offered as well.

The blood drive is another way the Foundation and Hospital are giving back, and during the live radio remote, there will be a prize drawing; anyone who presents to donate will be entered into a drawing to win a family package of tickets to the 119th Annual

Hoisington Labor Day Celebration, which includes carnival wristbands and tickets to the dances, suppers, and derby Labor Day weekend.

The American Red Cross was founded by Clara Barton, so the pairing is very fitting for the celebration, continuing in Barton's vision of helping others. The Red Cross will be bringing the large blood donation motor coach, and it will be parked in the front parking lot. Donors are needed, and can sign up at Clara Barton Hospital, at the front office beforehand.

On July 10, 1990, The Clara Barton Hospital Foundation was formed with its first election of its Board of Trustees. Earlier that year, Hoisington Lutheran Hospital

changed its name to Clara Barton Hospital. I.C. "Ike" Walter, then Hospital Board of Directors Chairman, recognized the need for a foundation to support the hospital and lobbied for its creation.

Walter has been involved with the Hospital and Foundation for many years, and was actually the first administrator of Hoisington Lutheran Hospital in 1950, when it was built. Today, he is an honorary advisor to the Foundation and friend. He welcomed guests to the Foundation's Annual Benefit last month saying, "This Foundation is truly a gem in our community. I am immensely proud of all the good works that is has performed in the last 25 years."

FLASHBACK TO 25 YEARS AGO

Clara Barton, a respected name

BY LEROY LYON
The hospital in Hoisington is now called Clara Barton Hospital. The new name was introduced last week and the creation of the Clara Barton Foundation was also announced to help finance the hospital.

I like the new name. And why shouldn't I? I was the one who suggested it. So now I'm like a first-time mother who has named her child.

But there are many reasons why I think the name, Clara Barton, is a good choice.

First, I felt the name should not give the impression that the hospital serves only Barton County or Hoisington residents. The institution has a much larger service area.

I also felt that we need a name that would help us market the services of the hospital and gain contributions from organizations and individuals

throughout the world. The Clara Barton name is well known worldwide and therefore it should open more doors than would a more traditional name.

Also, we often fail to recognize that Barton County has something unique. I carefully researched and discovered that out of the 105 Kansas counties, only Barton County is named in honor of a woman. Women really moved into the workforce in the 20th century so why not recognize the valuable contributions women have made which benefit us all?

Come on, you guys, women are important!

And who is Clara Barton? I won't tell on you if you flunked history and don't know. She is best known for founding the American Red Cross on May 21, 1881. She remained the head of the organization until she resigned at age 83.

But Barton County was not named after her because of the Red Cross. Barton County was officially formed in March 1872 when a petition signed by a number of Barton County residents was sent to Gov. James M. Harvey requesting organization of the county.

In 1872, Clara Barton was a household name – a genuine heroine known as the "Angel of the Battlefield." It was Barton who became a recognized provider for Union soldiers during the Civil War. She was an army housekeeper who cooked for the men and fed them on the battlefields. She nourished them and aided army surgeons as they bandaged the wounded. She held dying men in her arms. She prayed with them. She sent letters home upon request by the wounded soldiers.

A brochure about her has been prepared and is

available at the hospital. It tells what an outstanding woman Clara Barton was. It takes a lot of adjectives to properly describe her. She was loving, compassionate, sensitive, methodical, caring, resolute, fearless, vigorous, tireless, persistent, practical, sympathetic, resourceful, dignified, professional, and more. We can all be proud that Barton County, and now the Hospital in Hoisington, carries her name.

What has impressed me most about the good folks in Hoisington the community has been their desire to provide new funds for the hospital without asking for tax revenue. This is most commendable. While many other small-town hospitals, such as the one at Atwood, are being subsidized by local mill levies, it is hoped that the Clara Barton Foundation will pro-

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