

Dicks Pharmacy - Modern pharmacy with a hometown feel

By KENT A. STOCK
Staff Writer

Dicks Pharmacy may look and feel familiar on the outside but behind the scenes many changes have taken place. “Technology has allowed us to keep updated with our customer needs in terms of the medications they require but it has also allowed us to keep our personal connection to everyone who walks through our door. That is what is most important,” says Cindi Reed, manager and pharmacist at Dicks Pharmacy in Arthur.

When you walk in the door at Dicks if you are a long-time customer you get that comfortable familiar feel and if you are a new customer, you get a sense from the start you are welcome there. “We like to greet our customers by name and help them navigate insurance, costs and questions about their medications and health. Sometimes it is just lending an ear to listen. It is the kind of personal relationship you won’t find at a

“big box” store.”

In order to enhance their customer-focused service even further, there is a new pharmacist joining the staff at Dicks. Brandon Kenworthy started at the pharmacy in early December after a twelve year career with CVS. Kenworthy graduated from Cowden-Herrick High School and then went on to school for six years at St. Louis College of Pharmacy. Upon obtaining his Doctorate in Pharmacy, he went to work for CVS which was his only job until a month ago when he joined the staff here.

“I have a cousin and a good friend who are pharmacists. I thought what they did seemed very interesting. Lots of personal interaction plus you get to help people get healthy, stay healthy and feel better. I knew this was a perfect career choice for me.”

Reed, who also has a Doctorate in Pharmacy, and Kenworthy knew each other from their work in Sullivan at their respective

places of businesses. “We were competitors but we were friendly competitors,” laughs Reed. “I kept telling Brandon you need to come work in the independent pharmacy field, you’ll love it. It took a long time but I finally convinced him!”

“At first, I enjoyed my job with my former employer but as years went on things began to change. I felt like I was losing out on keeping that connection with the patients. That was very important to me and was one of the main reasons for becoming a pharmacist in the first place. So I finally decided the time was right to get back to work in a place that had those same values of personal service.”

Both Reed and Kenworthy agreed that not only could an independent pharmacy compete in all areas with their bigger competitors but could outmatch them in many areas.

“We carry 200 -300 of the most common drugs prescribed by doctors. If we don’t have it in stock we can



Pharmacist Brandon Kenworthy has joined Cindi Reed and the staff at Dicks Pharmacy in Arthur. Both are experienced pharmacists with doctoral degrees in their profession. Reed and Kenworthy look forward to continuing the excellent customer service for which the pharmacy is well known. A completely modern pharmacy with a hometown feel. They and the staff at Dicks look forward to serving you and to serving the Arthur community along with the surrounding towns. Plus, they have ice cream! Dicks Pharmacy is located at 118 S. Vine Street in Arthur. The phone number is 217-543-2913. You can visit them on Facebook. You can refill your prescriptions by going to their app at Rx2Go. They invite you to stop in and see exactly what advantages an independent pharmacy has over a “big box” store. Photo Kent A. Stock

get it by the next day,” said Kenworthy.

“We accept most all major insurances such as Medicare, Medicaid, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Aetna, Health Alliance as well as other managed care plans,” explained Reed.

“For our cash customers, as an independent pharmacy, we can often make agreements that vastly reduce the price of medication. The bigger places are bound by corporate contracts that dictate the pricing structure. As much as a pharmacist might want to help out, the corporate office has set the price and there is no negotiating,” said Kenworthy.

The pair emphasized that technology has not only leveled the playing field but given places like Dicks Pharmacy an edge. “We have an app that can be used to access your prescription history, order drugs, get information on refills and more. You can choose how you want to stay in touch with us be it a phone call, no prompts through an automated system here; you get to talk to a person, text message and it is all available 24/7. It helps put you in control of your health care and we are here to assist you in any way.”

Another change that has been made over the past several years is that Dicks

Pharmacy accepts credit and debit cards. Yet one more perk of the pharmacy is their delivery service. Their service area includes Arcola, Tuscola, Garrett, Atwood, Hammond, Lovington, Sullivan and the Arthur area.

In looking towards 2019, the pharmacy is looking to bring back flu shot services plus offer programs on various topics involving prescriptions and health.

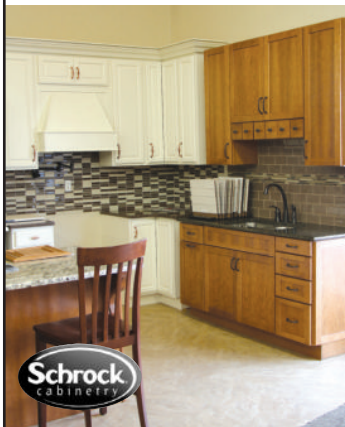
Dicks Pharmacy also offers over the counter products, durable medical equipment plus gifts and notions. Of course, the old fashioned soda fountain is still there with ice cream, sodas, sundaes, shakes and other goodies.

“I like that we have a modern, up to date business with the latest technology that still keeps the values and heritage alive that started with Grantham’s and Dicks. I think that is all part of the customer experience when you come here,” said Reed.

As for Kenworthy, when he is not working, you are going to find him enjoying time with his six year old daughter. He is also an avid outdoorsman who calls Lake Shelbyville his second home. “I love to be out on the water.”

“I don’t want to be a robot filling prescriptions and

handing over a bag to someone I don’t know. I want to know my customers and we can do that here. This is the way a pharmacy is supposed to be.”



“Professional Kitchen Design
At An Affordable Price!”

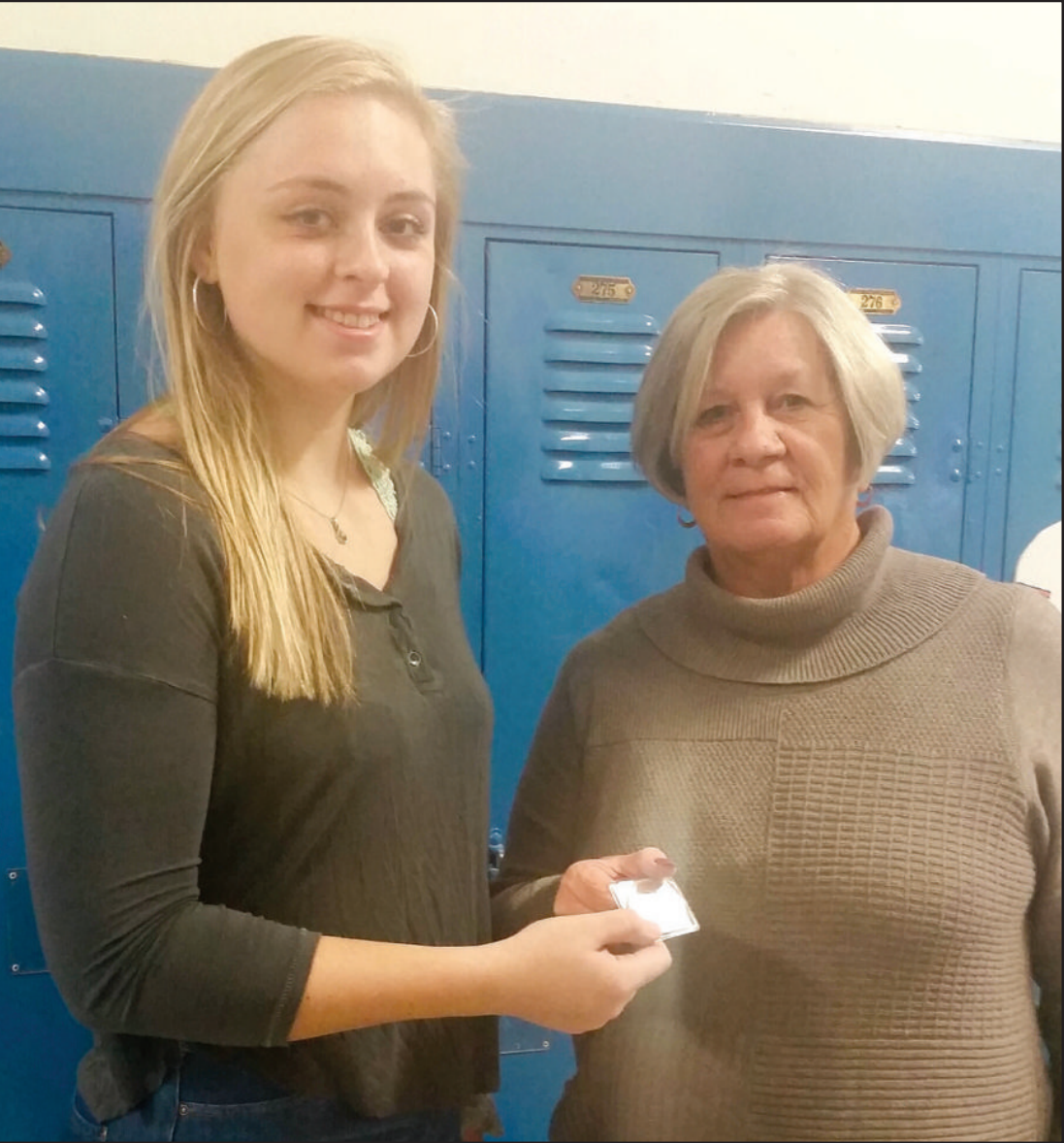


O.E. Schrock Builders & Remodelers
The key to better living since 1966

1011 E. Columbia • Arthur, Illinois

217-543-3725

www.oeschrock.com



Sydney Walker, a Senior at Cerro Gordo High School, has been chosen as Student of the Month for December. She is active in volleyball, helping with Jr. High and little girls club. Sydney plans to study nursing and eventually become a nurse anesthetist. Keila LeHew, Sr. Vice President, State Bank of Cerro Gordo, presented Sydney with an American Eagle Silver Dollar.



Friendship Hill Retirement Home

Your Retirement Haven In The Woods



Senior Luncheon

January 15
@ 11:30 a.m.

Join us for lunch every third
Tuesday of the month.
Cost per meal is \$3.00

Invite your neighbors, friends,
and family for good food
and good company!

Please RSVP by January 11!
(217) 677-2121

Call For Your Tour Today!!!
(217) 677-2121
Or Visit Our Website
www.friendshiphillretirement.com

Apartments \$900 - \$2080

Try the good life at Friendship Hill for a
month or two, as no lease is required!



625 US Highway 36, Lovington IL 61937
(We are located on Route 36, 1 mile east of the LaPlace junction of Routes 36 and 32,
or 6 miles west of Hammond, IL. Look for our sign on the South side of Route 36)

BENEFIT FOR DAVID LANTZ



SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 2019
2:00 P.M.-11:00 P.M. @ IT’LL DO IN ARCOLA
David has Stage 4 Stomach Cancer.
All funds raised will help him in his time of need.
Children are welcome to attend.
Face Painting 2 p.m.-5 p.m.
Live DJ 2 p.m.-5 p.m. Dan Janowski
Bags Tournament 4 p.m.-6 p.m. Entry fee \$10 per team.
Sign up by 3:30 50/50 prize
Silent Auction Winners announced at 7 p.m.
50/50 Raffle Drawing at 7:45 p.m. - Must be present to win
8 p.m. Hard Kase Band

PLEASE COME OUT AND SUPPORT DAVID!