

Horizon Health announces clinic expansion of Paris Clinic in October

Addition Will House Family Practice Providers

Horizon Health continues development on its main campus with construction of a new building expansion to begin mid-October.

The addition will be a two-story, 32,000-square-foot addition that attaches to the current Paris Clinic and expands to the west.

"The new space will support the primary care goals for the organization," said Lacey Stults, Horizon Health clinic director. "We are continuing to increase services to meet the wellness and chronic care needs of all ages in our community."

The clinic's main purpose will be to provide additional space for the family practice team. The first floor will be dedicated to that service. The new design will allow cohesiveness of services and promote further collaboration among providers of the

same specialty.

The second floor will be shelled for future needs, and the existing Paris Clinic space will be remodeled to better accommodate the specialty services.

Horizon Health has doubled the services in the current Paris Clinic without allocating additional square footage. Provider growth is continuing through 2026 and beyond.

"We have a number of providers committed to our organization with literally no place to house them," said Ollie Smith, Horizon Health president and CEO. "We have three providers coming yet this year, and at least one provider committed for 2021, 2022, and 2026."

The need for the additional clinic space is consistent with history as well. The first Family Medical Center



Submitted Photo

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on the hospital campus, the Acklin-Shackelford Clinic,

was built in 1996. The current Paris Clinic was constructed

in 2006, and the need for the current expansion project

started around 2016.

The expansion will be funded through existing capital and loans that were initiated for other projects, but not used.

"We've done better than even I envisioned at funding these projects as we went, and developing our capital," said Smith. "That's a testament to the team we have in place. They need to be recognized."

The clinic addition will be the third major building project on Horizon Health's main campus in the past few years.

Smith stated: "We're not building new structures without also maintaining our core. We have replaced a lot of key systems in our facilities to ensure it lasts another 50 years."

Arthur Atwood Lions Club Fish Fry scheduled for October 17, 2020

The Arthur Atwood Lions Club is looking to duplicate their last record-breaking fish fry supper. The next event will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2020, at the Arthur United Methodist Church, 108 East Illinois St. in Arthur. Serving will be from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. A free will donation will be taken. Menu includes fish, baked beans, coleslaw and/or apple

sauce, bread, tartar sauce, and desserts. All meals will be served for carry out from the east door.

The Arthur Atwood Lions Club contributes to student scholarships and various charities in the area including local food pantries and Christmas funds, ball leagues, and the Arthur Grade School backpack program, as well as Camp Lions, a summer

camp for those with vision and hearing needs. Local activities include providing eyeglasses and hearing aids for the needy, sponsoring the end-of-summer pool party and ALAH post prom, and many other school activities and community charities.

For more information on the fish fry, contact Lion Jennifer Perrine at 217-254-1703 or jper-rine89@gmail.com.

Moultrie County Health Department confirms fourth COVID-19 death

It is with great sadness that the Moultrie County Health Department (MCHD) confirms a fourth COVID-19 related death of a Moultrie County male resident in his 70's.

Angela Hogan, Administrator for the Moultrie County Health Department, said, "We would like to extend our deepest sympathies to his family and friends and ask for their privacy during this difficult time. The MCHD will release no additional in-

formation."

To date, 223 Moultrie County residents have tested positive for COVID-19, which includes three previous COVID-19 related deaths. The MCHD strongly advises individuals and businesses to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our communities by using these precautions:

- * Watch physical distance and keep six feet from others.
- * Wear a mask when in

public places.

- * Wash hands routinely.
- * Above all, stay home if ill.

Information on area testing sites can be found online at <https://dph.illinois.gov/testing>. For more information on the Moultrie County Health Department's news, events and services, please visit www.moultriehealth.org and follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/moultriecountyhealth.

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Horizon Health clinics offering flu shots in Oct.

Horizon Health is offering options for flu shots in October at its primary care clinics in Paris, Chrisman, and Oakland. As always immunizations are also available by appointment at any of the primary care clinics and to walk-ins at both EZ Care locations.

Paris Clinic
A curbside flu shot clinic will be available Tuesday, October 13, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.; and Thursday, October 22, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Chrisman Clinic
A flu shot clinic will be available inside the clinic Monday, October 5, from 5 to 7 p.m.. Note that Chrisman Clinic accepts walk-ins for flu shots with no appointment necessary.

Oakland Clinic
A curbside flu shot clinic will be available Friday, October 16, from 1 to 4 p.m.
Flu shots at these special event times are available to adults age 18 and older. Cash pay amounts are listed

below, but insurance will be billed when applicable.

Three types of flu shots are available:

- Standard quadrivalent flu shots for \$30 cash pay.
- High-dose vaccines for seniors age 65 and older for \$60.
- Flublok, recommended for age 50 and older, or age 18 and older with certain chronic conditions for \$60. Flublok is a quadrivalent recombinant protein-based vaccine, meaning neither

eggs nor the influenza virus were used in the production process.

Patients covered under Medicaid, as well as those under 18, who need a flu shot should make an appointment with their primary care provider. Adult patients can request a curbside visit, which is comparable to the curbside event.

For more information about the flu shot clinics, call Brenda Akens, vaccine coordinator, at 217-466-4729.

Horizon Health celebrates serving fifty years

This is a milestone year for Paris Community Hospital (Horizon Health), which is celebrating a half century of serving Edgar County and surrounding communities.

The hospital first opened its doors November 9, 1970. On this same day in 2020, the hospital will commemorate its 50-year history of serving the local community.

"Unfortunately, in-person events are not part of our celebration plans this year due to COVID-19. However, we've come up with some creative ways to pay tribute to this historic year and give it the attention it deserves," said Erin Frank, marketing manager at Horizon Health.

Ongoing recognitions this year include the following:

Submit your memories
Visit MyHorizonHealth.org/50years to share notable photos or documents of Paris Community Hospital (Horizon Health) over the years. They will be shared on the hospital's website and Facebook page. Also, please contact Horizon Health if you have any tangible items of historical significance so that we may follow up accordingly.

Commemorative video
Visit MyHorizonHealth.org/50years to watch a tribute to Paris Community Hospital from its earliest days through

today. The 24-minute video includes vintage photos, historical facts, and interviews with long-time employees and local historians.

History displays
This free-standing collection of historical facts and photos is strategically placed throughout Horizon Health's main campus. Each display, mounted to a pedestal, marks an area of special significance in the organization's history.

Throwback Thursdays
Visit Horizon Health's Facebook page for fun facts and vintage photos.

Photo Collage – A large wall mural of photos over the past 50 years is displayed in

Horizon Health's Patient Services area.

50-year calendar
2020 commemorative calendars are available at the hospital registration desk while supplies last.

Time capsule
A collection of hospital memorabilia will be buried November 9 on the Horizon Health campus –the exact day of the 50-year anniversary.

For more information about Horizon Health's 50-year celebration, contact Erin Frank at 217-466-4287 or by email at efrank@myhorizonhealth.org or efrank@myhorizonhealth.org.



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CEO

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"He leaves EIF equipped with the tools to identify future needs and act on them in support of the East / Central Region of Illinois. We thank him for his leadership and he will be missed by our local community, as well as his food bank colleagues across the country."

"I've known Jim now for more than twenty years, and although he may retire from his job, he won't from his involvement in meaningful projects and missions. It's in his DNA," said Steve Ericson, Executive Director of Feeding Illinois. "Jim has always been an example for all of us as we pass through the seasons of life to make the next one better than the

last, leave each place better than you found it, and treat every person with understanding and respect."

Hires came to the Foodbank from Columbus, Ohio where he worked as an executive in the cable television industry for nearly 20 years. Prior to that, he worked as a school administrator in various Champaign County school systems for nearly fifteen years. Jim's experience in nonprofit organizations began in earnest after volunteering at Northern Illinois Foodbank in the mid-nineties, where he served on the Board of Directors. He has also been active in community service through the Urban League, various commissions and boards, and has volunteered within the anti-poverty and social justice sectors.

After leaving the Food-

bank, Jim plans to remain active in various capacities addressing issues of food insecurity, poverty and social justice, as well as pursuing his interest in indigenous peoples worldwide.

About Eastern Illinois Foodbank

Eastern Illinois Foodbank works to alleviate hunger in eastern Illinois through cooperation with a network of food pantries, agencies and programs. The Foodbank distributes donated and discounted food throughout an 18-county service area in cooperation with 170 member agencies and programs. Through these agencies, the Foodbank provides food to more than 100,000 different men, women and children each year. Eastern Illinois Foodbank is a member of Feeding America Feeding Illinois and the United Way of Champaign County.