

Decatur County Memorial Hospital achieves Five-Star Rating

Decatur County Memorial Hospital has received the highest overall hospital rating given by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), placing them among the top 10 percent of hospitals nationwide. Hospitals earning this top rating show an “overall rating” of five-stars on CMS’ Hospital Compare tool which provides consumers information about the quality of care for over 4,500 Medicare certified hospitals. Of the hospitals rated by CMS, only 455 achieved a five-star rating. In addition, only 13 of Indiana’s 190 hospitals received the five-star rating, placing DCMH in the top 7% in the state.

“We are developing a culture of continuous quality improvement by aligning the organizational focus to improve the quality of the patient experience and clinical outcomes,” said Rex McKinney, DCMH president and CEO. “Making decisions centered around what is best for our patients, daily huddles, tracking progress, and engaging our team members are some of the strategies used to obtain the CMS 5 Star rating of the hospital.”

The overall hospital rating is based on data publicly reported on CMS’ Hospital Compare tool (medicare.gov/hospital-compare). The rating shows how well each hospital performed on average compared to other hospitals in the U.S. in treating common conditions such

as sepsis or pneumonia. It reflects performance on up to 48 measures across five aspects of quality, including patient experience, safety of care and timely and effective care.

Hospitals are put into one of three peer groups depending on how many measures they submit. Larger hospitals, for example, generally submit the most measures and smaller hospitals submit the fewest. DCMH submitted outcomes for all five measure groups placing them in a peer group that mostly consists of large hospital systems and teaching hospitals, making the recognition even more significant.

Critical Access Hospitals do not have

to participate with the Star Rating system due to their smaller patient volume. “That is not an option for DCMH. We set our goals to be among the nation’s best,” said McKinney. “When it comes to quality of care, hospital size does not matter. Attaining this rating shows the dedication and excellence of our staff.” Participating hospitals reported data to CMS, the federal agency that runs the Medicare program through the Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting Program. Those hospitals were given an overall rating ranging from one to five stars, with five as the highest, according to the report.

TEACHERS

watching students grow into adulthood. It’s great to know I had a part in helping them grow up.”

While teaching as a profession is inherently equipped with its own unique set of challenges, the job has only become more difficult during the pandemic. Lynda Comer, a sixth grade teacher at Jac-Cen-Del said, “When we left for spring break last year and did not return...it was a new ball game for me as a teacher. I am so glad and thankful to be back in person to teach. I enjoy having discussions with students in class...I prefer textbooks and in-person learning and using iPads and computers for tools, but not as the main source of instruction.”

Of her experiences teaching during the pandemic, Amanda Meyer, a fourth grade teacher at Batesville Intermediate said, “My approach has been a little different because of safety precautions with small groups and desk arrangements. Students have done more individual work this year than in the past. Some other “normal” fourth grade things had to be rethought and changed for safety. The teachers have worked together to provide other options and to make sure students still had fun as they

learned!”

At the middle school and high school level, there have also been many major shifts resulting from the pandemic. “Trying to keep up with all of the COVID-19 protocols, while having students in-person and at home joining virtually, has kept things very difficult,” said Brenda Walter, a math teacher at Milan Middle School. “It is hard to maintain everything for both sets of students. I have shifted more of my material to digital presentation and found more online resources for work. I’ve tried to do my best and have to accept that’s all I can do.”

Like Walter, Fosssett has been forced to make changes to the way she teaches in light of COVID-19’s arrival. “I was a big ‘give options’ teacher before the pandemic,” she explained. “I feel like it gives my students a better chance to learn and understand if they are given the option to choose between paper and pencil or the computer...Because of the pandemic, I had to make all of my assignments on the computer. I do not enjoy doing this because I know some students learn better with paper than staring at a computer screen all day.”

Reichert has a distinct memory of

when she realized COVID-19 would change the world. “I can remember the precise moment at which I heard that we would not be returning to school in the spring of 2020. I was here in the art room at South Ripley High School with my colleague, Matt Gadberry, and we had been making plans for the remainder of the year,” she reflected.

“After the governor’s announcement, we just sat in silence for several minutes. I had been away on maternity leave since January 31, and suddenly it felt as though it had been a year since I’d seen my students and would be another year before I’d be reunited with them. Being away for that huge swath of time made me realize how much I thrive on interaction with my students each day. I feel that I have learned to value the time I spend with them now with more clarity.”

This last year has been trying and challenging for teachers, Reichert admits. She says it has been like a boot camp for teachers, a crash course in flexibility and perseverance. She is grateful that Ripley County has been up to the task of tackling the pandemic, being mindful and respectful, playing a hugely important role in schools remaining in-person.

Writer’s note: We, as a community, should also be grateful for everything teachers do to help their students and their schools, rain or shine. They deserve our gratitude for juggling the realities of the pandemic – separation from their students, being forced to re-design their curriculums exclusively for computers – building a bridge between the past, the future, and the present all while dealing with the same uncertainties as the rest of us.

DNR seeks to fill Conservation Officer positions

The Indiana DNR Division of Law Enforcement is looking for highly motivated, outdoor-centered individuals to fill Indiana Conservation Officer (ICO) positions across the state.

Anyone interested should first read “Become a Conservation Officer” at on.IN.gov/dnr/law and complete the pre-screening test under the “Apply” link on that website. Successful completion of the pre-screening test is required to receive an application for the hiring process. To maximize the time needed for DNR Law Enforcement to complete the process,

the pre-screening test needs to be submitted by midnight June 3.

To be qualified to pass the pre-screening test, you must be a United States citizen and be 21 years old by Oct. 30. You also must be able to pass minimum Indiana Law Enforcement Academy physical fitness requirements as listed at <https://www.in.gov/ilea/2338.htm>.

Conservation officers comprise Indiana’s oldest state law enforcement agency. ICOs are fully recognized Indiana police officers who enforce and uphold all DNR rules and regulations as well as all other

Indiana state laws. ICOs spend most of their time on the job enforcing fishing and hunting regulations, conducting marine boat patrol on Indiana waterways, and patrolling DNR properties to keep them safe and family friendly.

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through Sunday, August 22.

The Grand Festival Parade, the Midway and Beer Garden and Wine Pavilion are all on tap for the four-day event.

If you would like more information on a sponsorship opportunity, you can contact Emily Schroeder at 812-599-0581 or Tyler Allen at 812-599-4313.

actions, he’s walking the walk (we teach at SRES every day). She reiterated, “I’m beyond proud of him, I really am.”

While the brothers said they don’t have big summer plans, they are looking forward to going on vacation.

SWISS

Continued from Front Pg. on Saturday night. After talking with Montgomery on the phone, Parham said he felt better about signing them on. After all, he is also booked for the Indiana State Fair, which will also return this summer, where the theme will be celebrating all things Indiana and the resiliency of the Hoosier Spirit. The Indiana State Fair will be held Friday, July 30

through Sunday, August 22.

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CLASSIFIEDS
small ads **BIG** deals

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINES

All classified ads must be in our office by the following deadlines.

For the Osgood Journal, by Friday at 11:00 a.m.

For The Versailles Republican, by Tuesday at 11:00 a.m.

ADJUSTMENT OF ERRORS

The Ripley Publishing Company cannot be responsible for more than the first publication of any ad, so please check your ad for accuracy. Subsequent repeated errors are the responsibility of the advertiser. If a classified ad should be under a heading other than the advertiser would like it to be please contact the paper and it will be corrected for the following insertion,

however, no credit will be given on the ad. The Ripley Publishing Company reserves the right to reclassify, revise or reject at its option any advertisement deemed detrimental to the public interest or the policy of the newspapers.

Miscellaneous

For Sale - Dutchmen Kodiak Ultra Light 29' camping trailer. All amenities, 2 pull-outs w/48" TV and Bose Stereo. 812-528-6564. 98-1p

Storage Units Available. Safe, secure, 24-hour access. \$35-\$95 per month. www.gaslightstorage.com 92-11p

ATTENTION Napoleon Bancorp Shareholders - Local investor seeks to buy additional shares of

bank stock. Top dollar cash offers. Committed to the bank and the communities it serves. Call 812-350-1011. 84tfx-p

Help Wanted

WANTED someone to watch our 2 boys aged 6 & 4 for this summer school break. Watch them at our home mon-fri. from 7-4. We have a pool, a large yard and large home. Will pay for weekly trips out. If interested, please contact 812-621-0417 to set up an interview. Must be at least 16 years old. 100-3p

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Wanted

Will buy and haul scrap cars and trucks. Top prices paid. Fast pick up. Cash paid. Call 1-812-933-8151. 90-2p

Help Wanted

House Cleaning. I clean weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or one time clean. Have references, insured. Call or text 812-410-2276. 104-8p

Help Wanted

Will clean your house! General weekly cleaning, no deep cleaning. Available on M, Th, and Fri (daytime hours). Prefer homeowner be gone while cleaning and pets contained. Location depends on distance. Please contact me for more info! 812-621-1163 call or text. 104 & 1p

Wanted

Will buy and haul scrap cars and trucks. Top prices paid. Fast pick up. Cash paid. Call 1-812-933-8151. 90-2p

Notice of Sheriff's Sale

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Circuit Court of Ripley County, Indiana, in Cause No. 69D01-1910-MF-000029 wherein Fifth Third Bank, National Association was Plaintiff, and Lucy Lunsford, Individually and As Personal Representative Of The Estate Of Aaron Boggs, was Defendant, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 1st day of June, 2021, at the hour of 1:00 PM or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 210 Monroe St., Versailles, IN 47042-0364, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Ripley County, Indiana.

Being part of the Northwest and Southwest quarters of Fractional Section 20, Township 8 North, Range 13 East, of the Second Principal Meridian located in Franklin Township, Ripley County, Indiana, and described as follows: Commencing at the Northwest corner of the Southwest quarter of Section 20, Township 8 North, Range 13 East; thence East along the North line of said Southwest quarter 826.98' to the John V. Greive West line; thence North 05°09'10" East along Greive's West line 506.23' to a railroad spike in the center of State Road 350; thence south

Notice of Sheriff's Sale

59°15' East along said road 354.28' to a railroad spike and the Point of Beginning; thence South 59°15' East along said road 387.85' to a railroad spike; thence South 07°04'50" East 295.04' to an iron pipe in the North line of a strip of land reserved for well and water lines; thence along said strip the following four courses: North 65°24'50" West 45.97' to an iron pipe; South 01°08'20" West 40.85' to an iron pipe; North 62°24'40" West 276.59' to an iron pipe; North 75°08'40" West 169.74' to an iron pipe; thence North 13°32'10" East 350.95' to the Point of Beginning. This tract contains 3.00 acres, more or less and is subject to the public right of way of State Road 350. Together with and subject to an easement for construction and maintenance of a well and well line within the following described boundaries, to-wit: Being part of the Northwest and Southwest quarters of Fractional Section 20, Township 8 North, Range 13 East, of the Second Principal Meridian located in Franklin Township, Ripley County, Indiana, and described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest corner of the Southwest quarter of Section 20, Township 8 North, Range 13 East; thence East along the North line of said Southwest quarter 826.98' to the John V. Greive West line; thence North 05°09'10" East along Greive's West line 506.23' to a railroad spike in the center of State Road 350; thence South 59°14' East along said road 354.28' to a railroad spike; thence South 13°32'10" West 350.95' to an iron pipe

LEGALS

and the Point of Beginning; thence South 75°08'40" East 169.74' to an iron pipe; thence South 62°24'40" East 276.59' to an iron pipe; thence North 1°08'20" East 40.85' to an iron pipe; thence South 65°24'50" East 45.97' to an iron pipe; thence South 27°35'20" West 49' to an iron pipe; thence North 62°24'40" West 303.22' to an iron pipe; thence North 75°08'40" West 168.62' to an iron pipe; thence North 14°51'20" East 10' to the Point of Beginning. Above description prepared by David T. Crouch, Reg. L.S. #S-0196. Excepting therefrom: A part of the West 1/2 of Section 20, Township 8 North, Range 13 East, of the Second Principal Meridian located in Franklin Township, Ripley County, Indiana, and described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest corner of the NW 1/4 of Section 20, Township 8 North, Range 13 East, thence east with the south line of the quarter section 826.98'; thence North 8°9'10" East with the West line of the Grieve parcel 508.23' to a railroad spike; thence South 59°15'00" East with the centerline of Indiana State Road #350 for a distance of 387.85' to a railroad spike, the Point of Beginning; thence South 59°15'00" East continuing with the same line 157.45' to a railroad spike; thence South 13°32'10" West parallel with the West line of this parcel, 195' to an iron pin; thence South 76°27'50" East 33.13' to an iron pin; thence South 13°32'10" West returning parallel with the West line of this parcel 116.72' to an iron pin; thence with the North line of an arm of a 3.127 acre

parcel (survey DTC-7-18-77-20-8N-13E-2) the following two courses: North 62°24'40" West, 14.26' to an iron pin; and North 75°08'40" West, 159.74' to an iron pin; thence North 13°32'10" East with the West line of the parcel 350.95' to the Point of Beginning. This tract contains 1.2238 acres from the lands of Dorothy M. Meyer (DR 159, Pg 617, and DR 180, Pg 593), and is subject to the right of way of Indiana State Route #350 (see survey D9-98-69-11; 20-8N-13E-2, prepared by Roger Woodfill, Indiana Land Surveyor S-0161 on 2-8-98). Contains 1.7762 acres, more or less.

More commonly known as: 8274 E State Road 350, Milan, IN 47031

Parcel No.: 69-08-20-600-014.000-009

Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.

David M. Johnson
30354-45
Doyle & Foutty, P.C.
41 E Washington Street,
Suite 400
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Franklin Township
8274 E State Road 350, Milan, IN 47031

The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street addressed published herein.

SERVICE DIRECTED TO:
Lucy Lunsford
8274 East State Road 350
Milan, IN 47031

NOTICE: DOYLE & FOUTTY, P.C. IS A DEBT COLLECTOR.

103, 1, 3x hspaxlp L206

SCHOOL BUSES FOR SALE

The Milan Community School Corporation, 412 East Carr Street, Milan, Indiana 47031, will be accepting sealed bids for the sale of two buses. The first is a 2010 Thomas Freightliner, 26 seat, 78 passenger school bus, under body storage, mileage of 92,120. The second is a 2011 Thomas Freightliner, 26 seat, 78 passenger school bus, under body storage, mileage of 90,065. Buses will be sold as is. Bids should be stated for individual buses. Bids will be accepted at the office of the Superintendent until 1:00 pm on Thursday, May 13th, 2021. Bids may be delivered in person or mailed to the above address. For further information, bidders may contact Mike Brades, Director of Operations, at 812-654-2365 ext 311.

Help Wanted

The Ripley County Humane Society is looking for someone to do yard work at 10 hours a week at 10 an hour. Stop in from 8-4 to fill out an application.

Phone #: (812) 689-3773
1202 W County Rd 150 N
Osgood, IN 47037

Southeastern Career Center Job Opening

Electrical Trades Instructor

- Contract position 183 - 7 hr. days
- Salary depends on years of experience

If interested contact Kylie Krick, 812-689-5253 Ext 222

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