



Through the Decades



Member of Adams Health Network



This community newsletter also features:

The Adams Health Network Foundation & Our 100th Anniversary Patriotic Concert

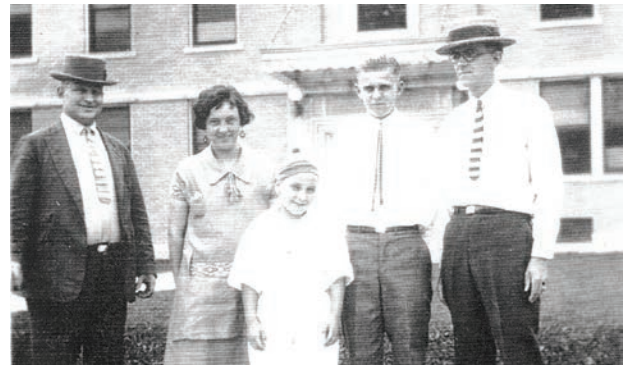
1920's

When it came time to build the brand new Adams County Memorial Hospital in 1923, it was the desire of the citizens of Adams County to dedicate the fine, new facility to the men and women of Adams County and of our country who had served in World War I, which had ended about five years earlier.

The first Superintendent of the hospital was a nurse, Miss Emilie Christ. All the nurses were single and lived on the 3rd floor of the hospital. If the nurses had a good week, they were given one night off per week.

Twenty-three doctors were practicing medicine in Adams County in 1923 when Adams County Memorial Hospital was first constructed. Of course, doctors made house calls then and almost every town in the county, including the small ones, had at least one or two doctors.

The first baby born at Adams County Memorial Hospital was Marlyce Braun, born August 27th of 1923. She went on to become a nurse.



1922 - Hospital established with \$100,000 bond issue to finance construction

1930's



At the July 3, 1931 Hospital Board meeting, the Board voted again to apply for a \$5,000 annual budget for the hospital. Patients during the previous month of June were a total of 66. Total expenses during that month were \$2,894.04, income was \$2,303.00. The average cost per day was \$5.13.

December 1933 the following costs were noted on a handwritten bill to a patient:

- Room for 1 week..... \$25.00
- Operating room use..... \$12.50
- Special Nurse's Aid (3 days)..... \$3.00
- Room for 4 additional days..... \$14.40
- Medicines..... 75 cents



1939 - Motion made by Trustee James Briggs to have Adams County Memorial Hospital become a member of the American Hospital Association.



1938 - A festive Halloween party held at ACMH

1940's

A motion was made by the board to prepare a room for laboratory equipment and to accept the gift of said equipment offered by the Psi Xiota Psi sorority. The motion was seconded and approved.

The total number of babies born during 1941 was 255.

1943 - With several defense operations (for the World War II effort) operating in the area and offering higher wages, ACMH Board adopts policy to increase pay levels to what defense plants were offering.

1950's

In 1952, monthly receipts were reported as follows:

- Emergency Room receipts..... \$125.00
- Lab receipts..... \$117.50
- Xray receipts..... \$265.50
- Surgery receipts..... \$1180.50

The payroll total in 1952 was \$9,474.45

OB room report: 61 births (24 males) (37 females)

- Meals served to patients..... 2281
- Meals to staff..... 1905

In the 1950's common vendors the hospital used were:

Alfred Beavers Oil Service, American Sterilizer Company, *Baker Plumbing and Heating, Burk Elevator Company, Citizens Telephone Company, Cloverleaf Creameries, *Commercial Print Shop, Decatur Farms, Holthouse Drug Company, Hospital Record Company, Kohne Drug Store, Schafer Store, Schmitt Locker Service, Seven Up Bottling Company, E.R. Squibb & Sons, Stewart's Bakery. * still in business today



1958 - Headlines for dedication of hospital addition



New Addition to the hospital was completed in 1958

1957 (November 4) - Specifications of equipment for the new addition of the hospital were revealed including items for the following areas: Surgery, Lab, X-ray, Kitchen, Laundry, Dining Room, and Nursery and Delivery.

1958 - October 26 - **Dedication Day for new addition.** Bands from Decatur High School and Decatur Catholic High School played music as 700 guests for the program arrived. Tours given the rest of the day with an estimated 1,500 people touring the building.

1958 - Two "firsts" for Decatur physician/surgeon Dr. John C. Carroll as he performed the first surgery in the new Operating Room on April 23, 1958, and then after the OB department opened on September 5, 1958, he assisted in the first delivery the same day.

1960's

The following letter was written to the Board of Trustees from the Hospital Staff on October 2, 1964:

Gentleman: At the last staff meeting the group discussed a number of issues pertaining to the improvement of various hospital services and items that would bring us closer to being a fully accredited hospital.

A formal motion was made, seconded, and approval voted on the following items:

1. Securing a formally educated dietician to operate the kitchen.
 2. Securing a medical record librarian and Dictaphone set-up for the recording of histories and case records.
 3. Raising the salaries of the RN to equal or surpass the other area hospitals in order to hold and attract more nurses in as much as the shortage of nurses at present is putting a serious strain on our present staff and affecting patient care.
- Thank you for your consideration for these problems



June of 1964, a board member stated he thought it would be a good idea to have on hand a couple of portable air conditioning units that could be placed in the patient rooms upon request of the patient. He suggested that the Administrator check with Habegger-Schafer Store. He was advised that they had a used unit for sale at a bargain price.

On July 20th, purchased a 16" Royal Typewriter for the office.

1970's



When ACMH was originally built in 1923, the funeral homes in Adams County began a free ambulance service. That service stayed in effect until 1976 when Adams County EMS took over and was an official part of county government. Two years later in 1978, EMS became integrated with the hospital.

1973 - Board contracts with Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Services, Inc. to establish a Physical Therapy Department at ACMH. It will operate under the supervision of the hospital administrator and ACMH staff doctors.



1973 - Dr. H.S. Lee, general surgeon and family practitioner, was added to the ACMH staff on June 5.

1980's

In 1980, the Hospital Board of Directors reviewed a television system proposal, the Board authorized the Hospital's Executive Director to contract a lease agreement on behalf of the Hospital Auxiliary with WNY-TV for the purchase of the Master Antenna System, and patient pillow speakers.

The physician's office building on High Street was dedicated on June 1, 1980.

Ninety-three hospital auxiliary members came to a special meeting at the Decatur Church of God to hear speakers Dr. John Doan and Jan Bauman, RN on the topic of the "Alternate Birthing Room".

The Board of Trustees approved instrumentation for Laparoscopy in the amount of \$9,500 and equipment for temporary pacemaker implants.

In February of 1988, the Chairman of the Hospital Board called a special meeting for the sole purpose of considering the acquisition and financing of a long-term health care facility.

Woodcrest opened, starting with three residents in November 1989. Woodcrest has grown to include nursing care, independent living, assisted living, and memory care.



1990's

The Board of Director gave the following direction at their March 6, 1991 meeting:

- Remodel OB and develop the LDRP concept (Labor, Delivery, Recovery, and Postpartum).
- Relocate medical records to the basement shell space.
- Develop plans for an outpatient surgery holding area.
- Recruit one additional family practice physician to locate in Berne. This physician might also open an office 1-2 days per week in Geneva.

The hospital board determines that there is a need to provide a physician and clinical facilities in Geneva.

The Executive Director, Marvin Baird, presented an update on the MRI. The trailer housing the MRI arrived today July 5, 2000. The magnet arrived July 6. The unit was scheduled to be operational by August 2000.



Mr. Baird informed the Board that two of the physicians working part-time through the residency program will become full-time physician in the ER, Scott T. Smith, MD and Nicholas W. Lazoff, MD are independent contract physicians.

The Village of Heritage Nursing Home was opened in 2000, to residents in Monroeville, Ft. Wayne, New Haven, and surrounding towns.

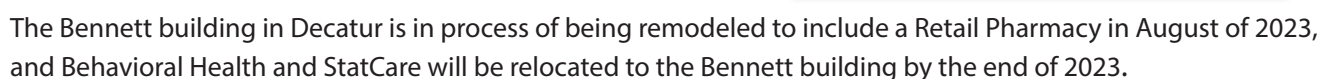


Noted in the Board minutes in 2011, it stated that physical, occupational and speech therapy have increased substantially in 2011.

It was announced that Adams Memorial Hospital has been named as one of the top 100 critical care access hospital in the United States according to information released by the National Rural Health Association.

The COVID-19 Pandemic impacted how care was given and changed many policies and procedures within AHN.

Ground was broken in 2023 for a new medical office building in Geneva to include a physician's office, lab, and rehabilitation clinic (PT, OT, Speech), and radiology services.



AMH celebrates their centennial 1923-2023

Leaders Over the Years

- Miss Emilie Christ, Superintendent of Nurses..... 1923-1935
- Miss Elizabeth Pittman, Superintendent of Nurses..... 1935-1941
- Miss Nellie Mae Lowe, Superintendent of Nurses..... 1941-1944
- Miss Florence Lichtenstiger, Superintendent of Nurses..... 1944-1954
- Thurman Drew, Business Manager..... 1954-1966
- Edwin Kauffman, Administrator..... 1966-1977
- Andrew Barrett II, Executive Director..... 1977-1989
- Marvin Baird, Executive Director..... 1989-2011
- Tom Nordwick..... 2011-2012
- Jo Ellen Eidam..... 2012-2020
- Dr. Scott Smith..... 2020-Current



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Founded in 1978 by forward thinking individuals, the purpose of the Adams Health Network Foundation is to receive and administer funds for scientific, educational, and charitable purposes with the goal of fostering high quality accessible health care in Adams County in association with providers of health care.



Mission: Inspiring giving **hearts for healthcare**



Vision: Empowering residents of Adams County and beyond to lead active healthy lives

Values: We value those who cheerfully **GIVE:**

Meet with Foundation Executive Director, Kim Trombley to discuss ways your gift can impact health in Adams County. Contact Kim at kim.trombley@adamshealthnetwork.org or by phone at 260-724-2145 ext. 13062

- Generous with time and resources
- Impactful to the community
- Vision for wellbeing
- Exceptional experiences



Employee Philanthropy Jeans Day Fund

Employees donate \$2+ each pay period to the Jeans Day Fund. 60% of each month's donations are given to an organization in Adams County focused on health and wellness. 40% is reserved for the Adams Helping Adams Fund to assist employees in an unexpected financial hardship. Two staff members have been assisted this year.

The first five months of 2023...

- The Hope Clinic received: **\$1189**
- Golden Meadows Home received: **\$1197**
- Adams County Cancer Coalition received: **\$1825**
- Hero Meals received: **\$1225**
- Kate's Cart received: **\$1234**

Gift Shop

2,538 volunteer hours at the AMH Gift Shop



Diamonds and Denim Inaugural Gala raised \$38,407.00

Funds raised are being used for pediatric needs in Adams County including bilirubin blankets, car seats, and equipment for outpatient pediatric therapy.

Summer has arrived at the AMH Gift Shop. Stop by and see everything that's new!

Healthcare Scholarships Six \$1000 Scholarships awarded in the county

Two Scholarships awarded at each high school in the county to seniors entering the field of healthcare.



Save the Date! 10th Annual Golf Outing

September 8, 2023
Cross Creek Golf Course



Funds raised benefit healthcare scholarships and community health initiatives

Ways to Support the Adams Health Network Foundation

- Shop or volunteer at the AMH Gift Shop
- Attend or become a sponsor for the 10th Annual Golf Outing or Diamonds and Denim Gala
- Make a monthly or one-time donation online at adamshospital.org/foundation or send a check to: **AHN Foundation • 1100 Mercer Avenue • Decatur, IN 46733**

CELEBRATE

★ ★ THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ★ ★

ADAMS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

FEATURING THE **FORT WAYNE PHILHARMONIC**

★ ★ ★ PATRIOTIC POPS ★ ★ ★

WHEN:

Monday, July 3, 2023
6pm-RB Floats & Hot Dogs
7:30pm-Philharmonic

WHERE:

Madison Street Plaza
128 Madison St. Decatur, IN 46733

Community members are invited to attend and enjoy **FREE** performances, root beer floats, & hot dogs! "Those 2 Pour Guys" will also be present with wine slushies, etc! Attendees are asked to bring their own lawn chairs.

Patriotic Pops
**FORT WAYNE
PHILHARMONIC**
Andrew Constantine, Music Director

