

Waverly Health Center Volunteer Services

NOTES FROM MELINDA

Happy New Year!

I can't believe that it is 2026!

Please notice that this newsletter is for January and February.

If you are unaware, I am having foot surgery January 7 and will be off work 4-6 weeks to allow my foot time to heal.

During this time only I changed the rules of on-line scheduling so that you will be able to remove yourself immediately and not have a 7-day restriction. Hopefully this might allow another volunteer the opportunity to pick up your shift.

While I am away, please contact the area that you volunteer.

Dining room - (319) 352-4903

Specialty Clinic - call Shuree - (319) 483-1159

Gift Garden Clerks - I will send a specific email with information and will print one for the book.

Entrances

Blue - CC clinic at (319) 483-1390

Green call (319) 352-4120

Red can let Katie know at (319) 483-1375

Melinda



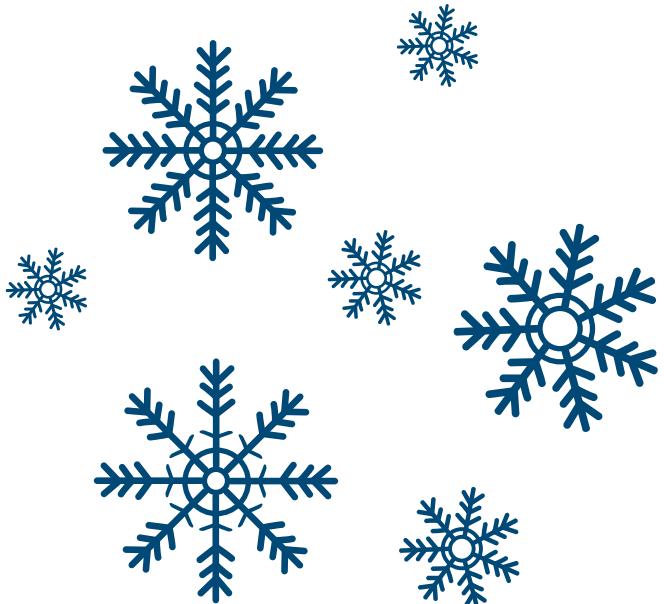
New Volunteers:

Gwen Paulsen

Monica Lursen

Duaine Westpfahl

NEWSLETTER JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2026



Reminder if the weather is bad and you are not comfortable driving, please stay home!



No Volunteering

Reminder: No volunteering on New Year's Day

Waverly Health Center Volunteer Services

TRAINING CORNER

Hand Hygiene

When to use hand sanitizer vs soap and water:

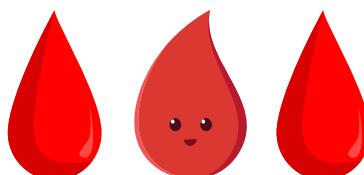
Hand sanitizer:

- Going into and out of patient rooms
- After coughing, sneezing and/or blowing nose.
- After removing gloves.
- After touching garbage.



Soap and water:

- When hands are visibly dirty.
- Before eating food.
- After using the restroom.
- Whenever you feel a “build up” of the hand gel on the surface of your hands.
- Can be used in place of hand sanitizer per volunteer choice.
- When in contact with blood or bodily fluids (volunteers should NOT be touching)



Bloodborne Pathogens

- Bloodborne pathogens are bacteria and viruses that can be found in human blood.
- They may also be in other fluids of the body.
- Hand hygiene is the best way to prevent the spread of pathogens. Always use soap and water!
- Volunteers should **NOT** be touching blood, bodily fluids or sharps. If you do come in contact with blood, bodily fluids or sharps do the following:
 - Wash your hands.
 - Identify the source of the exposure.
 - Notify WHC staff in your volunteer service area AND Melinda

Waverly Health Center Volunteer Services

December Auxiliary Board Meeting

Highlights from the WHC Auxiliary November meeting 12/8/25:

- CEO Jodi Geerts shared that the implementation of EPIC has begun, with a goal of going live October 2026. When the documentary filmed by All Access with Andy Garcia is done being edited, WHC will receive clips that can be used for marketing. Nuclear Medicine will start using its new area within WHC this week. WHC has been recognized as a Wellmark Blue Distinction Center for Excellence for its Birthing Center and Orthopedics. Geerts said it is not easy to get this recognition. A new WHC Foundation position, Business Development and Funds Specialist, is being advertised, with interviews starting soon. In the area of provider recruitment, two new providers have started in the ED. The newest orthopedics provider, Dr. Collin Haben, is using the robotics system for hip and knee surgeries. Flu and respiratory illnesses have started off slowly so far, with a small uptick following Thanksgiving, and another expected following Christmas. The state of Iowa will be receiving money from the federal government (\$200 million for each of 5 years) to help with rural healthcare. WHC will be in talks with other hospitals to combine with them to apply, as plans involving a group of hospitals may have a better chance to receive money than a single hospital's plan.
- Auxiliary finances show a balance of \$7,852.43.
- The December Nutman sale earned \$615.65. The popcorn fundraiser will happen again in January with the Super Bowl.
- Jan Wilcox, Events chairperson, shared that the 65th Anniversary subcommittee has met twice and has several things planned for the celebration in 2026.
- Claire Brown, lead ED volunteer and student Board member, will be leaving. Her replacement will be Olivia Janss, who is a junior at Wartburg.
- The date for the Annual Meeting will be Thursday, May 28, 2026.

The January meeting will be Monday, January 12, 2026, at 9:00am in the CG room. All are welcomed!

AUXILIARY BOARD NEEDS

If you are interested in joining the Auxiliary Board, please reach out to Carol Young (319) 239-7189.

Open positions: Vice President and Secretary

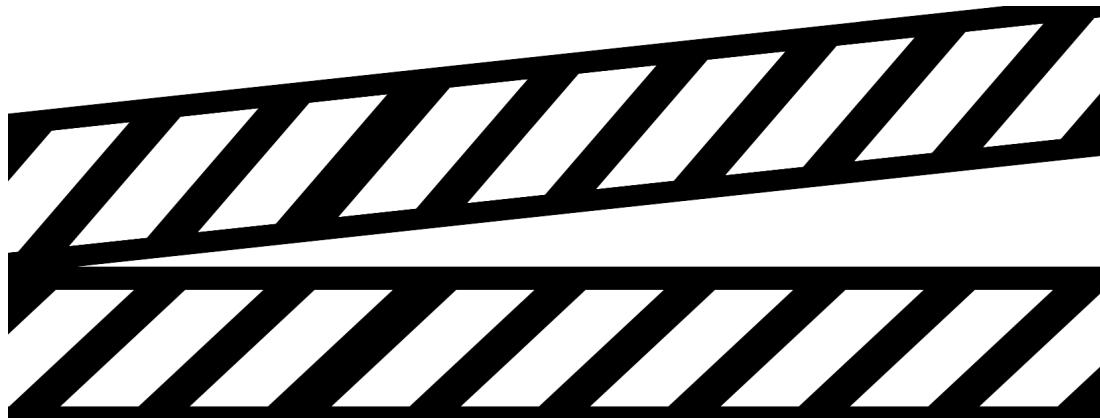
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SUPPORT THE WHC AUXILIARY

The Auxiliary is accepting monetary donations for two initiatives:

- Auxiliary Scholarships** - This year the Auxiliary would like to be able to award \$20,000 again to students continuing their education in the healthcare field.
- Staff Appreciation Event** - Each year, the Auxiliary hosts an event to thank our incredible WHC staff, including those at our 4 off- campus clinics, for their dedication and support of our fundraisers and events. This year the appreciation event will be Wednesday, March 25.

Please send funds to WHC Auxiliary, 312 Ninth St. SW, Waverly, IA 50677



Production: **ALL ACCESS WITH ANDY GARCIA**

This short-form documentary series will air on Public Television stations in 50 states in 2026.

Starring: Waverly Health Center	Email coming soon with more details!
Director: Public Television	
What: Early screening for staff & volunteers	Stay Tuned!

January 2026

DATES TO REMEMBER:

1/1 New Year Day - No volunteering

1/3 Sandi Dahlquist

1/5 Jan Davis

1/6 Alex Pries

1/6 Becky David

1/6 Mark Platte

1/6 Speaker Series- Dementia Friends- 6:00 - 7:00 pm in Tendrils

During this session, guests will learn basics of dementia such as what dementia is, what it's like to live with the disease and some tips for communicating with people who have dementia. Those in attendance will receive a Dementia Friends certificate.

1/7 Melinda's Surgery

1/12 Auxiliary Board Meeting 9:00 - 10:00 am CG Room- everyone that receives this newsletter is welcomed!

1/13 Breast Cancer Support Group 6:30 - 7:30 pm in Tendrils

1/14 Sharon Ulrich

1/15 Morgan Grelk

1/15 Parkinson's Support Group 1:30 - 3:00 pm in CG Room

1/23 Zach Weidler

1/25 Ellen Crayne

1/27 Tracy Wilson

1/28 Carol Bruxvoort

1/29 Mary VerSteegt



Melinda out of the office
New Year's Day and
January 7 for 4 to 6 weeks

Waverly Health Center Volunteer Services

FEBRUARY

2026

DATES TO REMEMBER:

2/9 Bella Murphy

**2/9 Auxiliary Board Meeting 9:00 - 10:00 am CG Room-
everyone that receives this newsletter is welcomed!**

2/10 Breast Cancer Support Group 6:30 - 7:30 pm in Tendril

2/13 Joan Steffen

2/14 Valentine's Day

2/15 John Scheibel

2/16 Marsha Hinderaker

2/16 Barb Fricke

2/19 Parkinson's Support Group 6:00 - 7:00 pm in CG Room



2/22 Val King

2/23 Women's Heart Event



FOR
volunteering



Waverly Health Center Volunteer Services