



**HOCKING VALLEY  
Community Hospital**

LEADING THE WAY TO A HEALTHIER COMMUNITY

**APRIL 24, 2020**

# Weekly Update

# Heartfelt THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

HAPPY VOLUNTEER WEEK! A special thanks to our hospital volunteers as well as those who have stepped up in many different ways to volunteer during the COVID-19 pandemic.

While our current hospital volunteers are physically distancing at home, we certainly appreciate all the things they have done at HVCH and look forward to seeing them again!

- Alice Blatchley, Materials Management
- John Chappellear, Registration/Admitting
- Betty Jo Downs, Specialty Clinic
- Donna Gordon, Operator
- Linda Hilbert, Materials Management
- Roger Hosler, Materials Management
- David McAllister, Materials Management
- Ruth Ann Spatar, Materials Management
- Etta Ruth Sullivan, Community Relations
- Judy Woolery, Medical Records
- Charlene Mitchell, Pastoral Care Team
- Elizabeth Wagner, Pastoral Care Team
- Rodney Rogers, Pastoral Care Team
- Tom Gates, Pastoral Care Team
- Scott Smith, Pastoral Care Team
- Mark Barrell, Pastoral Care Team

## INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES OF THE WEEK

*"This world of ours... must avoid becoming a community of dreadful fear and hate, and be, instead, a proud confederation of mutual trust and respect"*

—Dwight D. Eisenhower

*"As we advance in life it becomes more and more difficult, but in fighting the difficulties the inmost strength of the heart is developed."*

—Vincent Van Gogh

*"Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around."*

—Leo Buscaglia

*"You may not always have a comfortable life and you will not always be able to solve all of the world's problems at once but don't ever underestimate the importance you can have because history has shown us that courage can be contagious and hope can take on a life of its own."*

—Michelle Obama

## Direct to You: From Latricia Johnston

If you recall, my last article was soon after the announcement of the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic. I mentioned how overnight it seemed our entire world had changed and left all of us full of uncertainty. A volatile economy, concerned healthcare systems across the nation, and panicked individuals grocery hoarding just to name a few.



Latricia Johnston,  
Chief Public  
Relations Officer

Roughly a month later, alongside the daily press conferences, searches for personal protective equipment and toilet tissue, other things have risen to the surface.

With the shut down of many businesses, the air has become cleaner from the reduction of carbon emissions produced by motor vehicles, airplanes and factories.

Individuals and families are now taking routine walks and bike rides around towns and parks replacing trips to the gym. Chefs at home have identified new recipes and homemade bread has suddenly become a staple around many dinner tables. Closets, cupboards, garages and other

hidden spaces have now been cleaned that otherwise would have been avoided. Some are taking up gardening for the first time or planting larger gardens as they become less dependent on stores for produce.

The virus has also caused us to step outside of our comfort zones. We are now successfully navigating business meetings through Zoom/Go To meetings better than we might have ever thought we could as individuals. We are downloading books to read from our local libraries as we are sheltering in place. We are receiving our healthcare through the blessings of HVCH telehealth.

And, one of my favorites through this time of social distancing, has been how people have cared for and looked in on one another. Never in my life would I have left a pack of toilet paper or paper towels on my neighbors front door step, until now – and I did. Who would have thought we would put a call out at some point in the history of HVCH for homemade masks, but we did - and you responded. Our local schools are delivering meals to ensure students continue to eat properly. Families and friends are texting/calling to simply check in, shar-

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## Finance Update

Slowly, the funding is trickling in. We continue to work to get clarification on much of the guidance that has already been issued, and that is frustrating to say the least. Just last night, Congress passed an additional \$484 billion funding package that included another \$75 billion earmarked for hospitals.

**\$100 Billion Grant Fund** – We received another disbursement today from the HHS grant fund today. We knew it would be much smaller than the first wave of funding due to the calculation method they were using. We received \$140,000. In total, we’ve received just over \$800,000. Now, we are waiting to hear if HHS will consider us rural for purposes of the \$10 billion allotted for rural providers that should go out next week.

**Payroll Protection Loan** – No news on this front. I have been made aware of at least six other public hospitals that were approved for PPP funds, but there has still been no clarification released. I am expecting to see some guidance next week because the Treasury is required to release clarification no later than 30 days after passage – which was March 26th.

**HCAP Distribution** – We did get a bit clearer of a guideline this week on when the funds will be dispersed. This is \$1.2 million and we will likely receive it in late May or early June.

**CAH Grant** – We still haven’t heard much about this grant, only that we qualify, that it is for \$90,000, and that the Ohio Dept. of Rural Health has applied for it on our behalf.

**Telehealth Grants** – We believe we have identified the grant we want to pursue and are working to gather the required documentation.

**Rural Health Grant** – Unfortunately, we were not able to get anywhere with the Ohio Hospital Association to reconsider HVCH as a rural facility. Although the grant was “only” for \$28,000, every dollar counts when it comes to a small RURAL

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| HVCH Cafeteria Menu April 27-May 1 |                     |                    |                  |                   |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| MONDAY                             | TUESDAY             | WEDNESDAY          | THURSDAY         | FRIDAY            |
| Chicken Fried Rice                 | Meatball Sub        |                    | Burritos         |                   |
| Sloppy Joe                         | Chicken Fingers     | Turkey Burger      | Loaded Nachos    | Hot Dogs w/ Sauce |
| French Fries                       | Spinach Casserole   | Bacon Cheeseburger | Baked Potato Bar | Battered Cod      |
| Carrots                            | Oven Fried Potatoes | Corn Broccoli      | Fried Rice       | Green Beans       |
| Cabbage                            | Cauliflower         | Onion Rings        | Brussels Sprouts | Vegetable Medley  |
| Broccoli                           | Breadstick          | Tomato Soup        | Beef Pot Roast   | Peas              |
| Potato Soup                        | Chicken Soup        |                    | Soup             |                   |



## Quarterly gift card winner announced

Congratulations to Dusty Phillips, STNA, Emergency Department. Dusty's green "thank you" ticket was drawn for the quarterly employee gift card drawing. She was presented with a Target gift card.

## START YOUR CAREER WITH HVCH TODAY!

Apply @ [www.hvch.org](http://www.hvch.org)

- Medical Laboratory Technician/ Medical Technologist (MLT/MT) - Full Time
- Medical Laboratory Technician/ Medical Technologist (MLT/MT) - NIGHTS - Full Time

Apply at <https://hvch.applicantpro.com/jobs/>



## Special visitors see HVCH patients

Struttin' into HVCH yesterday came rooster Boots and rescue chicken Daffy to visit patients at Hocking Valley Community Hospital. They also brought along their owners Kara Whitney and Brecken Schenkel who were absolutely precious stopping at each window to brighten the day of patients. Thank you so much for taking the time to remember those recovering at our hospital!



## DIRECT

ing “air hugs instead of bear hugs.”

A crisis such as Coronavirus has reminded us how much community, nuclear family and friends really mean. It has also shown to us, and others around the globe, to what extent we will go to support others in a time of need.

Imagine the thousands of dollars in fabric and time that have been donated to hospitals and nursing homes around the world because someone wanted to ensure the safety of healthcare providers.

Businesses have jumped to the cause and donated funds to assist with school meals and lunches for hospital employees. Other businesses willingly sacrificed their own personal protective equipment so that workers in healthcare organizations would have enough to save the lives of others. Neighbors plowing up garden spaces for other neighbors, or watching children of staff who are considered essential workers. And, if you’ve done nothing more than stay home...believe me when I say you’ve made a difference.

In some ways you could say these past few months have made us more human. Despite the challenges we are facing today from the pandemic, sprouting up from it all have been some beautiful life lessons and blessings. Have you been a beneficiary, or have you been a benefactor? If you haven’t already done so, I encourage you to look for something - anything - that you might do to make an impact on the world today as we push through to our grand re-opening of society.

## FINANCE

facility. I was incredibly disappointed in the OHA in their decision.

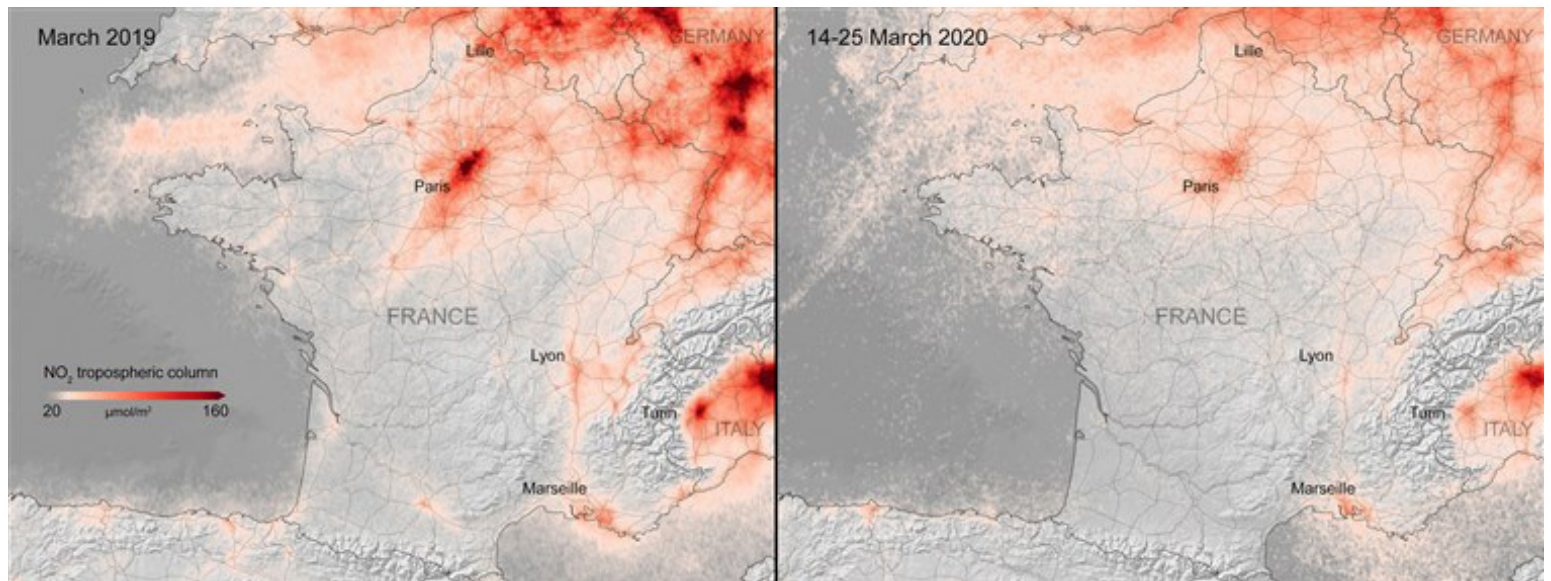
**BWC Rebate** – According to the Governor’s office, 170,000 checks were mailed to businesses this week. We will be on the lookout for our checks – this totals approximately \$87,000.

**Accelerated Payment Program** – We received an additional Accelerated Payment that we were not expecting due to a processing error at CGS, the Medicare clearinghouse for our region. This takes total APP funds to \$5.2 million and we have secured them in our investment accounts until such a time they are needed.

**FEMA Grant** – We have filled out the initial paperwork for the FEMA funding and are in the process of gathering our qualified expenses. FEMA will reimburse up to 75% of costs associated with Covid-19 response.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I feel it is important that we all keep informed about what is going on at both the state and federal level regarding the financial pressures caused by COVID-19. We are also working on a plan to “open back up” non-emergent procedures. This will ensure patients are getting the care they need, while keeping our staff, providers, and patients safe.

*–Julie Grow, CFO*



European Space Agency / via Reuters

Average nitrogen dioxide concentrations from air pollution across France in March 2019, left, and March 14 to 25, 2020, as mapped by the Copernicus Sentinel-5P satellite, a reduction that the European Space Agency says is due to the strict quarantine measures during the coronavirus outbreak.



# HOCKING VALLEY Community Hospital

## OUR MISSION

*To provide our community an unparalleled patient experience through world class service that is both compassionate and professional.*

## OUR VISION

*To provide extraordinary care close to home now and into the future.*

HVCH is a critical-access hospital located in the city of Logan, Ohio, which serves residents in Hocking and surrounding counties. With more than 325 employees, our staff is here to serve the residents and visitors of our Hocking Valley community through various ancillary and emergency care services. HVCH is Joint Commission accredited, and we offer a wide range of primary, acute, and rehabilitative services. We are pleased to provide 24-hour emergency services to our patients through our ER and Urgent Care. Additionally, our surgical center, rehabilitation center, physical therapy clinic, pain control and wound clinic, imaging, laboratory, cardiovascular/cardiopulmonary, sleep clinic, geriatric psychiatric, and oncology services are also available. We are proud of our facility. HVCH is affiliated with OSUWMC, improving healthcare services to the Hocking and surrounding counties in the areas of general surgery and orthopaedics. HVCH also is a part of the Ohio State Health Network.