

## **COVID Update:**

We have seen an increase in positive COVID cases in our area, to include a number of asymptomatic cases.

- Current % Positive Rate: 2.4% vs. State rate of 2.8%
- 7 Day Cumulative Rate: .91% vs State rate of 1.3%

## **Statewide Statistics:**

- Total Specimens Tested: 4,955,322 (2,471,688 individuals)
- # Virus Detected: 138,651
- % Positive: 2.8% (cumulative); 1.3% 7-day average
- 9,672 deaths (7.0% of confirmed cases)
- Worcester County: 15,280 (*1,137 deaths*)
- Franklin County: 426 (*71 deaths*)

## **Visitation Restrictions:**

Due to the uptick in positive COVID cases, visitation will once again be restricted. Patients on Comfort Measures Only will be permitted to have one healthy visitor, as well as laboring mothers. Patients coming for outpatient services are not permitted to have anyone accompany them at this time. As always, we know there are special circumstances that warrant an accommodation, but the general rule is no visitation for the health and safety of our patients, staff and our community at large. Limiting the foot-traffic helps to maintain a sterile environment for our patients.

## **Staff Reminders:**

Staff are reminded to remain hyper vigilant, to include appropriate mask-wearing, hand-washing and adhering to social distancing and maximum occupancy guidelines in break rooms. Eye protection is also recommended for staff in clinical areas.

## **Employee Announcements:**

**Annex Building Office Changes** - To accommodate the addition of outpatient behavioral health services and the arrival of Heywood's two new psychiatrists in the Annex Building, the following office adjustments are scheduled to take place, on or before November 16th . Human Resources will move to the South side/Matthews Street side, First Floor of the Annex Building (previously occupied by Marketing and Community Relations who will vacate the area).

The new Behavioral Health Office providers will occupy the current Human Resources office area.

This is a temporary solution as we continue to evaluate long-term solutions for both behavioral health services and tele-work space. Thank you for your flexibility and patience as we initiate these preliminary office moves and begin minor renovations to limit patient access to the rest of the Annex building.

**Back Parking Lot Closure - 10/21 due to CSSR Reno.**

**Positive News:**

**Medical Practices' Patient Experience - This week's focus is on the Heywood Health Center for Women!**

**Andrea Damour, MD**

This was my first appointment with Dr. Damour, having seen a different doctor with the group several years ago. I found Dr. Damour to be knowledgeable, straight forward and compassionate in dealing with my concerns, giving recommendations I was comfortable with and scheduling a following appointment to monitor my progress.

**Jeffrey Blake, MD**

I have always enjoyed Dr. Blake's down to earth manner. He tells you what the situation is and what we are looking at.

**Jonathan Grogin, MD**

I was referred to Dr Grogins by my primary care doctor and can't say enough great things about my interaction. He was prompt; no excessive wait once you were in a room. He was thorough in his explanations and listened to my questions and concerns. I was experiencing a significant amount of pain during my procedure and Dr Grogins recognized that. He let me decide whether I was comfortable in continuing or making alternative arrangements for my test at a later date. Dr Grogins bedside manner is top notch!

**Liezl Irisari, MD**

She was very easy to talk to & friendly. Answered all my concerns.

**Ultrasound Awareness Month**

Susan Pirie, RDCS and Manager of Cardiology would like to recognize the Echo lab staff during ultrasound awareness month, and writes - This is a very exciting time for us. We have two new Philips ultrasound machines The Epiq Cvx and the Affiniti, a lighter machine for portable echos. and we will receive an upgrade to our existing Epiq 7. We have added a software application called automated strain analysis to one of the systems. This will help us to better evaluate chemotherapy induced cardiomyopathies and cardiac dysfunction from exposure to cancer

therapeutics. We perform Echocardiograms, Contrast Echocardiograms, Bubble studies Transesophageal Echocardiograms and Stress Echocardiograms  
We have 3 registered Cardiac sonographers at  
Heywood

- Susan Pirie - 31 years RDCS since 1998
- Sally Martin - 20 years and RDCS since 2000
- Rebecca Chene - 5 years and RDCS since 2015 recently promoted to Lead Echo Tech
- Van Mai Loupkhome - 2 months RDCS since 2019

We also do Echocardiograms, Contrast Echocardiograms, Bubble studies and Stress Echocardiograms at Athol Hospital

- Rhiannon Mui is our Cardiac sonographer at Athol Hospital and has been there for one year and started as a per diem at Heywood and has been a RCS since 2011.

At the Heywood Ultrasound department we specialize in General, Obstetric, vascular, and interventional ultrasound. We have 7 core staff and 3 per diem techs. Our core staff include Joy Livergood, Lisa Laperriere, Ganine Sullivan, Karen Glenny, Andrea Welch, Donna White, and Adrienne Ellowitz. Our 3 per diem staff are Amy Wilson, Carolyn Richardson, and Kate Dodge. The Ultrasound dept. acquired 4 new Philip Epiq Elite Ultrasound Machines. Heywood campus will utilize 3 and Athol will utilize 1.

- Andrea Welch Lead Ultrasound tech was Recognized this year for 10 years of Service and Ultrasound Tech
- Joy Livergood was recognized this year for 20 years of service.

**Healthy Harvest 5K** - Be sure to register for the 2020 Heywood Healthcare Healthy Harvest 5K alternative format. A Competitive Peloton Challenge Ride was also added. Sponsorship opportunities end on Monday. [Click here to join us this year as a participant or sponsor!](#)

Heywood Healthcare employees can get an early start in their participation by using the LIFE Center for the timed indoor 5K and Peloton Challenge! Details in the LIFE Center.

Special thanks to those who have already sponsored this years event:

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*Dr. Sarah Gilbert and Mark Tower*

*Gardner Rotary Club*

**Workforce Needs** - Please visit our website [www.heywood.org/careers](http://www.heywood.org/careers) if you are interested in learning more.

***Thank You and Have a Wonderful Weekend!***