

FIRST FRIDAYS

JANUARY 9, 2026

2026 Health Career Scholarship Applications Now Available



The Mon Health Medical Center Foundation Health Career Scholarships are available to area students who have chosen to go into selected health care professions and meet scholastic and financial need requirements. Scholarships are valued at \$1,000 annually and can be awarded for up to 4 years or \$4,000 per recipient. Get details, check eligibility, and download the application here:

MONHEALTH.COM/SCHOLARSHIPS



And Then There Were Two

Vandalia Health Mon Medical Center leaders and community members celebrated the completion of the hospital's first two Caring Cottages with a ribbon-cutting ceremony Friday, Dec. 19th in Morgantown. Located on the edge of the Mon Medical Center campus, the Caring Cottages provide a comfortable, home-like place to stay for patients and families who must travel for medical care, offering a supportive environment during what can be a stressful time.

The Caring Cottages initiative was made possible through the generous support of community partners, donors and volunteers, including the Mon Health Medical Center Auxiliary, whose long-standing commitment to patient-centered care helped bring the project to life. The Mon Health Ball of the Year events in 2023 and 2024, under the leadership of the Auxiliary, were instrumental in raising funds to support the construction of the Caring Cottages, helping transform the vision for patient and family lodging into a meaningful resource for those traveling to Morgantown for specialized care.



"Projects like the Caring Cottages demonstrate what's possible when a community comes together to support patients and families," said Bethann Gamponia, President, Mon Health Medical Center Auxiliary. "These cottages will make a meaningful difference for so many people in our region."

Expanding Care at Mon Preston Memorial Hospital



Vandalia Health leaders and staff joined community partners Friday, December 19th at Mon Preston Memorial Hospital to celebrate a major construction milestone for the hospital's infusion and oncology center expansion with a ceremonial beam signing. The event marked continued progress on the project which will expand cancer treatment and other clinical services, improve the patient experience, and strengthen access to advanced oncology care close to home for residents of Preston County and surrounding communities.

The \$6.5 million expansion is supported in part by a \$1.5 million award through the West Virginia Rural Hospital Grant Program. "The backing of our state and U.S. legislators and ongoing support of local community leaders has been instrumental in moving this project forward," said Melissa Lockwood, Chief Administrative Officer, Mon Preston Memorial Hospital. "Combined with Vandalia Health's ongoing investment in infrastructure and advanced technology, this expansion ensures that Preston County residents have access to advanced, patient-centered cancer and other physician and hospital-based care without having to leave their community now and in the future."



The 12,000-square-foot expansion, led by March-Westin, is on target for completion in early summer 2026.

Moodr Health Grants \$252,000 to P3 Program

Moodr Health recognized Mon Health's Progressing Through Postpartum (P3) Program as an Early Innovator Partner with a \$252,000 grant. Through their leadership, vision, and commitment to maternal mental health, the P3 team is redefining proactive, high quality postpartum care.



With the implementation of the Moodr platform, the P3 team can meet patients where they are, strengthen outreach, and improve outcomes for families across our community. We

First Exchange Bank donates \$3,000

Through its “Pink Out” campaign, First Exchange Bank pledged to donate \$25 for every new deposit account opened during the month of October. Funds raised through the Pink Out campaign help raise awareness, support early detection, and improve outcomes for individuals affected by breast cancer across the region.

“Breast cancer touches so many individuals and families in our communities, and we are honored to help advance programs that support early detection, education and patient care,” said Drew Harding, Branch Manager of First Exchange Bank’s Pierpont Landing office in Morgantown.



First Exchange Bank representatives presented the donation at the Women’s Imaging Center at Vandalia Health Mon Medical Center in Morgantown. This marks the second consecutive year the bank has contributed through the campaign, successfully reaching their \$3,000 fundraising goal.

“Support from community partners like First Exchange Bank helps us meet patients where they are - not just at diagnosis, but throughout their entire care journey,” said Regan Siko, Director, Oncology Service Line, Mon Health Cancer Center. “Investments like this strengthen the programs that surround clinical care, from education and navigation to resources that help our patients focus on healing.”

Confirmed 2026 Events

2026

THE DERBY

5.2.26

DRAGON BOATS

6.20.26

FIRST UP!
BobHugginsFishFry.org



January 30th, 2026
Mylan Park, Morgantown, WV
#FISHFRY2026 ★ **5:30PM**

EVENT DATES

WVRC MEDIA GOLF CLASSIC

7.6.26

DELYNN GOLF CLASSIC

8.3.26