

WMH hires new financial officer
by Lee De Bevoise

Friend's Warren Memorial Hospital (WMH) recently hired Don Williamson as its new Chief Financial Officer (CFO).

"Please join me in welcoming Don Williamson to our team as Chief Financial Officer. Don has over 30 years experience in hospital finance - most recently at Crete Area Medical Center. Don is well known and respected by both Mike Clymer our CPA Consultant and by our annual auditing team", stated WMH CEO John Wilson.

Williamson has been involved in the financial side of health care since about 1974. As he explained, "I liked mathematics in school. I then spent four years in the Navy as a dispersing clerk. After my discharge, I went to college for accounting." After graduating from college, his first job was in health care in the financial field. Williamson has been in health care ever since.

"Even today there are plenty of growth opportunities in health care," he explained. "Nursing is an open field and financial is also a big area."

Born and raised in South Dakota, his career in the financial realm of health care has taken him to South Dakota, Wyoming and Nebraska. Williamson currently resides in Friend.

He has five children of whom he is proud and with whom he stays in close touch. His daughter, Courtney Johnson lives in Omaha where she is an architect and in interior designing. Chadron is the home of Williamson's son, Don, Jr. He is currently a professor at Chadron State College and teaches math and physics. Katrina Gonzalez, another of his daughters, is a mortgage broker who lives in Scottsbluff. His daughter Torri Haytack makes Anaheim, Calif. her home. Haytack is a paralegal. Dominic, his other son, works for Great Plains Communications and lives in Sutherland.

Williamson also assisted Michele Holdsworth, and Nate and Tammy Klenke with the coaching for Friend's 8 and under softball team last summer.

His hobbies include fishing and riding a bicycle. "I just like being outdoors," explained Williamson.

Trying to get stability in the financial areas, help with recruiting, and increasing the patient volume are his immediate goals.

He enjoys living in Friend. "I see a lot of loyalty and parental support," Williamson stated. "The community takes an active part in school activities."

Friend is fortunate to have Williamson as the new CFO of WMH. You might say that it's like money in the bank!