A Message from CEO Steve Fontaine

We are pleased to announce the appointments of new leaders for Penn Highlands Healthcare.

Please join me in congratulating them on their appointments.

President, Penn Highlands Elk

We hope that some of you have had the time and opportunity to meet Bradley Chapman, MBA, FACHE, FHFMA, the new President of Penn Highlands Elk.

Brad’s experience with hospital administration, revenue enhancement, quality improvement and physician practice management as well as his ability to successfully grow services makes him the perfect candidate to assist Penn Highlands Elk and Penn Highlands Healthcare as we continue to grow and expand as an independent healthcare system in the region.

Chapman comes to Penn Highlands Elk from Auburn Community Hospital in Auburn, New York. It is also a not-for-profit hospital with 99 licensed beds and an affiliated skilled nursing facility with 80 beds. Brad was the Vice President of Administration and was responsible for hospital operations, marketing and development.

Prior to his time at that hospital, he served as an Associate Administrator at Oswego Hospital in Oswego, New York overseeing the hospital’s 28-bed behavioral health hospital and outpatient clinics and programs.

He received his Bachelor’s and Master's Degrees from the College of Business from Niagara University in Lewiston, New York and his Certificate in Healthcare Leadership from Le Moyne College in Syracuse, New York. He is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives and a Fellow of the Healthcare Financial Management Association.

Brad and his wife, Jane, are from rural areas in Central New York, similar to St. Marys. They have two boys, Will, age 6, and Jonathan, age 4, and are excited to move to St. Marys and become part of the community.

System Director, Physician Recruitment, Penn Highlands Healthcare

Please welcome Patrick G. Dreer, Sr., MBA, CMSR, DASPR, who has been named System Director of Physician Recruitment for Penn Highlands Healthcare.

He will be responsible for overseeing the recruitment of new physicians and advanced practice providers for the system.

Patrick comes to Penn Highlands Healthcare with more than 20 years of experience in recruiting and marketing for physicians and healthcare providers.

He was superintendent of Health Professions Recruitment for the U.S. Air Force Reserve Command, directing operations and strategic planning. His previous positions also include President of the Mid-Atlantic Physician Recruiter Alliance, Inc., Physician Recruiter for Lancaster General Health/Penn Medicine and Regional Director for the American Cancer Society, as well.

Patrick received his Bachelor’s Degree in Business Management/Finance from Park University in Parkville, Missouri, and his Master’s Degree in Business Administration from American Military University in Washington, D.C. He
also has a certificate in Human Resources Management from Villanova University.

Patrick is a native of Baltimore and a current resident of DuBois. He is married to Alyson Stefanow Dreer of Scotch Plains, New Jersey. He has four children, Patrick, Jr., James, Carolyn, and Joseph.

Service Line Director, Perioperative Services, Penn Highlands Healthcare

Please welcome Vicki Merrick, RN, BSN, MAOL, who has been named Service Line Director of Perioperative Services for Penn Highlands Healthcare.

She will be responsible for providing supervision and direction of all surgical services in the system. She will work closely with leadership in order to ensure regulatory compliance, quality control and performance improvement throughout the system.

Vicki comes to Penn Highlands Healthcare from Mercy Medical Center in Canton, Ohio where she was the Administrative Director of Surgical Services. She was previously the Director of Operations for Health InVentures. She was an Administrator for Austintown Surgery Center and a Manager of the Specialty Surgery Center of Summa Health System.

Vicki has been a Registered Nurse since 1981. She received her Associate’s Degree in Applied Science from Youngstown State University, her Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from Ohio University and her Master’s Degree in Organizational Leadership from Malone University. Additionally, she holds the Certified Administrator Surgery Center, or CASC, credential and is a member of the Association of Operating Room Nurses.

Vicki is a native of Youngstown, Ohio, and a new resident of DuBois. She and her husband, Dwayne, have a son, David. The family has two Rocky Mountain horses and two standard poodles. Merrick has served on the board at Stark State University in Canton, Ohio, and as a leader for Boy Scouts of America and Equine Venture Crew. She is looking forward to becoming active in the DuBois community.

Occupational Health Manager, Penn Highlands Healthcare

Please welcome David F. McAllister, Jr., who has been named Occupational Health Manager for Penn Highlands Healthcare.

He will be responsible for coordinating Occupational Health Services throughout the system. The Occupational Health Department offers a broad range of services to support our regional employers in maintaining a healthy and safe workforce while reducing the overall cost to the company. David’s focus is to assure client satisfaction and the overall growth of Occupational Health access throughout the Penn Highlands Healthcare service area.

David comes to Penn Highlands with experience as a Safety Consultant for Employbridge staffing services, where he was responsible for eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland. He was also employed as a Nationally Certified Paramedic and Paramedic Crew Chief for Mount Nittany Healthcare in State College.

David received his Bachelor’s Degree in Management/Marketing from Clarion University and his Master’s Degree in Occupational Safety from Columbia Southern University. He is an authorized Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Outreach Trainer and he has certificates in OSHA 501, as a general industry safety and health trainer; OSHA 511, safety in hazardous areas in non-construction industries and Industrial Hygiene Management.

David is a native of Stoughton, Massachusetts and has lived in DuBois since 1987. He and his wife, Tracey, live at Treasure Lake. They have three children at home, Cullen, Connor and Madison and two step-children, Nichole (Bryan) Manthey and Scottie Powers. David is the chairman of the board of directors for the Western Pennsylvania Police Athletic League, and is also a member of the American Society of Safety Engineers, the Capital Area Safety Council and the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association.
Amber Shaw, RN, BSN, has been named director of the Intensive Care Unit at Penn Highlands DuBois.

Amber will be responsible as the administrator of the unit to oversee quality, service excellence, staffing and the unit budget.

An employee of PH DuBois for the past 14 years, Amber comes to her new position after being the ICU Clinical Supervisor for the past three years of her eight as an RN in the unit. Prior to that she was an LPN for three years on the Medical-Surgical Floor, Imaging Department and Home Health.

Amber received her associate’s and her bachelor’s degrees in nursing from Lock Haven University. She has a critical-care registered nurse certification through the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses.

A native and current resident of Clearfield, Amber lives with her husband, Todd, and their three daughters, Maddilyn, Macie and Miley. She is very active coaching Clearfield All Starz Cheerleading Exhibition and Tiny teams. She is also an active member of Hyde Wesleyan Church.