

1009 West Green Street  
Hastings, MI 49058  
(269) 945-3451

News Release

Contact: Janine Dalman, Executive Director Marketing  
Phone: (269) 945-3651  
Fax: (269) 945-4130  
Email: [jdalman@pennockhealth.com](mailto:jdalman@pennockhealth.com)

November 17, 2011  
Release

For Immediate

## **Pennock Health Services Announces Wayland/Gun Lake Project**

HASTINGS, Mich. — Pennock Health Services broke ground today on a new \$850,000 construction project for a family practice office and diagnostic center in Yankee Springs Township. According to Chief Executive Officer, Sheryl Lewis Blake, “The project will involve moving the family practice office of Dr. Larry Hawkins and nurse practitioner Sarah Verberg to a new 5,000 square foot medical facility centrally located to serve the Wayland, Gun Lake and Yankee Springs communities. The medical center will house a service expansion including a diagnostic center with lab, x-ray, and other services as deemed needed by the community.”

In a release by Pennock, Sheryl Lewis Blake commented, “Providing expanded services to a growing segment of our community is the core mission of Pennock and we were thrilled with the support of Yankee Springs Township leaders in planning the new facility to meet the healthcare needs of the western side of Barry County.” Bob Davis, Executive Director of the Pennock Physician Network noted, “The office design will support efficiencies for care delivery and enhance the plan for a Patient Centered Medical Home.

Dr. Hawkins is a well-known and well-respected physician in Barry County and this move to new, expanded facilities will have an even greater, more positive impact on those we serve in western Barry County. Dr. Hawkins received the coveted ‘Priority Health Quality Designation Award for Quality Care Delivery’ in 2011 and serves as the Medical Director of Pennock Hospice. He is an active member of the community, currently serving as Board President of the North Trails Association and hosted, along with wife Diane, last year’s annual Christmas home tour to raise money for the Thornapple Garden Club.

The new medical center will be located just east of Patterson Road and State Road. Rockford Construction and Schley Architects have been awarded contracts for the project with construction to begin immediately. “Completion of the project is anticipated for April 2012 but is dependent upon weather,” commented Jim Wincek, Vice President of Support Services.

In a recent publication from the American Hospital Association, every hospital job supports 2.8 additional jobs and every dollar a hospital spends supports \$2.30 of additional business activity. Pennock Health Services employs over 600 colleagues and with the ripple effect included; this means \$129.8 million in additional economic activity. The new Wayland Medical Center will add an additional four colleagues, bringing the total number employed at the Center to nearly 10 employees. With the construction work, local sub-contractors and additional staff planned for the expanded office, the impact could positively influence over 25 individuals and provide additional economic benefits as well.



Pennock Health Services is Barry County's premier healthcare provider, featuring Pennock Hospital, an 88-bed, non-profit, Joint Commission-accredited facility providing personalized healthcare services with state-of-the-art technology to over 130,000 people per year. In the past three years, Pennock has been recognized with the coveted Solucient Top 100® Hospital Award, Governor's Awards for Improving Safety and Quality of Care in the Hospital Setting, and the "101 Best and Brightest Places to Work" Award. Pennock offers a wide range of services, including a Family Birthing Center, MRI, Drive-Thru Pharmacy, a Health and Wellness Center, and senior independent living at Pennock Village. Pennock's State Street Center is the convenient choice for Outpatient Laboratory and Radiology Services, Women's Services, Urgent Care, and Occupational Medicine. Pennock Health Services is your partner in personal, professional, and progressive care. For additional information, call the Pennock Physician Referral line at (269) 945-1PHY (1749), or visit us online at [www.pennockhealth.com](http://www.pennockhealth.com).

###