

For Immediate Release:

New Pharmacy to Open in Avoca

Avoca, Iowa - January 25, 2015 – Avoca, Iowa - January 25, 2015 – Avoca residents could soon have a new pharmacy open in town. Bill Robinson, Pharmacist at Oakland Pharmacy, Inc. and a protegee of Carley Drug founder Terry Carley, is taking steps to open a new location at 160 S. Elm Street.

“We think this is an ideal solution,” says Carley. “Bill (Robinson) immediately came to mind as the perfect candidate to keep a pharmacy in town. We are fortunate that he values community care as much as we did at Carley Drug. He will take good care of our residents.”

Joining Robinson on pharmacy staff will be Ronda Holst, long-time pharmacy technician at Carley Drug. “I am relieved to know our town will continue to offer this essential service, and grateful that I can still be a member of our residents’ care team,” says Holst. Both Holst and Carley served on an Ad Hoc Pharmacy Committee with Avoca Main Street, Inc. “We were not only concerned for our customers and our own staff, but for the many other Avoca businesses that would be affected by the loss of a pharmacy,” continues Holst. “People can still come to Avoca for their grocery, retail, mechanical, and pharmacy errands and expect excellent service.”

In anticipation of this new local pharmacy, all local consumers are encouraged to transfer their prescription records to the Oakland Pharmacy. The Oakland Pharmacy can be reached during store hours at 601 Pioneer Ave, Oakland, IA 51560 or by phone at [\(712\) 482-3015](tel:7124823015).

“We would welcome any record transfers to the Oakland Pharmacy in advance of the Avoca Pharmacy opening. There need be only a small lag in local service while we make application to the Iowa Board of Pharmacy,” says Robinson.

The enticement of Robinson to bring pharmacy services came as a result of dedicated community effort. Amber Mohr, Program Director of Avoca Main Street, Inc. and facilitator of the Ad Hoc Pharmacy Committee, says “Terry Carley’s excellent professional relationships from his years working in the profession, Ronda Holst’s dedication to her customers, and other residents’ commitment to keeping a pharmacy in town were fundamental to the committee’s success.”

The new pharmacy will require approval from the Iowa Board of Pharmacy before operations can begin. In addition, an application has been made to the City of Avoca for funds from their Economic Development Grant to help make the project work.

“I think it is easy to say that all resources were tapped, and each one had community commitment as their primary goal,” says Mohr. “The people of Avoca and our surrounding communities can see from this effort that local collaboration and volunteerism makes a huge difference.”

Mohr also reminds residents of Avoca and customers of Carley Drug that the biggest commitment to retaining pharmacy services in Avoca must come from them; “Local businesses depend on local support. Please consider switching your pharmacy services as soon as possible. More than forty pharmacies in Iowa closed their doors in 2015. Partnering with another east Pottawattamie pharmacy will maintain the strength of both storefronts.”

The Mission of the Avoca Main Street is to sustain our downtown district as the economic, cultural, and social center of our community by utilizing the four point approach of the National Main Street Trust.

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