

# Letter: Praise for Barton Auxiliary

To the community,

I would like to take a moment to recognize Barton Memorial Hospital's Auxiliary members. Without their determination and perseverance, Barton Memorial would not be what it is today – 50 years strong.

In 1960 the hospital was an idea and a community need. Just three years later, on Nov. 23, 1963, Barton Memorial opened its doors. After endless work and fundraising, Barton Memorial Hospital became a reality. A large portion of the first year of the hospital's operating expenses (\$600,000) was generated by the auxiliary.



John Williams

These dedicated auxiliary members provide vital support to our patients and staff – from a smile to a delivery of flowers, they are part of our backbone. These dedicated volunteers help staff the hospital's front desk, assist in the skilled nursing facility and organize local blood drives and events. In addition to assisting with staffing of the gift shop in the hospital lobby, the auxiliary also manages and operates the Attic Thrift Store.

Today, there are more than 100 members who give their time and talents each year to the auxiliary's many endeavors.

A lot has changed since 1960, but the dedication of Barton's Auxiliary members remains steadfast. Thank you on behalf of everyone at Barton and our community for all you do. In honor of National Volunteer Week, April 21-27, I encourage everyone to take a moment to thank these amazing individuals for their support.

Sincerely,

**John Williams, Barton Health president and CEO**