

**March “Rising Star” Exhibits Leadership
For Immediate Release with art**

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When the going got tough, the tough got going. And, it was that initiative and leadership that earned Christi Rickman of Muenster Pharmacy the Muenster Memorial Hospital “Rising Star” Award for the month of March.

Recently, Christi, a certified pharmacy tech since 1999, walked into work one morning to find herself completely alone, with only a fill-in pharmacist as back-up.

Many would have never opened for business that day, but Christi knew that there were people who needed their medications and she was the only one who could make that happen. So she became the pharmacy tech, cashier, drive-up window attendant, clerk and pharmacist wrangler for the day, without a single frown or complaint.

“Most people do not realize the multitude of steps involved in filling a prescription,” said Kim Gobble, in-house pharmacy director at MMH. “It is detail and time intensive before you even start counting the pills.”

“I think Christi did a wonderful job running the retail pharmacy for the day, and helping her pharmacist get all the prescriptions out,” Kim noted. “Hospital Administration even asked me to go over and see if I could help, but Christi had everything well in hand. She didn’t miss a beat.”

Christi, who was born and raised in Gainesville and resides there today, was certified as a pharmacy tech through Ed Emde at Hometown Pharmacy. She was a tech at CVS for 9 years before eventually coming to Muenster Pharmacy. She says she enjoys working in Muenster, and that working in a small local pharmacy is a lot different than working for a chain.

“I love the work I do,” she said. “I like my customers and it’s an awesome feeling when you go out in public and they start carrying on a conversation with you.”

She also says she enjoys her co-workers – tech-in-training Christina Johnson, pharmacist Howard Kirk and Sonny Horn, one of the fill-in pharmacists who works when Kirk is out.

There seems to be a real comradery within the Muenster Pharmacy staff that allows for a relaxed environment. “I love to drive Kirk crazy with my singing,” Christi admits. “He hates it and so do my children!”

Christi, who joined the Muenster Pharmacy staff in August 2014, is married to Ty Rickman and the couple has two children, Tyler, 13, and Tristen, 11. Ty is an employee of BNSF Railway. In her spare time, Christi enjoys working in the yard planting flowers, drinking her beloved Big Red soda, and scrapbooking.

Christi becomes the 7th recipient of the “Rising Star” award at Muenster Hospital. The award is presented to those who go above and beyond in their service to the hospital and the community.

The next award will be presented April 23.



Cool Under Pressure

Christi Rickman of Muenster Pharmacy was named the Muenster Memorial Hospital “Rising Star” Award recipient for March for her initiative in keeping the pharmacy open during a recent staffing shortage. Christi is a resident of Gainesville and has been with MMH since August 2014. (MMH Photo)