

## **Barnes Pharmacy closes; service options noted**

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

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Barnes Pharmacy in Sterling officially closed at the end of business Friday, Dec. 3. Pharmacy patient files were transferred to Walgreens in Sterling.

Barnes had a physical presence in Phillips County from 1995-2002 when there was a branch pharmacy located in Haxtun.

Owned by Ron and Barb Lorenzo, Barnes Pharmacy partnered with Apothecary Rx several years ago.

A September post on Walgreens' website noted Walgreen Co. reached a definitive agreement with Graymark Healthcare Inc., in which the company would acquire the assets of 18 Apothecary Rx pharmacies located in Colorado, Oklahoma, Minnesota, Missouri and Illinois.

Graymark Healthcare operates its independent retail pharmacy business through Apothecary Rx, LLC, its wholly-owned subsidiary.

Barnes was one of the Colorado pharmacies included in the agreement. As a result, Walgreens purchased the patient files from Barnes and they were transferred to the Walgreens store earlier this month.

On Saturday, Dec. 4, Barb's Main Street Gifts & Baskets and CJ Pharmacy Services, LLC opened in the former Barnes building at 422 Main.

Jenae Lorenzo Lock, RPh and Casey Behrends, Pharm D, are pharmacists for CJ, which serves long term care and assisted living services, handles home infusion and provides consultant pharmacist services. Lorenzo Lock and Behrends were formerly affiliated with Barnes Pharmacy.

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Four other retail pharmacies, in addition to Walgreens, serve this area. They are Pamida Pharmacy in Holyoke, Abts Pharmacy in Julesburg and Wal-Mart and Walker Pharmacy in Sterling.

Pamida pharmacist Spencer Kimble noted the local store is open Monday through Friday and provides free delivery in the Holyoke city limits. They will also fill pillbox orders for people and accept all forms of insurance.

Abts Pharmacy has been offering Monday through Friday daily prescription delivery to Holyoke for over a year and also delivers to Haxtun and Fleming.

Walgreens has recently started Monday, Wednesday, Friday delivery of prescriptions to Holyoke, Haxtun and Fleming, as well.