

MMH Looks Back at 2008 and Ahead to 2009

As we ring in the New Year, it's always fun to go back and see what was accomplished during the prior year. Montrose Memorial Hospital has many things to be proud of and more to look forward to in 2009.

We started the year with another successful Health Fair with over 4,500 people participating. The fairs and blood draws are held in Ridgway, Olathe and Montrose and we have over 100 wonderful volunteers helping make things run smoothly. This annual event is a great service to our communities and a fun way to get out and spend time with people who are taking an active role in their health.

In March, our Continuing Medical Education program, headed by Dr. Chuck Manak, Julie Disher and the Continuing Medical Education Committee, received Accreditation with Commendation from the Colorado Medical Society. MMH is the only program in Colorado to receive accreditation for a six-year period. This accreditation confirms that our physicians receive current, relevant, and exceptional education on a continual basis and that they use this information in their daily medical practice.

In another constructive step, MMH and the Black Canyon Surgical Center united as MMH acquired 51% ownership of the Surgical Center. This move ultimately gives our patients more choice and eliminates the concerns of competition between the two entities. It has been a positive step for everyone involved.

We have also been very involved in bringing new physicians to help care for our community. Nine physicians joined our active medical staff in 2008;

- Dr. Jimmy G. Gilbert, Pulmonology
- Dr. Dorothy Boisen, Oral Surgeon
- Dr. Robert Kilbourn, Oncology
- Dr. Christopher Huot, Ophthalmology
- Dr. David Talbott, Emergency Medicine
- Dr. Gregory Suchon, Pediatrician
- Dr. Mary Mebane, Family Medicine
- Dr. Bryce Lokey, Internal Medicine
- Dr. Jeffrey J. Ptak, Plastic Surgery

In addition, we congratulated three long-time physicians at MMH who retired this year; Dr. Schoo, Dr. Canfield and Dr. Story, and sadly said goodbye to Dr. David Mebane who passed away in July.

We can't look back on the past without thanking Ken Platou, our previous CEO, for all of the successful building projects, joint ventures and more. As we look forward to 2009, we are excited to welcome our new CEO, David Hample and his wife Lenore. The Board of Trustees appointed Mr. Hample who is currently serving as CEO at Jackson Hospital in Marianna Florida and was previously the vice president of operations at Parkview Medical Center in Pueblo, CO. David has more than 20 years of hospital administration experience and he looks forward to getting to know the staff, physicians and the community.