



Putting on the Finishing Touches...



- 1 The ceiling goes in above the Mountain View Café.
- 2 Flooring in the Mountain View Café takes shape.
- 3 The beginnings of a mural in the main entrance lobby now can be seen.
- 4 A mock patient room gives a snapshot of the future.
- 5 Landscaping inside the loop road, Health Campus Drive, is nearly complete.



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Sneak Peek Lab

The new RMH Laboratory will not only be more spacious, but also will feature new technology to better serve patients.

"The new hospital Lab will be state-of-the-art," says Joyce Kuhns, Lab director. "This wider testing menu allows us room to grow-

-we will be able to do more tests here in the RMH lab and send less out, so that will mean a quicker turnaround

time for our customers. We purchased new equipment ahead of the move so staff would be trained to use it by the time we move into the new hospital. Our goal is to continue to grow to serve the community."

Kuhns notes that "open space technology" at the new hospital will allow staff to work "without walls," reducing travel time between work areas and enhancing communication. Currently, Lab team members work in separate work areas and have notable travel times between departments. Working with "open space technology" will allow for all team members to move freely between work areas and communicate easily.

Over the last year, the Lab has installed several new major pieces of equipment that work faster and offer a wider testing menu. These will move with the Lab to the new hospital and hook into the automated system (StreamLAB Workcell) that will be ready and waiting.

The StreamLAB Workcell will provide automatic sample processing for work that previously required several lab techs to complete. This robotic processor will use bar codes to check each sample and track the location of each one using radiofrequency ID chips.

The robotic system will hook into updated equipment the Lab has already installed (and will travel to the new hospital), including:

- Blood culture collection system—Using "green" (environmentally friendly) plastic and replacing glass collection tubes is a safety enhancement and a staff satisfier.
- Molecular analyzer—The GenXpert identifies MRSA more quickly, in two hours instead of the traditional 24-48 hours.
- Centaur--Test immunoassays, allowing interoperative parathyroid hormone surgeries.
- Vista Twins—Test for standard blood chemistry tests like glucose, cholesterol, creatinine, etc.

"Our staff are really excited about moving into their new workspace and providing even better service," Kuhns said. "We are thrilled at the way this will allow us to offer faster, more efficient service to our customers."



Project Update

- RMH is moving soil on the new health campus for the Southeast Connector that will cross our property. This section of the roadway will be ready for use by late 2010.
- A public hearing is scheduled for Nov. 13 to consider RMH's request for special use permits to put in hospital signage. Signs bearing the hospital's logo at multiple entrances will require a special use permit to exceed the size normally allowed per normal code requirements.
- "Construction cleaning" is underway in many areas. This is the last cleaning the contractor does before turning over the areas to RMH Environmental Services.
- Installation of owner-installed equipment such as Sharps containers and hand sanitizer dispensers is ongoing.
- Information Services is installing computer racks throughout the building.
- RMH Maintenance workers are shadowing contractors to test and interface with equipment at the new hospital.
- Some carpet has been installed.
- The Hahn Building should be "in the dry," or closed in, by early December. Interior work will begin mid-December. The Hahn Cancer Center on the first floor is still on track to open with the hospital in June.
- Hospital furnishings will arrive in early 2010.

Neighborhood Meeting Held Oct. 15

RMH held a neighborhood meeting Oct. 15 at Harrisonburg First Church of the Nazarene to update neighbors and adjacent landowners on progress on the new hospital and inform them of RMH's land use plans. About 20 guests attended, and many expressed appreciation for the opportunity to meet with RMH officials.

"Throughout the construction of the new RMH facility, we have met with our neighbors to keep them informed and hear their concerns," said Dennis Coffman, director, Facilities Planning and Development. "We are contacting all neighbors who own adjacent property to inform them of our plans to clean up the land surrounding the immediate hospital construction site. We want to continue to be good neighbors before and after we move in to our new home."