

Health Currents



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Winter 2009

www.providence.org/hoodriver

**Hospital Grand Opening
March 7, 2009**

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Community News

A message from Chief Executive Ty W. Erickson



For more than 75 years, Providence Hood River has been providing outstanding health care throughout the Gorge. As I recap my first year at Providence, I am amazed at the caliber of staff, volunteers, physicians and board members who are committed to the health and well being of our communities. I feel honored to lead this ministry and proud to be a part of this team of professionals.

This was a very busy year for Providence Hood River with the expansion of the hospital in full swing, construction of a new medical clinic at Mt. Hood Meadows, development of our community benefit programs to better serve the poor and vulnerable, and the addition of specialty services and medical staff as community needs indicate. Even with the downturn in the economy, we remain a strong organization committed to serving our Gorge communities today and in the future.

As the New Year begins, it's exciting to see our expansion project coming to fruition. We are rapidly approaching the grand opening of the new addition that will feature expanded services in the family birth center, surgery and diagnostic imaging. Our goal is to provide you with a supportive and healthy birthing experience, the highest quality surgical services and state-of-the-art imaging technology. In addition, we will introduce a new entrance to our facility that will ease the way for our patients and guests trying to find their way in the hospital. Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 7, 2009 to help us celebrate this important milestone.

All of us who serve in the Providence Gorge Service Area thank you for your support during the last year. We extend our best wishes for a happy and healthy 2009.

Best regards,

Ty W. Erickson
Chief Executive, Providence Columbia Gorge Service Area

**PROVIDENCE HEALTH & SERVICES
COLUMBIA GORGE SERVICE AREA**
www.providence.org/hoodriver

ADMINISTRATION

Ty W. Erickson, chief executive
Doug Mahurin, chairman, community advisory board
Stephen Vogt, M.D., chief of staff

PROVIDENCE HOOD RIVER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

13th and May Streets, Hood River, OR 97031
541-386-3911

A full service not-for-profit community hospital offering a wide range of health care services for Columbia Gorge communities including: 24-hour emergency services, intensive care, acute care, surgery, occupational health, family birth center, infusion therapy, pharmacy, education, mobile health unit, radiology, lab services, interpreters, oncology, neurology, respiratory therapy, sleep lab and travel health services.

PROVIDENCE HOOD RIVER MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

541-387-6474

A not-for-profit corporation dedicated to enhancing quality health care at Providence Hood River and the Gorge communities it serves through philanthropy.

PROVIDENCE HEALTH SERVICES

1151 May Street, Hood River, OR 97031
541-387-6125

Specialty clinics and services including internal medicine, arthritis, cardiology, cardiac rehabilitation, ear, nose and throat, allergy testing, audiology, dialysis, surgery, urology, home health services, home medical equipment, diabetic education and testing.

PROVIDENCE WOMEN'S CLINIC

917 11th St., Suite 200, Hood River, OR 97031
541-387-8940

Providing full service gynecology including ultrasound, major and endoscopic surgery, basic infertility, urinary incontinence treatment and surgery as well as normal and high risk obstetrics.

PROVIDENCE MOUNTAIN CLINIC

Urgent care clinic at Mount Hood Meadows
503-337-2292
(ski season only)

GORGE COUNSELING AND TREATMENT SERVICES

814 13th St., Hood River, OR 97031
541-387-6138 or 800-955-3911 x. 6138
(Gorge only)

PROVIDENCE BROOKSIDE MANOR PROVIDENCE DOWN MANOR

A senior housing community providing assisted living, memory care and independent retirement living.
541-387-8296

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P.O. Box 149
Hood River, Oregon 97031
541-387-6295

Cover and page 2 photos by: Richard Hallman



Welcome New Surgeon

Stephan Coffman, M.D. General Surgeon

Providence Hood River's newest general surgeon, Stephan Coffman, M.D., is a perfect fit for the active lifestyle and family atmosphere of the Columbia River Gorge. A cyclist, hiker, skier and family man, Dr. Coffman, like many Gorge residents, loves the city but isn't a city person.

"I was raised in Pittsburgh, Pa., but find myself drawn to smaller communities," said Dr. Coffman. "You become involved beyond the scope of your profession when you live and work in a small community. The people you serve are your neighbors, your friends. It is a wonderful feeling to be so connected."

In 2003, Dr. Coffman and his wife Ruth, a nurse practitioner, moved to the West Coast where he joined the surgery team at Lebanon Community Hospital, a 25-bed critical access hospital in rural Lebanon, Ore. "The community welcomed us with open arms, and we enjoyed our time there. Then we decided to move back to the East Coast to be closer to our families," he said. "We never forgot the beauty and serenity of the Pacific Northwest. This is what brings us back now."

In February, Dr. Coffman will be a familiar face at Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital. He will join more than 15 surgeons and a support staff of 40 in providing surgical services to Gorge residents. "I'm thrilled to work with this exceptional group of professionals in the newly expanded surgical services area of the hospital," said Dr. Coffman. "It is exciting to join an organization that's growing with its community."

Dr. Coffman has traveled to more than 40 countries, many of which he has served in medical missions. "It's a great

mixture of the things I love," smiles Dr. Coffman. "I get to merge my love of medicine with my love of travel, all while helping those in great need."

He and Ruth worked together in Cambodia providing surgical and basic health care, and he also has been to Laos, Bolivia and most recently to Ethiopia. The area in Ethiopia where he served had a population of 1.5 million people – and only one doctor. "Our team performed 37 surgeries in three days. It was amazing. The people were so gracious, generous and grateful," he said. "We left with a sense of accomplishment and appreciation."

Dr. Coffman points out he is as dedicated to those in his own community. "I love my job regardless of where I get to do it," said Dr. Coffman. "And, I love the diversity of people I get the privilege of meeting."

The people you serve are your neighbors, your friends. It is a wonderful feeling to be so connected.

Packard Hospital where he completed his surgery internship and residency. He is board certified in general surgery.

"My family and I look forward to reacquainting ourselves with the Northwest," said Dr. Coffman. We are excited to experience the quality of life and quality of people in the Columbia River Gorge."

A graduate of Medical College of Pennsylvania, Dr. Coffman was "resident of the year" at Robert

Providence Hood River Surgeons Clinic

Providence Hood River surgeons John Garcia, M.D., David Maccabee, M.D., and Stephan Coffman, M.D., are clinicians who practice general surgery. This surgical specialty emphasizes surgical treatments for problems of the chest, abdomen and soft tissues. Common problems helped by general surgeons include hernia repairs, appendectomy, colon cancer, intestinal problems, gallbladder disease, breast cancer, skin cancers, diseases of the vascular system and trauma surgery.

Providence Hood River's general surgeons join more than 15 surgeons and a support staff of 40 in providing a variety of surgical specialties to Gorge communities.

For more information on Providence Hood River Surgery Clinic, call 541-387-6125.



John Garcia, M.D.



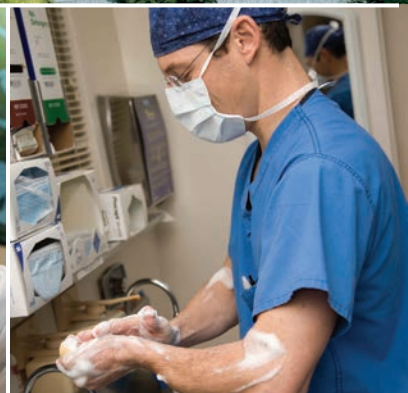
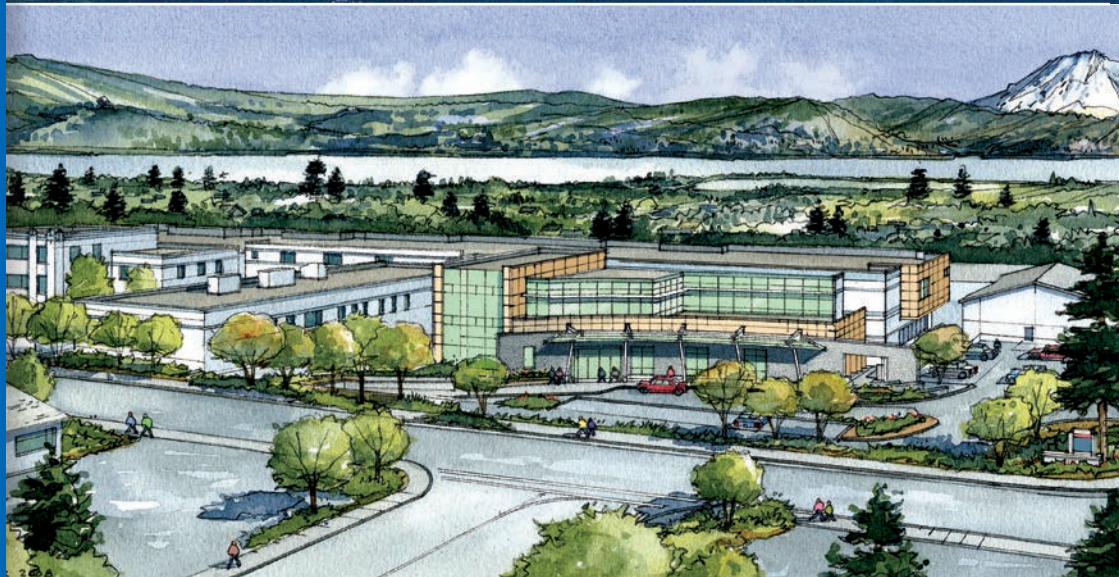
David Maccabee, M.D., F.A.C.S.



Stephan Coffman, M.D.

We're.
Growing
with the
Gorge...

Save the Date



Save the Date

Hospital Grand Opening
Saturday, March 7, 2009
Noon – 4 p.m.

 **PROVIDENCE**
Hood River
Memorial Hospital

810 12th Street, Hood River, OR

You're Invited

Providence Hood River's Grand Opening

Providence Hood River is growing with the Gorge communities that we serve on both sides of the Columbia River. Our 72,000 square foot hospital expansion and modernization project transforms our community hospital into a regional medical center.

This March, we open the new addition – and you're invited to join the celebration, noon to 4 p.m., Saturday, March 7. With expanded care in our family birth center, surgery and diagnostic imaging, Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital provides the highest quality of care close to home.

Among the activities you'll experience at the grand opening are:

- Get a behind-the-scenes look at the latest medical technology
- Tour the new 36,000 square foot addition
- Learn about new and expanded services for you and your family
- Experience healing art created by local students
- Help your neighbors by donating nonperishable food for FISH Food Bank
- Enjoy refreshments and live music
- Take home a commemorative gift
- Witness the sealing and dedication of Providence Hood River's time capsule
- See first hand how community support has made this expansion possible

Highlights of the 2009 expansion include:

New Entrance

- Now located on 12th Street for easy access and check-in
- Additional parking spaces
- Improved building flow making it easier to find your way

Family Birth Center

- All new, expanded private labor, delivery and postpartum rooms with dedicated family living space and refrigerators – so your family can stay together during this special time
- Whirlpool tubs
- State-of-the-art nursery
- Dedicated C-section suite and recovery room

Surgical Center

- Expansion from three to four operating rooms
- State-of-the-art technology in all operating rooms
- Increase from nine to 18 all-private patient rooms in the same-day surgery area
- New endoscopy suites

Diagnostic Imaging Center

- A new dedicated women's imaging center specializing in screening and diagnostic mammography, pelvic and breast ultrasound, and bone density screening
- New state-of-the-art MRI (magnetic resonance imaging)
- High-tech diagnostic imaging equipment
- Private waiting area separate from the emergency room area

Compassionate Care

Susie Mears

"She should win an award for her positive attitude!"



The frigid, windy Saturday morning last October was the type of morning when most people stay in bed savoring the warmth and comfort of sleep. Not Susie Mears, a Providence Hood River patient and cancer survivor. She climbed out of bed, put on her Halloween costume and walked the Providence Harvest Dash with daughter Aurora. Amazingly, this was only one week after her second abdominal surgery.

One month later, on the day before Thanksgiving, she had a mastectomy, her second of two such surgeries in a year. "Susie has shown determination in the face of significant health challenges," said David Maccabee M.D., Providence Hood River general surgeon. "I admire her attitude and determination to keep moving forward."

It hasn't been easy for Mears. In the fall of 2007, a mammogram revealed Mears had breast cancer. She underwent a mastectomy and chemotherapy to treat her cancer. Eight more surgeries were scheduled and she had been in and out of the emergency room.

"At the time, my daughter Aurora was only three years old and Dr. Maccabee was concerned if I had both breasts removed I would not be strong enough to hold her. So I opted to have one removed immediately and the second mastectomy a year later to prevent possible recurrence."

At one point, she had a chronic wound on her chest and needed emergency surgery. "Dr. Maccabee has performed

most of the surgeries," said Mears. "I really trust him – I know I'm in good hands. I also love Jan Thomsen. She spotted things first and helped me get early treatment."

Jan Thomsen, R.N., a Providence Hood River home health nurse, has helped treat Mears through her medical challenges. "I try to walk the journey with my patients, to

be there, to listen and support them," said Thomsen.

"What I found is that we can learn a lot from Susie – she gives 200 percent," said Thomsen. "She has had more than her share of complications and never knew what might happen next. It has been on an incredible journey for her. She is amazing."

"I love Providence Hood River because they know me. I walk down the halls and everyone greets me – the nurses, the doctors and the cleaning crew. They see me and they know me," said Mears. "It's the little things that make such a big difference. When I feel bad, they feel bad. I have people checking on me. They care."

Above: Susie Mears hugs her daughter Aurora two months after breast surgery.



Clockwise from top left: Cancer patient Susie Mears and Jan Thomsen, R.N., at Providence Hood River surgery clinic. Aurora Mears joined her mother Susie at the first annual Providence Harvest Dash last October. Providence Hood River surgeon David Maccabee, M.D., and Jan Thomsen, R.N., with Mears. Susie and Aurora Mears enjoy family time at home after her hospital stay. Susie Mears braved cold and windy weather to walk the Providence Harvest Dash one week after abdominal surgery.

Mears was treated in Hood River, The Dalles and Portland medical facilities. “I love Providence Hood River because they know me. I walk down the halls and everyone greets me – the nurses, the doctors and the cleaning crew. They see me and they know me,” said Mears. “It’s the little things that make such a big difference. When I feel bad, they feel bad. I have people checking on me. They care.”

Susie’s daughter Aurora became a familiar face at the hospital. “Aurora was born here and visited all the time while I was hospitalized. She loved to drink my 7-Up and eat my Jell-O,” smiles Mears. “It was important for us to be together – we gave each other strength. The staff always treated her like family.”

When *Health Currents* magazine asked Tami Milligan, R.N., Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital nurse manager about Susie Mears, she immediately replied, “Susie is a joy to be around. She should win an award for her positive attitude!”

Many people may not want to talk about their personal medical history with near-strangers. But Mears wants to reach out to others who might be afraid or whose children

might be afraid of their condition. “You don’t know how much this means to me – to be a part of hope and strength. I am here to take on the world and to help others,” she said.

Mears has had her share of good luck and good times. A dancer, teacher and gymnast who grew up in the Gorge, she drives a gold PT Cruiser with custom plates “Susie Z” and has won awards at beauty pageants. She is married to Bryan, a local plumber, a man she calls “her rock.”

A week after Thanksgiving 2008, Dr. Maccabee called her with the results from the second mastectomy. He said, “I have good news and bad news. The good news – the tumor is benign. The bad news – we won’t get to see you as much!”

“Aurora was born here and visited all the time while I was hospitalized. She loved to drink my 7-Up and eat my Jell-O,” smiles Mears. “It was important for us to be together – we gave each other strength. The staff always treated her like family.”



Make a List – Save a Life

New 2009 public safety campaign

We make a list for shopping, for people to invite to a party, even for household chores. But we usually don't think about making a list of something that potentially could save our life or the life of a loved one.

Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital – in cooperation with local physicians, clinics and pharmacies – is embarking on a public safety campaign to reach families in Gorge communities with a very important message: “Make a List – Save a Life.”

This life-saving list includes:

- All of your current prescriptions
- Drug dose and frequency
- Herbal and vitamin supplements
- Over-the-counter and homeopathic drugs
- Drug allergies
- Current medical conditions

Having a current medication list is one of the most important steps patients can take to help themselves and their health care providers, says Stephen Becker, M.D., Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital's former chief of staff.

Once you've put together your list, it's important to keep it updated, to bring it to any doctor or hospital visit, and to make sure your family members and caregivers have a copy. Having this list readily available to doctors could alter the course of your treatment significantly.

Providence Hood River's Medical Executive Committee and medical staff endorsed “Make a List – Save a Life” as the top quality improvement and safety project for 2008 and 2009. The goal is to reach and teach everyone in the Gorge about the importance of keeping and carrying a current medication list.

In this effort, Providence Hood River now prepares a current medication list for every patient staying at the hospital or visiting its clinics.

Attached is your new Personal Medication Record. Please take time to fill it out, fold it, store in your wallet and keep it current.



How a list could save a life:

SCENARIO 1

A patient visits a new doctor. The doctor asks, "What medications are you taking?" The patient replies "one red pill, two blue ones and a green one." The doctor doesn't know exactly what drugs or quantities the patient is taking. The doctor needs to treat the patient without critical information. The mixing of drugs can lead to serious side effects.

SCENARIO 2

A patient is injured, ends up in the emergency room and stays at the hospital for a few days. The patient does not have a current medication list. The patient forgets about his high blood pressure medicine at home and fails to mention it to his hospital physician. Hospital staff generates a new drug list for the patient but it does not include the much-needed blood pressure medication. The patient stops taking blood pressure medicine because it is not on the new drug list and becomes very ill.

What you need to do:

- Take charge of your medication list
- Bring a current medication list to any doctor or hospital visit
- Update this list as your medications change
- Ensure your family members and caregivers have a copy
- If you don't have a current list, take your medications and supplements to your physician's office for assistance in creating a list

Cards available at:

- Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital and clinics
- Physician clinics
- Hood River Health Department
- Senior facilities
- Gorge area pharmacies

To request a copy, please call 541-387-6295 or visit www.providence.org/hoodriver.

Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds

At Providence, you can find what you need to achieve wellness at every stage of life. Enjoy a variety of classes and educational forums that are open to everyone in the community. Classes include those related to childbirth, diabetes education, nutrition, smoking cessation, weight loss and many more. For more information or a complete listing of classes with dates and times, visit www.providence.org/hoodriver.



Diabetes Education Series

Whether you have a new diagnosis of diabetes or have been dealing with it for some time, Providence Diabetes Education Services offers patients and their families information and support. Diabetes educators will help you learn how to control diabetes through diet, exercise, stress management and medication. Each month a series of four classes is offered, with each series having the same topics.

10 a.m. to noon – Feb. 10, 12, 17, 19
2 p.m. to 4 p.m. – March 10,12,17,19

Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital
Education Center

Registration is required, and includes a one-hour private consultation. Insurance often covers the cost. Scholarships are available. A referral by your physician or health care provider is necessary. To register call 541-387-6379.

Understanding urinary incontinence

Are you always rushing to the bathroom? Worrying about having an accident when you're out with friends? Bothered by having to get up at night? Urinary incontinence affects more than 12 million American adults. Providence Hood River urologist Mike Saltzman, M.D., will address the causes and treatments for urinary incontinence that include medications, physical therapy and corrective surgery.

3 to 5:30 p.m. – Feb. 4

Providence Hood River Down Manor

Fee: Free

To register, call 541-386-2055.

Weight loss – it's more than the food

Are you frustrated with an inability to lose weight when you diet? Wonder why the weight is not dropping? Research shows there are many factors that affect our weight in addition to food intake and choices. Attend this class and learn what you can do to help improve your chances of losing weight loss and managing your weight on a long-term basis.

5:30 to 7 p.m. – Feb. 10

Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital
Education Center

Fee: Free

To register, call 541-386-2055.

What to do before and after a heart attack

Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death, claiming more lives than the next five causes of death combined. The more you know about heart and vascular diseases, the better you'll be able to care for your body's most important muscle. Providence Hood River cardiologist Aly Rahimtoola, M.D., and cardiac rehabilitation nurse Laney Gale, R.N., will address heart disease prevention, cardiac risk factors, and the latest available treatments.

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. – Feb. 24

Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital
Education Center

Fee: Free

To register, call 541-386-2055.

Do you have a sleep disorder?

Sleep apnea, insomnia and other sleep disorders can have serious side effects – aside from just making you feel tired all the time. Respiratory therapist Al Cady, who is a former sleep disorders sufferer and now the manager of Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital's sleep clinic, will talk about common sleep problems and how to handle them. There will be time for discussion and a tour of the sleep lab.

6 to 8:30 p.m. – Feb. 17

Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital
Education Center

Fee: Free

To register, call 541-386-2055.

Skin resurfacing – the new you

Aging, sun exposure, heredity and lifestyle factors may contribute to facial cosmetic problems. Pigment changes of the skin, such as blotchiness or brown spots, can occur with age or as a result of pregnancy or genetic factors. In addition, prior acne may have helped to make the surface of your skin uneven. These problems and other skin conditions sometimes can benefit from skin resurfacing. Mary Lively, a Providence Hood River esthetician and skin care specialist, will address the benefits of resurfacing treatments.

5:30 to 7 p.m. – Feb. 23

Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital
Education Center

Fee: Free

To register, call 541-386-2055.

Childbirth Connections

Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital is committed to building stronger, healthier families. We deliver more babies than any other Gorge hospital and believe each baby is a precious gift and deserves a strong beginning.

To help ensure you have the best birthing experience possible, Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital offers *Childbirth Connections*, a series of classes and instruction taught by our childbirth educators.

Introduction to the Family Birth Center

Learn about the new Family Birth Center's amenities, services and staff through a presentation and tour.

Choose one of the following courses:

11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. – Feb. 28

11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. – April 25

Preparing for the birth of your baby

This series of classes is designed to educate and support expectant parents. Learn about prenatal care, labor/delivery breathing and relaxation, newborn care, breast feeding and parenting a new baby. A free breast feeding class also is available.

Seven-session beginner courses are held:

6 to 8:30 p.m.

March 9, 16, 23, 30 and April 6, 13, 20

6 to 8:30 p.m.

May 11, 18, 25 and June 1, 8, 15, 22

Two-session beginner courses are held:

6 to 8:30 p.m. – Feb. 20

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Feb. 21

6 to 8:30 p.m. – March 14

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. – March 14

6 to 8:30 p.m. – April 17

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. – April 18

6 to 8:30 p.m. – May 15

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. – May 16

Preparing for the birth of your baby refresher course

This class is designed for those who have previously given birth and/or who have attended childbirth classes. It will provide a review of birthing techniques to include coping with labor, body awareness, breathing effectively, labor position and tips for your labor support partner.

Refresher courses:

6 to 8:30 p.m. – Feb. 23

6 to 8:30 p.m. – April 27

Preparing for the birth of your baby preparation home kit

This self-study course is for those who are unable to attend a childbirth class. Each participant will receive a home visit by a registered nurse, childbirth manual, DVD addressing comfort measures and other educational resources.

Sibling Celebration

Through music, storytelling and active participation siblings ages 2 through 8 prepare for their new role as a brother or sister.

Choose one of the following courses:

10 to 11 a.m. – Feb. 28

10 to 11 a.m. – April 25



Registration for *Childbirth Connection* classes is required and a tour of the Family Birth Center is included. For information on fees and to register call the Providence Education Center at 541-387-6340.

Cardiology Services: Heart Month



February is the month we usually associate with the heart – not only because

of Valentine's Day, but also because it's National American Heart Month.

Providence Hood River is committed to supporting the heart health of our Gorge communities offering an array of wellness options to help keep hearts healthy.

Providence Hood River Cardiology Services:

- Cardiology Clinic
- Cardiac Rehabilitation Center
- Free Blood Pressure Screenings
Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to noon at the hospital – no appointment necessary

Providence Hood River Cardiologists

Xiaoyan Huang, M.D.

Ron Petersen, M.D.

Aly Rahimtoola, M.D.

Jody Welborn, M.D.

Lisa Yao, M.D.

"The Gorge has some of the best physicians and surgeons in the country," says Julie Stephens, manager of Providence Health & Services clinics.

"We are thrilled to have these cardiologists provide services in the Gorge."

Providence Hood River cardiovascular physicians are available for patient appointments regularly. To schedule an appointment, please call 503-963-3030.

See page 10 for upcoming cardiac classes.

Providence goes tobacco free

To ensure the health and safety of our patients, visitors and employees, Providence Hood River is now tobacco free. Tobacco use of any kind is not allowed at any Providence Hood River building, property or vehicle.

Providence Hood River joined more than 1,200 hospitals and clinics nationwide that have gone tobacco free since 1985.

"A tobacco-free environment is essential to the healthy, healing environment we want to provide for our employees, patients and visitors," said Ty Erickson, chief executive. "We know this will not be easy for some, but we are here to help. "As a leading health care provider, we are committed to promoting active healthy lifestyles. Going tobacco free is the right thing to do."

To make patients, visitors and employees more comfortable as the policy is enforced, Providence is temporarily providing "care packs" containing nicotine lozenges and information on tobacco cessation resources.



**Clean Air
for Health Care**
Providence is tobacco free

"While the dangers of tobacco use have been clearly demonstrated, Providence also recognizes that tobacco is highly addictive, and it's difficult for many people to quit using," Erickson said.

"Providing compassionate service is part of our Mission, so implementing our new policy will include providing support for people who either want to quit or may not necessarily be ready to do so."

Smoking Cessation Series

Based upon the *American Lung Association's Freedom From Smoking* Providence pharmacist-assisted smoking cessation series is designed to help you quit smoking for good. In this 11-session class series, you'll learn a systematic approach to quitting through behavior modification techniques, coping skills, social support, and information about managing your weight and stress. In addition to behavioral support, a pharmacist will assess your need for medication. Eight weeks of nicotine patches, Bupropion (Zyban), or Varenicline (Chantix), are provided free to participants who attend the classes.

5:30 to 7 p.m.

Feb. 9, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 25

March 4, 11, 18, 25

**Providence Hood River Memorial
Hospital Education Center**

Registration is required, and space is limited to 10 people. This 11-session series requires each participant to have a current primary care physician in order to receive medication. Insurance often covers the cost. To register, call 541-387-6516.



HEARTS OF GOLD 2008 *Gala* a magical night

They are among us – people with hearts of gold. This year a physician, a fire chief and two community leaders were the recipients of Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital Foundation’s 2008 Hearts of Gold awards.

Internal medicine physician Gary Regalbuto, M.D., Hood River Fire Chief Jeff Walker, and community leaders Andrew and Melissa McElderry were chosen for their exceptional advocacy that has contributed to our community’s health. The recipients recently were honored at Providence Hood River Foundation’s annual Hearts of Gold gala.

The gala’s magical evening celebrated this year’s honorees and featured a champagne reception, silent auction, dinner and exciting live auction. “The evening was beyond our imaginations. We raised more than \$100,000 that will benefit *The One Campaign*,” said Rena Whittaker, foundation director. “We want to thank the community for their amazing support. Their generosity will make a significant impact in our enhanced patient services and facilities expansion. With more than 66,000 patients cared for last year, we continue our progress in building healthier communities throughout the Gorge.”



2008 Hearts of Gold recipients Melissa and Andrew McElderry, Jeff Walker and Gary Regalbuto, M.D., warmly receive their awards.



Providence Hood River Chief Executive Ty Erickson and his wife, Karin, enjoy watching participants generously bid.



John Garcia, M.D., gladly raises his number to bid against his opponent.

The live auction showcased items such as romantic getaways, a riding lawnmower and a day of beauty at a local spa. “It was very exciting to see the bidders compete for certain items,” said Whittaker. “Everyone was having a great time, and the event was a huge success.”

The One Campaign

The One Campaign is a fundraising effort with the goal of raising \$3.5 million to support a 72,000-square-foot hospital renovation project, expanded care for the uninsured and underinsured of Hood River County, and enhanced clinician education programs. So far \$1.5 million has been raised, thanks to the community’s generous support.

For more information on *The One Campaign* or to get involved, please contact Rena Whittaker at 541-387-6474.



Foundation At A Glance

Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital Foundation Giving Report Sept. 1 thru Nov. 30, 2008

Providence Brookside Manor Assisted Living

Rebecca Bloomdahl
Phyllis Bowers
Mary Wells Cypher
Donna Davis
Velda Deos
Jamie Hanshaw

Building and Equipment

Mr. & Mrs. John Able
AGI Mortgages, LLC
Andersen Construction Company
Marie Asai
Barbara Ayers
Mr. & Mrs. Erik Bailey
Scott & Jennifer Baklenko
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Bardin
Scotia Bauer
Charles & Barbara Beardsley
Dr. Stephen & Ann Becker
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Benton
Betsy Berens
Joe & Alison Betzing
Chuck Blomquist
Rachel Blouin
Catherine Bourgault
Larry & Kelly Bowe
Mr. & Mrs. John Brunk
Kelly & Roxie Buechler
Dr. Bruce & Connie Burton
C. M. & W. O. Sheppard, Inc.
Alan Cady
Dennis Campbell
Lisa Cantrell-Miller
Carlos Garrido & Maria Elena Castro
Centerpointe Community Bank
Sarah Chappel
Jeffrey & Mary Chenier
Jim & Debra Clair
Jenny Clark
Clark/Kjos Architects, LLC
Mary Crossen
Jeff Cocklin
Dr. James & Leslie Cogswell
Greg Colt
Columbia River Bank
Marshall & Cheryl Cornett
Davina Craig
Mr. & Mrs. David Crumpacker
Mr. & Mrs. Jon Davies
Sandra Dean
Mark Derbecker & Tifani Blouin
Paul & Joella Dethman
Mary DeVore
Mr. Deryll Dexter & Mr. Ralph Kupersmith
Mr. & Mrs. Rudy Dierickx
Vanessa Dittenhofer

Isabelle Doroski
Whiskey Creek Farm
Duckwall-Pooley Fruit Company
Johnson Dunn & Laura Scobie
Dr. John & Marianne Durkan
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Eakins
Mr. & Mrs. James Edwards
EIL, LLC
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For information on how you can support current needs for Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital, call the foundation office at 541-387-6474 or visit us at www.providence.org/hoodriver.



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Memorial Hospital

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Upcoming Events

March 6 - 29 Art Heals – from birth to death Columbia Art Gallery

Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital is partnering with Columbia Center for the Arts in Hood River for a powerful and reflective gallery exhibit this March. The gallery exhibit will feature beautiful art in a variety of media and a series of classes designed to inspire people at any stage in their life.

Providence will host a photo exhibit at the gallery that highlights the making of our new Youthful Art of Healing project, developed by local school children as part of the Columbia Gorge Arts in Education program. The children's art series will be displayed permanently inside the hospital's new 12th street expansion.

Saturday, March 7, 2009 Save the Date for Our Grand Opening Celebration!

Providence Hood River is thrilled to invite the entire community to the grand opening celebration March 7, 2009 from noon to 4 p.m. The festivities will include refreshments, tours of our new building and dedication of Providence Hood River's time capsule. For more information, call 541-387-6342.

Saturday, May 30, 2009 18th Annual Bedpan Open Golf Tournament Indian Creek Golf Course

This year's Bedpan Open will benefit the Jane Mellor Fund for Dental Outreach. All proceeds will help area youth access needed dental care through Providence Hood River's dental voucher program. This program is provided in partnership with area dental providers, health care providers and family care organizations. For information call Jamie Guth at 541-387-8907 or visit www.providence.org/hoodriver.

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