

Nephrology Siena Medical Clinic Girish Mour, M.D.

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The patient wing of the Kit Carson County Memorial Hospital in Burlington has 16 private rooms with baths, including two for patients who require isolation. The hospital also has three obstetric delivery suites and a nursery.

Kit Carson Hospital changing with the times

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News pjschiefen@nwkansas.com The Kit Carson County Memorial Hospital in Burlington has been trying to cope with changing health care regulations and maintain quality care for its patients on the eastern plains of Colorado.

The 19-bed critical access hospital provides primary care, inpatient and outpatient services and a level 4 trauma service, as well as home health care and hospice services.

The patient wing features 16 private rooms with baths as well as three two-person rooms. Two of the private rooms are "negative-pressure" rooms for patients who require isolation. There are three delivery suites and a nursery. said Julie Jacobson, director of growth and development for the hospital.

The emergency department has street level, walk-in access to a four-bed trauma bay, two emergency treatment rooms and a decontamination shower for patients who've encountered hazardous chemicals.

The hospital runs a satellite health clinic in Stratton, Colo., to serve the needs of Stratton and surrounding communities.

The hospital's specialty clinic has visiting doctors specializing in everything from asthma and allergy to urology, dealing with urinary-tract and prostate problems. The facility accommodates a clinical and surgical schedule for 20 doctors from the Colorado Front Range area.

Specialists who visit the hospital are Dr. Stephen Annest, vascular surgery; Dr. Alfred Carr and Dr. Owen Riechman, ear, nose and throat; Dr. Victor Dabelea, obstetrics and gynecology; Dr. Vadim Fayngersh, pulmonology and internal medicine; Dr. Charles Frankum, general surgery, colon and rectal surgery; Dr.



pital.

- 3-mills property tax levy. · Doctors - Four physicians, three
- midlevels, 20 visiting specialists.
- Phone (719) 346-5311.
 - Further information not available

Chad Hartley, neurosurgery; Dr. Rai H. Kakkar, neurology; Dr. John Logan, urology; Dr. Daniel Mallett and Dr. Erik Ouderkirk podiatric (foot) care; Dr. Sujatha Nallapareddy, oncology, or cancer treatment; Dr. Nelson Prager and Dr. John Prevedel, cardiology (heart) treatment, Dr. Martin Rubinowitz, hematology (blood) and oncology (cancer), Dr. Jeffery Rumbyrt, asthma and allergy; Dr. Kavi Sachar and Dr. John Woodward, orthopedic (bone) surgery; Dr. James Swinehart, dermatology (skin); and Dr. Jonathan Weinstein, endocrinology and internal medicine. Radiology consultation are done by Colorado Imaging Associates.

South of the hospital, in the bottom level of

to future with focus on physician recruitment

join the team of physicians in September 2013 alongside newly recruited Dr. John Dygert, who will begin this August.

These physicians will bring with them a plethora of new services. Northwest Kansas will have full-time access to major and emergency surgeries, on-call trauma coverage, gynecological procedures and enhanced obstetrical needs, biopsies and diagnostics and additional family medicine services.

Unger says Citizens believes the client base will explode. With new doctors, new services and new patients comes the need for new space. That is where a \$1.9 million expansion planned over the course of the three years comes into play.

"First and foremost, we are tremendously excited about the urgent and accelerated growth we are experiencing," said Unger. "With the shortage of physicians across rural America, it has taken some years to establish a solid medical provider base and to find a general surgeon who fits our needs. Now we have to look at making accommodations to fit their needs, too.

"That means upgrading the surgical suites, along with the equipment and instruments that will be required to perform the new line of surgical services," she said. "Dr. Sarah Gabel and Dr. Dygert are both well trained in family medicine and obstetrics care, and so strengthening and expanding our facilities at



the hospital and clinic will also be a part of our expansion project.

"We will upgrade and modernize our obstetrical wing to meet the growing demand. When the Gabels arrive in 2013, Family Center for Health Care will have 13 providers

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See COLBY, Page 8



Travis Powell, a 2005 graduate of Colby High School, was supervised by pharmacist Chris Carroll as he works to complete his pharmacology rotations at Citizens Medical Center in time for May graduation from Creighton University. – Cristina Beringer/Colby Free Press

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