

Health Connection

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT SCENIC MOUNTAIN MEDICAL CENTER



**Advanced
technology at SMMC**
to serve you better

**Meet our new
medical staff
members**

Taking the lead
SMMC's physician
group cares for you!

**Move your body
to build your mind**



**SCENIC MOUNTAIN
MEDICAL CENTER**

www.smmccares.com

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO



Thomas E. Fewell
Chief Executive Officer

Dear neighbors,

Welcome to another edition of *Health Connection*, a community newsletter provided to you compliments of Scenic Mountain Medical Center (SMMC).

THIS ISSUE'S NEWS

In this issue, we'll introduce you to two physicians who recently joined our medical staff. And you'll read about the new services and advanced equipment we've invested in this year to better meet the healthcare needs of our friends and neighbors.

DEDICATED TO YOU

As SMMC's new chief executive officer, I'm committed to keeping you up-to-date on our progress. We have a lot to be proud of and, along with our partners in the Physician Leadership Group, we'll continue to focus on quality patient care. Personally, I look forward to a long relationship with SMMC and getting involved in our community. I'm always open to your thoughts and suggestions. Please feel free to call me at **(432) 268-4902** or stop by and see us. We thank you for your support and look forward to exciting developments in 2010.

In good health,

THOMAS E. FEWELL
Chief Executive Officer
Scenic Mountain Medical Center

Meet SMMC's Physician Leadership Group

Providing quality care

At Scenic Mountain Medical Center (SMMC), we're dedicated to creating an atmosphere that supports physicians in their focus on quality patient care. Our Physician Leadership Group (PLG) plays a key role in creating an incomparable culture for employees, physicians, patients and the community we serve.

Created in December 2008, the PLG—an advisory panel to the chief executive officer—consists of seven board-certified medical staff members who meet regularly with hospital administrators. They work together to strengthen their relationship by facilitating communication, resolving issues, creating an atmosphere of trust and improving fellowship among medical staff members. To learn more about our staff, visit www.smmccares.com and click on "Find a Physician."

SMMC's advisory panel

Meet the members of SMMC's Physician Leadership Group



Alan Abel, M.D.
General Surgeon



Steve Ahmed, M.D.
Pediatrician



Kim Bango, M.D.
Family Medicine
Physician



Rudy Haddad, M.D.
Urologist



Cezary Kuprianowicz, M.D.
Pulmonologist/Internal
Medicine Physician



Keith Ledford, M.D.
Obstetrician/
Gynecologist



David Long, M.D.
Family Medicine
Physician

Advanced technology right here at SMMC

When you or a loved one has a medical need, remember that advanced care is close to home. In the last year, Scenic Mountain Medical Center (SMMC) has invested more than \$2 million in updating our equipment and facilities to better serve you. Thanks to this substantial investment, our services now include:

- **New orthopedic and laparoscopic surgical equipment**, providing high-definition video display of joints and bowels. Procedures previously requiring a hospital stay may now be completed more quickly, allowing the patient to return home the same day. (Meet the newest member of SMMC's surgical team, board-certified general surgeon John Lang, M.D., on the back page of this issue of *Health Connection*.)
- **New on-site lithotripsy equipment**, allowing area residents with kidney stones to receive nearly immediate relief. "This new equipment allows for optimal stone clearance rates," says SMMC medical staff member and board-certified urologist Rudy Haddad, M.D.
- **Advanced diagnostic imaging capabilities**, including:
 - › upgraded magnetic resonance imaging equipment to allow for magnetic resonance angiography, providing a detailed view of blood vessels to help detect stroke and blood vessel diseases
 - › a new bone density unit, helping your physician diagnose osteoporosis, a condition in which bones weaken
 - › new cardiovascular and general ultrasound equipment
 - › a transition to an all-digital image archive in the diagnostic imaging department, with digital mammography planned for 2010
- **Scenic Mountain Sleep Center**, performing diagnostic sleep studies to help your physician diagnose sleep apnea (interrupted breathing during sleep) or other sleep disorders. If you often snore or have high blood pressure, memory problems, daytime sleepiness or insomnia, talk with your physician about scheduling a sleep study, or visit www.smmccares.com/sleep.

BEYOND TECHNOLOGY

It's our goal to ensure that you're satisfied with the service and care you receive during your stay at SMMC. By



It's our goal to ensure that you're satisfied with the services and care you receive during your stay at SMMC.

anticipating your needs and meeting them in a timely manner (we make hourly visits, called rounds, to your room), we hope to enhance your well-being so you can focus on your recovery.

From women's services to 24-hour emergency care, our talented employees, volunteers and medical staff stand ready to meet the needs of our friends and neighbors in Big Spring and the surrounding communities.

! Feel better!

If you or a loved one needs care, the medical staff of SMMC is ready to help. To learn more about our services, visit www.smmccares.com today.



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The information contained in this publication is not intended as a substitute for professional medical advice. If you have medical concerns, please consult your healthcare provider.

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Link to learn!

If you haven't visited Scenic Mountain Medical Center's (SMMC) Web site at www.smmccares.com lately, a quick stop there can provide valuable information for you and your family. Click the "Health Resources" tab and you'll find an award-winning online health library that

includes 12,000 adult and pediatric topics in both English and Spanish. Also available are daily health news headlines, audio podcasts, interactive health assessments, a drug interaction checker and much more.

Quality medical care and comprehensive health information are available close to home—right here at SMMC. Feel better, faster.

MEET OUR NEW MEDICAL STAFF MEMBERS

Scenic Mountain Medical Center's (SMMC) continued efforts to attract and retain experienced, talented medical staff members result in new physicians joining our team of professionals serving our community. We'd like to introduce two of them to you.



JOHN LANG, M.D.
Board Certified in General Surgery

1501 W. 11th Place
Big Spring
(432) 263-6018

Family Medical Center
Surgical Associates

John Lang, M.D., attended medical school at Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine and, after his general surgery internship and residency at Pinnacle Health's Harrisburg Hospital in Harrisburg, Penn., completed a colon and rectal surgery fellowship at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Mich. He has practiced in both Pennsylvania and Texas for the last six years and joins Alan Abel, M.D., and Ladd Hoffman, M.D., on our Family Medical Center Surgical Associates team.



CARLOS RICARDI, M.D.
Anesthesiology

1601 W. 11th Place
Big Spring
(432) 263-1211

Supporting the surgical team, anesthesiologist Carlos Ricaldi, M.D., brings nearly 30 years of experience in anesthesia care to SMMC. Dr. Ricaldi joins the surgical team from the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Lubbock, where he has served as an attending instructor for many years.

To find a physician by specialty, visit www.smmccares.com.