

# Physicians embrace new MTMC

## Facility nearer to Oct. 2 opening

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The official grand opening of the new Middle Tennessee Medical Center may still be three weeks away, but the facility's doors were opened to its medical staff Thursday night.



FERGUSON

Following a tour of the hospital, more than 350 physicians and their dates spent their evening wining, dining and laughing inside an extensive tent that was transformed into a modern, trendy lounge of sorts.

Gordon Ferguson, president and CEO of MTMC, recounted the past 12 years — a path on which hospital and community

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### FYI

Upcoming milestones at MTMC



#### **Saturday, Sept. 25**

Community celebration and open house at the new MTMC

#### **Sunday, Sept. 26**

Blessing and dedication of the new MTMC

#### **Saturday, Oct. 2**

Grand opening of the hospital, first patients accepted

leaders traveled to ultimately reach the destination of the brand new 550,000-square-foot medical facility on Medical Center Parkway, near Interstate 24.

"I want to remind people that, yes, we are in Murfreesboro," he said, pointing to the state-of-the-art architecture and its unhospital-like feel.

"This is truly everything we have been looking forward to for many years. The new facility was once a dream ... We've just about done it."

Ferguson explained how hospital administrators made the ultimate decision to build and create Murfreesboro's Gateway District.

"For us to grow along with the community, we would need to either make a major investment in the current facility or look



CHANG

hospital's growth has allowed for enhancement in services, while continuing its ultimate mission through Christ.

"Health care isn't just a job, it's a calling," Ferguson continued.

Dr. Edward Eastham, MTMC chief of medical staff, said the new hospital's opening is a big event not only for the doctors, nurses and orderlies, but for the community as a whole.

"I think we will be able to recruit some outstanding physicians," he said.

One new doctor agreed to be part of the new Middle Tennessee Medical Center. Pathologist Tara

elsewhere," he said.

Obviously, they opted for the latter.

With 362 physicians on staff, the

Chang was looking for employment in the Nashville area, as her husband, Thomas, moved to pursue his MBA at Vanderbilt University. When she discovered MTMC, the decision was easy.

"Knowing that there would be growth in the organization factored into my decision," Chang said. "Who wouldn't want to work in a new hospital?"

The couple moved from their Providence, R.I., home to Murfreesboro about a year ago.

"We love it here," Chang said. "It's very important to be part of the community."

Most importantly, though, Chang said she's excited about the ability to serve patients in a positive, comfortable environment.

"No one likes being sick, but the process of being in a hospital will be better for the patient and family here," she said.

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