

Meadowview Matters

SUMMER, 2009

A Newsletter of Meadowview First, Inc.

P. O. Box 530, Meadowview VA 24361 or visit: www.meadowviewva.org

Four added to medical staff at Meadowview Health Clinic

Southwest Virginia Community Health Systems recently announced the addition of ten health professionals to the network. Four of those are practicing at the Meadowview Health Clinic.

Karen Tootle, MD is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine. She attended East Tennessee State University as an undergraduate, and following medical school, she completed her residency at ETSU College of Medicine.

Donna Sparks, FNP is certified by American Nurses Credentialing Center. She received her Master of Science in Nursing - Family Nurse Practitioner Specialty at ETSU.

Alvin McCuiston, PA-C, MPAS received his

WIC vouchers available at clinic

Women, Infants and Children (WIC) food vouchers are now being distributed through the clinic in Meadowview. Through a partnership with Washington County Department of Social Services, Southwest Virginia Community Health Systems is making it more convenient for recipients living in the eastern portion of Washington County to receive their food stamps. 1,100 people are expected to use this service each month. Half the cost for the soft ware to provide this service was paid for by Rock Spring Presbyterian Church.

Educational assistance is available at the Meadowview Community Center. Call Highlands Educational Literacy Program at 944-5144.

To find out about obtaining a GED call Mount Rogers Regional Adult Education Program at 739-2547 or 800-322-7748 or instructor, Ken Parker at 944-3477.

Master of Physician Assistant Studies in Family Medicine at the University of Nebraska. He completed his Bachelor of Science at George Washington School of Medicine in Washington, DC.

Kay Ogle, LCSW is certified in Clinical Social Work by the American Board of Examiners, She received her Master of Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University. She is practicing at both the Meadowview and Saltville medical clinics.

SVCHS Director Howard Chapman said that with the new staff in place they would expand hours of operation to 8:30 am to 7:00 pm right away and he hoped to have the clinic open on Saturdays from 8 am to 6 pm within the month of August

SVCHS brought telemedicine technology to the Meadowview Health Clinic in November. This allows for real time consultation with specialists in discussing a patient's symptom's, test results and prognosis, even though that physician may be located a long distance away.

SVCHS representative, Ken Cook, speaking to the Meadowview First Board of Directors on January 27 offered to extend wiring so that the equipment would be available for other teleconferencing uses in the large meeting room upstairs. That offer was accepted.

Cook also said they continue to be pleased with the usage of the medical clinic. In 2008 there were a total of 3,433 patient visits, an average per month of 286 and ranging from a high of 332 in October to a low of 224 in June.

One year later, June 2009, that figure more than doubled to 550 patient visits.

Meadowview First has had a storage room downstairs across from the elevator converted into a unisex restroom so that clinic patrons in the waiting area will have access to a restroom outside the restricted clinic area and without having to go upstairs.

Depot primary focus as next project on square

Meadowview First has been investigating the possibility of conducting a feasibility study for future economic growth, including the potential for a local food processing facility and a creamery.

In the meantime the board has decided to move forward with plans to move the railroad depot, construct a new foundation, connect to water and sewer and have the exterior repainted. New wiring and improvements to the interior will be made once a specific use for the building is determined.

Leasing the building for business use, or possibly to serve some public need will be considered.

Meadowview First has acquired the building, but the land on which it sits still belongs to Norfolk & Southern

Railroad, and a lease on the land is available for only one year at a time.

Jeff George, a representative of Norfolk & Southern met with board members on March 3 and indicated that the railroad company would require the building be moved just 20 feet from its current location and a fence be installed between it and tracks as a safety precaution. The company would then convey the remaining portion of its property to Meadowview First. This means the building can remain on the at its current elevation.

Meadowview First would still need permission from Washington County Board of Supervisors to move the structure. That board has been very supportive of previous efforts to revitalize the village square.

Meadowview First
P. O. Box 530
Meadowview, VA 24361

On The Web

See MVFD new fire truck
www.meadowviewva.org/fire_dpt.html

Meadowview Wildflower Project
<http://picasaweb.google.com/MeadowviewWildflowers>

Coming up ...

Apple Butter Festival, Sat., Oct.17

Community Center hosts entrepreneur program

Eleven participants took part in the Entrepreneur ACES Certificate Program conducted January 15, 22, and 29. The program is geared toward individuals interested in starting their own businesses and included three free courses, each consisting of three-hour sessions, resource materials, notebook and dinner.

Courses dealt with formulating ideas, developing plans, financial management, marketing, using available tools and technologies, business law and how it might affect the structuring of a business.

ACES (Advancing Community Economic Development) is a program developed by Virginia Cooperative Extension, a partnership of Virginia Tech and Virginia State University. The program was cosponsored by Meadowview First, Meadowview Civic Club and the

Appalachian Center for Community Service at Emory & Henry College.

The training program was conducted by former Meadowview First member, Scott Tate.

Donations still wanted, needed

Given economic conditions, Meadowview First is not mailing an appeal for funding at this time. If you are fortunate enough to be able to make charitable, tax deductible gifts we welcome any contribution you make, and pledge our continued best efforts to be good stewards of all funds we receive. We continue to pay down debt from a loan we received to guarantee funding for the community center and clinic. We have monthly utility bills and other regular expenses in maintaining the center.