

Hospital renovates critical care

DAN WARNER
Staff Reporter

Kirkville's Northeast Regional Medical Center added four additional beds to their Critical Care Unit on Jan. 27 after a nine month, 770-square foot expansion.

Dianne Western, NRMC's director of marketing, public relations and physician outreach, said the renovation will allow for better care for expectant mothers, and the obstetrics unit will continue to function during construction.

"Work goes on, and we're going to take care of our patients," Western said. "We'll just relocate activities as we need it."

NRMC CEO Bob Moore said in a press conference Jan. 27 that NRMC turned away almost 100 patients in 2008 due to a lack of space. Moore said the addition brings the total in the CCU to 10 beds, and two additional beds will be added in 2011.

Moore said the \$2.7 million project was necessary because of the hospital's recent growth, including the another of a full-time cardiologist in September. Moore announced plans to recruit another cardiologist this

year and a \$4 million renovation of the Obstetrics Unit stretching from March to the end of the year. Western said the new beds have been mostly filled since they became available on Dec. 15. She also said the expansion of the CCU opens up new nursing jobs.

Stephen Hadwiger, associate professor of nursing, said new jobs are very important for Truman nursing students right now. He said in the past nursing students have had jobs waiting for them at graduation, but with the recent decline in the job market, some nursing students still are looking for positions after graduation.

Hadwiger said the CCU regularly treats Truman students, so the additional beds benefit students because it is less likely they will be sent somewhere else when seriously injured.

Nursing Department Chair Stephanie Powelson said the improvements made to the hospital in the past year are good for both the community and nursing students. She said the bolstered cardiology care at NRMC is important because it provides the necessary quick response to heart attacks.

Powelson said the improved facilities and increase in nursing



Blaise Hart-Schmidt/Index

The Northeast Missouri Regional Medical Center spent nine months adding four beds and 770 square feet to the Critical Care Unit. The project cost \$2.7 million.

positions benefit nursing students by offering more opportunities for necessary hospital experience through university programs and internships.

Powelson toured the new facilities Tuesday and was impressed with the improvements and technol-

ogy offered by the hospital. She said the hospital now has a single system that can display cardiac rhythms from multiple floors at once, which means the nursing staff can monitor many patients from a single place so nurses can focus on individual care.

Powelson said NRMC provides

care to patients in counties surrounding Adair County where there are not local hospitals, so it is especially important for NRMC to be capable of providing immediate care to many patients at once, and these expansions are making that possible.

Coyotes provide pelts, winter sport

The cold winter weather doesn't stop local hunters from harvesting coyotes, as coyotes are legal to hunt almost year-round.

Benny Pryor, protection and district supervisor at the Missouri Department of Conservation, said hunters kill coyotes for their fur and after shooting them, hang the bodies before skinning them. Hunters do not normally eat the meat.

"[Coyotes] can be hunted and killed throughout the year, except for certain times in turkey and deer season, and we don't allow that," Pryor said.

"Winter time, when there's snow on the ground, this time of year is a very popular time of year for folks who like to hunt coyotes."

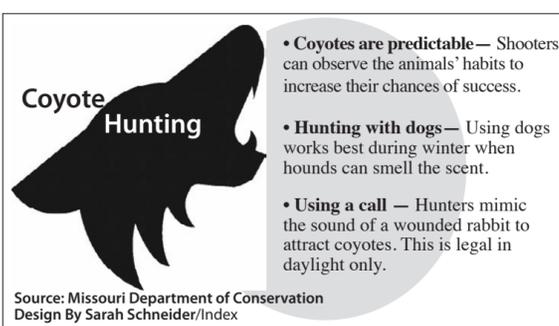
Coyote hunter Ryan Kirkpatrick of Memphis, Mo., said he receives between \$5 and \$25 per pelt based on market price.

"You hang them to skin them, normally in your workshop," Kirkpatrick said. He said he normally takes his coyotes to a pelt buyer.

Brad Selby, Kirkville codes and planning director, said possession of wildlife is not illegal.

"As long as they do something with the guts, and clean the stuff up and get rid of it," Selby said. "Unless they leave it in the yard and it becomes putrid and offensive, then we can step in and say there is an ordinance against that."

Selby said whether hunters should hang animals outside before skinning them depends on the weather. In warmer weather the carcass is more likely to attract flies and rot. Selby said that depending on the temperature, a carcass should hang for no more than two weeks.



Source: Missouri Department of Conservation
Design By Sarah Schneider/Index

• **Coyotes are predictable**— Shooters can observe the animals' habits to increase their chances of success.

• **Hunting with dogs**— Using dogs works best during winter when hounds can smell the scent.

• **Using a call** — Hunters mimic the sound of a wounded rabbit to attract coyotes. This is legal in daylight only.

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Ultrasound Imaging Presentation

Fetus: Person or Property?



Speaker:
Chris Bushey

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Published Author, Educator (BA Degree), Videographer/Producer
and Businessman from Northern California

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A thought provoking presentation designed to encourage discourse on this major social issue. This will NOT be a pro-life or pro-choice advocacy lecture.

It is hoped that the audience will be filled with members from all sides of the issue, including those who have not made a decision.

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