

BELOIT HEART HOSPITAL FEATURES STATE-OF-ART CARE

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Clint Wolf/Beloit Daily News John Ferguson explains how a bronchoscopy is used to examine a patient's airway during tours of the Hendricks Family Heart Hospital at Beloit Memorial Hospital Saturday. People were able to tour the new heart hospital during an open house held on the fourth floor of the Beloit hospital.

BELOIT - Many Beloit area residents were able to get their first look at the new Hendricks Family Heart Hospital Saturday during an open house.

The \$13.8 million heart hospital is located on the fourth floor of Beloit Memorial Hospital and it contains some of the latest equipment for care and treatment for cardiac patients.

"We are very proud and humbled to offer the state-of-the-art Hendricks Family Heart Hospital and Packard Family Cardiology Clinic," said Beloit Health System President and CEO Tim McKeveitt. "This facility will give our physicians and staff the tools they need to provide the best care to the community. Our community deserves the best."

The heart hospital has been blessed with strong support from the community, McKeveitt said.

The support started early with the Hendricks Family Foundation, headed by ABC Supply co-founder Diane Hendricks, providing a gift of \$3 million for the heart hospital. That strong support soon was followed by the family of James and Nancy Packard who provided a gift of \$1 million.

The heart hospital includes a hybrid surgical suite and cardiac catheterization lab, where physicians to perform heart bypass surgery, open heart surgery, heart valve repair and vascular surgery.

There also is an eight-bed cardiac intensive care unit of the fourth floor, to care for the most severe heart patients. There are 10 patient examination rooms. The Packard Family Cardiology Clinic offers services for patients who need pacemakers, an anticoagulation clinic and more. There also is a rehabilitation room for heart patients. The room has stationary bicycles and treadmills to help heart patients get back to normal following a heart attack or surgery.

Dr. Leo Egbujiobi, an interventional cardiologist for the hospital, said on Saturday it was a big day for Beloit Health System and for the cardiac specialists at the hospital.

"Now I go to work," he said.

The 38,200-square-foot heart hospital was completed in three phases and construction began in late 2015. Throughout construction, patient care was never interrupted.