

Welch Foundation pledges \$250,000 for cancer center

SHERIDAN — The Sheridan Memorial Hospital Foundation announced Monday that the William F. and Lorene W. Welch Foundation pledged \$250,000 to support the new Welch Cancer Center project.

“William and Lorene Welch were solid supporters of Sheridan Memorial Hospital when they were alive, and they left a legacy which continues to help make Sheridan a strong community today,” hospital CEO Mike McCafferty said in a press release. “With their initial gift 26 years ago in 1985, total gifts from Mr. and Mrs. Welch and their foundation have exceeded \$1,285,000 to Sheridan Memorial Hospital.

“The community certainly owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Welch for setting health care as a priority.”

Dr. John Stamato, a board-certified radiation oncologist, leads the radiation therapy team at the center.

“The Welch Cancer Center will continue to provide state-of-the-art cancer care to those in Sheridan and the surrounding communities,” Stamato said in the release. “We are extremely honored to recognize the Welch pledge of support for this project.



**Mike
McCafferty**

Memorial
Hospital CEO

Cancer center

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“This organization’s funding has always been extremely important to our cancer care vision, and we are pleased to partner with the Welch Foundation on many of our projects.”

With this most recent gift, the Sheridan Memorial Hospital Foundation campaign has secured more than \$2.77 million in gifts and pledges toward its \$4 million goal. A groundbreaking was celebrated June 16, and construction on the new center will be visible this summer.

When completed in the fall of 2012, the center will provide much needed space for patients and their families during their diagnosis and throughout treatment, according to the release.

According to Foundation Director Ada Kirven, the Hospital Foundation was asked by Sheridan Memorial Hospital to raise funds to support a portion of \$8.4 million project cost, which includes the building and new equipment.

A public campaign on the project is in progress. Community members are encouraged to call 673-2418 for more information about the Welch Cancer Center fundraising effort or to schedule a presentation and tour of the existing facility.



**Dr. John
Stamato**

Radiation
Oncologist