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Tuesday 24 June, 2008

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New Queen Creek hospital breaks ground

Special to the Reminder

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Banner Health's newest medical facility; Banner Ironwood Medical Center, broke ground last Thursday morning at 37000 N. Gantzel Road in Queen Creek, just south of Combs Road.



Submitted art, Banner Ironwood Medical Center, under construction on N. Gantzel Road, is expected to open in late fall of 2009.

The hospital is scheduled to open in late fall 2009 with 24 beds and a full-service emergency department with 19 private treatment areas. The hospital will bring needed health care services and additional physicians to the community including primary care (family practice and internal medicine), general surgery and orthopedics.

The 220,000 square foot facility will sit on an 80-acre site at Gantzel and Combs Roads in northern Pinal County. Cost for this phase is \$128 million. It will initially include four operating suites for inpatient and outpatient surgeries and imaging capabilities of x-ray, MRI, CT and ultrasound.

Future expansion in the initial tower will accommodate up to 86 beds with final build-out capacity of up to 500 beds. Additional expansion will be timed to meet the needs of the population as it grows. The current population of the surrounding area including Northern Pinal County and Queen Creek is 90,000-100,000 and is expected to reach 200,000 by 2020.

SECTION LINKS

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Banner Ironwood is based on a franchise model that uses research-based design techniques to create a hospital that supports a healing environment, patient and staff safety and excellent patient care. It is the third Banner hospital with this design, following Banner Gateway Medical Center in Gilbert and Banner Estrella Medical Center in Phoenix.

SmithGroup is the project architect and McCarthy Construction is the general contractor.

Phoenix-based Banner Health is one of the largest nonprofit hospital systems in the country, operating 22 hospitals and health care facilities in seven states. Its approximately 28,000 employees care for more than 90,000 inpatients every year, deliver more than 32,000 babies and treat more than 510,000 people annually in its emergency departments.

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Participating in last week's groundbreaking: Bo Calbert, Southwest Region President, McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.; Ron Creasman, M.D., Banner Health Board of Directors;



Mark Patterson, Vice President, SmithGroup Architecture; Kip Edwards, System Vice President of Design and Construction, Banner Health; Peter Fine, President & CEO, Banner Health; Rustin Crawford, D.O., local physician;

Mike Gantzel, community resident and former land owner; Sandie Smith, Pinal County Board of Supervisors; Mayor Art Sanders, town of Queen Creek; Jim Wales, community resident; and Gene O'Hara, CEO, Banner Ironwood Medical Center.

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