

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 17, 2013

CT Scans Available at the Ruby Valley Hospital

The new CT Scan Facility at the Ruby Valley Hospital is fully operational and accepting patient referrals. The recently purchased Toshiba Aquilon 16 Gantry Long Couch Computed Topography (CT) Scanner has been installed in the newly refurbished annex just south of the rear entrance of the hospital. This substantial addition to the Ruby Valley Hospital greatly enhances local emergency services and will allow residents of the Ruby Valley and surrounding communities to get CT scans closer to home.

“With our new CT Scan Facility, we will be offering scanning services seven days a week, 24 hours a day,” says John Semingson, the Ruby Valley Hospital’s CEO. “We have been organizing our staffing for months so that we can offer comprehensive CT scan services to the Ruby Valley and Southwest Montana.” Last summer, the Ruby Valley Hospital hired Mary Ann Birdsill to head the Radiology Department. Johnette Pettis was recently hired and has four years of extensive CT experience in Big Timber, Roundup and Bozeman. Brenda Pollorena has also been recently hired for the radiology team and has previous experience with CT operations in California. Joan Hendrickson is a long-time member of the hospital’s radiology staff and will be the fourth member of the CT team.

Department head, Mary Ann Birdsill is very impressed with the training her team is receiving on the new system. “We will have two weeks of intensive training on the Toshiba scanner which is almost three times more than is provided with other systems. Plus, we will have plenty of other opportunities for special on-site training as needed,” says Birdsill. Trainer Barry Clot says, “We want our clients to really understand the how’s and why’s of the system and its application to the medical information. They will be learning much more than just pushing buttons. Our training objective is to provide what the doctors are looking for and improve patient care.”

During the training, Birdsill has been delighted with the speed of the scanner. “An abdominal-pelvis can be scanned in 15 seconds. That’s so fast!” Joan Hendrickson is enthused by the “bells and whistles” of the system. “The image reconstruction, the 3-D imagery, the ability to see the soft tissue – it’s all fantastic!” says Hendrickson. The Toshiba scanner is much newer than the system

Brenda Polloreana used in California. “It’s much more user friendly and automated,” says Polloreana. Johnette Pettis has used similar machines but she finds the training to be much more extensive.

“This CT Scan Facility would not be nearly so accommodating without the help of our local contractors,” says Semingson. Semingson and the CT team are very grateful to JDL Construction, Rossiter Electric, 4 Rivers Concrete, H.F. Hardy Painting and Keith Perry Plumbing and Heating for their excellent work in refurbishing the building. Ruby Valley Hospital’s Facilities Manager, Matt Leber coordinated the many facets of the remodeling project which required additional infrastructure for the CT scanner. As the primary contact for the contractors, Leber has had a special insight into the project and has a high commendation for the final product. “Ron Pack’s advice was instrumental on this construction project. He really helped us pull this together.”

If you need a CT scan, please have your healthcare provider contact the Ruby Valley Hospital at (406) 842-5453 to schedule an appointment. For more photos and information about the new CT scanner, please visit www.rubyvalleyhospital.com.

Photo attached: ctscanteam1.jpg

Caption: Ruby Valley Hospital’s CT Scan Team: Johnette Pettis RT(R), Mary Ann Birdsill RT(R)(M)(ARRT), Brenda Polloreana RT(R)(M) and Joan Hendrickson RT(R)

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