

OUR VIEW

MTMC holds keys to Gateway

Middle Tennessee Medical Center took the keys this week from its contractor for the \$267 million hospital set to open in early October.

Completion ahead of schedule by Turner Universal, with the work being done for the budgeted amount, is a major accomplishment for a construction project this size.

MTMC officials began talking about building another hospital in 1998, according to President and CEO Gordon Ferguson, and finally the work is done as the transition team takes over.

Maintaining an old hospital building is difficult, and there's no question a new facility is needed. We encourage the transition team to keep a watchful eye on its level of care as the staff moves in and patients are admitted.

The hospital's move into Murfreesboro's Gateway area is the catalyst for nearly everything that is there and will go out there. In fact, MTMC's decision to locate there brought about construction of Medical Center Parkway and other infrastructure.

Since then, development has taken off, and this area will become the focal point of health care in Murfreesboro, if not the region. Already, Murfreesboro Medical Clinic and other health-related offices have moved into the area to be near the future hospital.

MTMC has long been the key to the Gateway area. Finally, it has the keys to the building and holds the future of the community's health in its hands.