

California's oldest newspaper of continuous publication

Mariposa Gazette.

John C. Fremont Hospital turns 70, celebrations on hold

October 07, 2021 | Reprinted with Permission

John C. Fremont Hospital turned 70 years old on Sept. 30, but because of Covid-19, celebrations are on hold.

John C. Fremont Hospital has been serving the Mariposa community, parts of Madera County including Ahwahnee, Nipinnawasee and Oakhurst, Yosemite National Park, Fish Camp, Coulterville, Greeley Hill and Lake Don Pedro with healthcare services since 1951.

An article in the Mariposa Gazette from September 1951 noted “the hospital was one of the newest in California, one that residents of this community have long awaited.”

“I am proud to be celebrating 70 years of serving the Mariposa community,” said Matthew Matthiessen, CEO at John C. Fremont Healthcare District. “I am committed to this community, and I would like to celebrate the employees past and present.”

Several staff members have been working at John C. Fremont Healthcare District for 10, 20 and 30-plus years.

Kym Brownell, executive assistant to the CEO, said her “family and I moved to Mariposa 25 years ago from the Los Angeles area. After two years of being a stay-at-home-mom, I joined John C. Fremont Healthcare District and have been serving the district for the past 23-plus years. My plan is to continue to serve for another 20 years. I can’t wait to see the new parts of the hospital that will be built!”



This is a photo of the hospital taken after construction was completed.

John C. Fremont Hospital is the nearest hospital with emergency services for Mariposa County residents. The hospital is a 34-bed facility (18 acute beds and 16 long-term care beds) with a 24-hour emergency department and clinical laboratory. It has grown since 1951, adding three clinics: Fremont Family Physicians, Fremont Specialty Physician clinic and Northside clinic.

Therese Williams, director of public relations and community outreach, said, “We would like all our hospital employees, county leaders, businesses and the community to gather for a special 70th birthday party including a birthday cake on the hospital grounds during the hospital’s 70th year.”

It offers a variety of health services to care for the Mariposa community: Acute patient care, bone density, cardiopulmonary, CT scan, education, Ewing Wing, home, health and hospice, imaging (bone density, digital mammography, ultrasound, CT), laboratory, MRI, respiratory therapy, Ryan White AIDS/HIV program, social services, surgery (outpatient) and ultrasound.



Nurses are shown at work in the news hospital.

The hospital’s specialty services include cardiology, dermatology, dietitian, endocrinology, gastroenterology, immune deficiency diseases, marriage and family therapy counseling, nephrology, neurology, nutrition, oncology/ hematology, physical therapy, podiatry, psychiatry and rheumatology.

“There are many staff members who were born at the hospital”, said Matthiessen.

The emergency department treated over 7,100 patients last year, providing immediate treatment for heart attacks, strokes, pulmonary embolisms, rattlesnake bites, chest pain, allergic reactions and asthma.

Minutes matter in an emergency, said Matthiessen. The air ambulance helicopter service is available to rapidly transport patients who need critical specialized care from the healthcare facility helipad or from the scene of an accident.

With this service, hospital officials said they have reduced emergency response times by 25 minutes. The air ambulance helicopter service transported 337 patients last year.



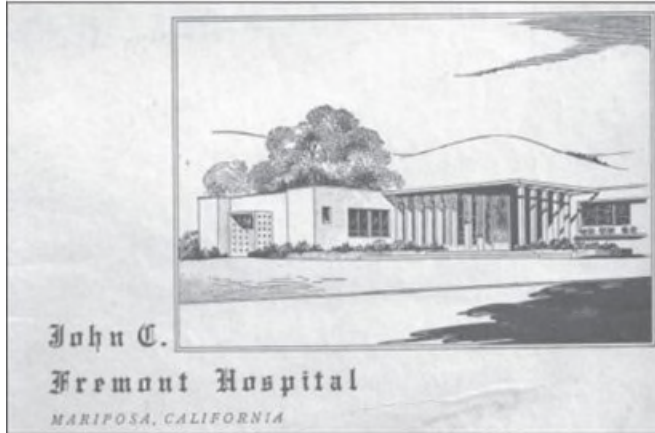
This photo shows a technician working in the lab of the new hospital.

Tom Phillips, a resident of Mariposa and local historian, is working on the early history of the hospital.

“Tom is reviewing minutes and newspaper articles from the early days and will develop a book. We plan to have a presentation of the book next year,” said Williams.

People can visit the hospital website at www.jcf-hospital.com to explore medical services, learn about physicians, sign up for the monthly newsletter, stay up to date with events such as our monthly breast cancer support group and much more.

For more information, contact Williams at therese.williams@jcf-hospital.com.



THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
JOHN C. FREMONT HOSPITAL DISTRICT
CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO THE
**DEDICATION
OF THE HOSPITAL**
Sunday, Sept. 30, 1951 **Mariposa, Calif.**

OPEN HOUSE DEDICATION PROGRAM
2 P.M. TO 6 P.M. 2 P.M.

Dedication Ceremonies
2:00 P.M. SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1951

Master of Ceremonies	— — —	Richard J. Stull, <i>Director Univ. of Calif. Hospitals</i>
Invocation	— — —	Rev. Leslie Dabritz
Introduction, Board of Directors	— —	Ruby Merrill, <i>President</i>
Introduction, Medical Staff	—	J. Lloyd Wallar, M.D., <i>Chief of Staff</i>
Introduction, Board of Supervisors	—	Fred McCay, <i>Chairman</i>
Address	— — —	Senator Jesse Mayo
Contractor Presentation	— —	K. J. McGranahan
Architects Presentation	—	Robert Stanton and Chester Phillips
Hospital Acceptance	— —	Mervyn Cademartori, <i>Administrator</i>
Benediction	— — —	Fr. James Marron

JOHN C. FREMONT HOSPITAL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ruby Merrill	— — — — —	<i>President</i>
Ray M. Sullivan	— — — — —	<i>Secretary</i>
John McCauley	— — — — —	<i>Director</i>
Walter Davis	— — — — —	<i>Director</i>
Frank B. Ewing	— — — — —	<i>Director</i>
Robert O. Curran	— — — — —	<i>Counsel</i>
Mervyn Cademartori	— — — — —	<i>Administrator</i>
Martha Warren	— — — — —	<i>Nursing Supervisor</i>
J. Lloyd Wallar, M.D.	— — — — —	<i>Chief of Medical Staff</i>
Robert Stanton, A.I.A., Chester Phillips, A.I.A.	— —	<i>Architects</i>
K. J. McGranahan	— — — — —	<i>General Contractor</i>
R. J. Stull of James Hamilton & Assoc.	— —	<i>Consultant</i>

The four images above show the official dedication program, which was given to attendees of the event.

###