

Hospital is local necessity

Editor,

A perspective on why the John C. Fremont Hospital is important to our community:

A couple of years ago, I spent a day and night in our hospital, for observation. Staffing and care were excellent, the local doctor in charge was very attentive and the hospital was able to run a number of needed tests, including a CT scan.

My roommate was a local mom, and her husband and young children came to be with her as much as visiting hours allowed. My family also visited, and brought a few personal items. These trips would have been much more difficult had we been in hospital in Merced or Fresno, and being comforted by family means a lot. We also didn't need to worry about additional costs of transportation to other hospitals.

While many people are financially pinched, how much do most Mariposa County residents pay in local sales taxes? People who are buying items in Fresno or Merced are already paying a higher sales tax there. And most of the increased tax revenue in Mariposa is likely to be paid by tourists, not residents.

In my opinion, the advantages of having a local hospital are far greater than the cost of a small sales tax increase.

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