



401 North Ewing Street  
Lancaster, Ohio 43130  
[www.fmchealth.org](http://www.fmchealth.org)

## NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Donna Stalter  
Fairfield Medical Center  
Public Relations Specialist  
(740) 687-8108  
[donnas@fmchealth.org](mailto:donnas@fmchealth.org)

release)

(For immediate

### 2008 STATE OF THE CENTER UPDATE

**LANCASTER, Ohio (April 2, 2008)** – Over 70 people attended the annual “State of the Center”, which took place on Tuesday, April 1st. The presenters for the evening were Mina Ubbing, CEO; Dr. Shashi Gogate, 2008 Board Chair; Alex Peck, HealthGrades Consultant; David Scheffler, Plante & Moran CPA; Mayor Dave Smith; and Ann Schiele, PhD, RN, Mount Carmel College of Nursing President & Dean. Topics included hospital quality (recognition from HealthGrades), finances/audited financials, community benefits, the Mount Carmel/FMC Bachelors of Nursing Program, Mount Carmel/FMC joint venture at Diley Road, and recognition from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP). The presentation will air on the Lancaster School Network, (LSN) Thursday, April 3, 2008 and Friday, April 4, 2008 at 8:30 pm. Additionally, the presentation will air Saturday, April 5, 2008 and Sunday, April 6, 2008 at 11:00 am, 3:00 pm, and 7:00 pm. Highlights from the State of the Center will also be discussed on 90.9 at 11:30 am on Thursday, April 3.

One of the main topics focused on a new four-year nursing program being offered in conjunction with the Mount Carmel College of Nursing, FMC, and Ohio University-Lancaster. Dr. Ann Schiele commented, “We have similar missions and values, it only makes sense to work together to provide more opportunities to people in Fairfield County. Especially, given the fact that Fairfield County is the second largest recruiting area for us.” Dr. Schiele also noted, “We are bringing all of the support services to FMC, and we are delighted to give the students in this program the same opportunities and education that students receive on campus. We are also looking forward to being involved in the community as much as possible to show our support – commitment to the community is the key.” Open house dates are scheduled for May 7, 2008, and June 2, 2008, from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm in the FMC assembly rooms, and registration is required by calling (740) 687-8007.

Another important topic highlighted awards and recognition that Fairfield Medical Center recently received. HealthGrades conducts the largest annual study of hospital quality in America, based on objective information from 39 million hospitalization records from federal and state governmental agencies. Fairfield Medical Center was recognized by HealthGrades for **Cardiac Services** (Five-Star Rated for Coronary Interventional Procedures, Treatment of Heart Attack, Treatment of Heart Failure, and Treatment of Atrial Fibrillation), **Orthopedic Services**, (Ranked Among the Top 10 in Ohio for Overall Orthopedic Services and Five-Star Rated for Hip Fracture Repair - Third Year in a Row), **Pulmonary Services** (Five-Star Rated for Treatment of Community Acquired Pneumonia - Second Year in a Row), **Vascular Services** (Five-Star Rated for Carotid Endarterectomy - Fourth Year in a Row), and **Critical Care Services** (Five-Star Rated for Treatment of Respiratory Failure). Alex Peck commented, “FMC has received all these accolades/high ratings, but the real winners are the community members. You all reap the benefits of this reward, not just the hospital.” Alex also noted that these ratings were

achieved because the hospital staff, physicians, and leadership all have a focus on providing quality care from admission to discharge.

Financially, David Scheffler, CPA, noted, "FMC is in good shape, and getting better in every entity." The bottom line is that FMC had an income in 2007 of \$2.5 million, as opposed to a \$0.9 million loss in 2006. The net result of all activities was a cash increase of \$1.5 million in 2007. Mayor Dave Smith also highlighted FMC's community contribution to the community stating that; "We measure the impact of FMC community benefit by breaking down into three categories, charity services at \$3,480,644, community activity/betterment at \$2,330,082, and non-profitable services at \$4,112,908. Thus, FMC's total community benefit is \$9,923,634."

Last but not least, Mina Ubbing discussed how FMC was recognized by AARP as one of the "Top 50 Best Employers For Workers Over 50." Fairfield Medical Center acknowledges how valuable it is to retain and appreciate employees that are over 50 years old. From the surveys AARP used to decide Fairfield Medical Center's eligibility for this award, it was determined that 27% of Fairfield Medical Center employees are 50+. The average tenure of employees age 50+ is 12.5 years. Mina also noted that such experienced employees are a true asset to Fairfield Medical Center and are the foundation for its success.

**# # #**