

"Gateway to the Monticello Dam"

Winters Express

Winters, Yolo County, California, Thursday, December 13, 2007

Winters Healthcare Foundation welcomes two more doctors

By JUSTIN COX
Staff writer

Dr. Annie Hargadon began working at the Winters Healthcare Foundation clinic earlier this summer and so far describes it as "a wonderful place to work, from the front desk of the clinic to the streets of the community."

Her career as a doctor has taken her to a variety of towns and cities of differing sizes and characters, ultimately helping to prepare her for the slow pace of a small town like Winters. She did her undergraduate work at Stanford, studied medicine at Dartmouth University in New Hampshire, did her residency at Santa Clara Hospital and worked as a doctor in Florida.

"Dartmouth was a wonderful school in a small town," she says. "It was fun getting to know all of the students and patients."

Her three-year residency at Santa Clara Hospital marked a drastic change of environment and pace. "I saw people from all over the world and treated everything from malaria to tuberculosis to HIV," she says. "We had interpreters on hand for the translation of 83 different languages at Santa Clara. It was an interesting and amazing experience."

Hargadon grew up in Marin County where her mother was an elementary school teacher and her father worked in real estate.

"My family would buy an old house, fix it up, then move to another house and repeat the process," she says. "It made for a fun childhood."

After getting her degree in Human Biology from Stanford, she was not immediately sure that she wanted to be a doctor and instead began working as a teacher for one year.

"I realized how much I enjoyed the process of learning how to make people better," she says. "I like knowing how the body works, and what happens when it doesn't work."

"I decided to go back and take care of my premed at Berkeley over the next three years. I supported myself by working as a teacher, researcher and custodian while taking classes. I was very busy, but it was great in helping me realize what I wanted to do."

She has lived in Davis over the last few years where she be-

came familiar with Dr. Davis' story and the evolution of the clinic in Winters. She was surprised to find out earlier this year that they were hiring.

"I spoke with Medical Director Chris Kelch and asked if I could shadow Dr. Davis at the clinic," she says. "When I did, I thought, 'Oh my gosh. If I had seen someone like this earlier on, I would have known exactly what I wanted to do in medical school.'"

Hargadon has been impressed by both the staff at the clinic, who she says makes sure to always spend the time necessary in order to give great care, as well as the patients, who she describes as kind and warm; deserving of a clinic run by such dedicated, intelligent and hard working people.

Dr. Matthew Rosenberg. In many medical clinics, the reception desk and the lobby are separated by a thick sheet of bullet-proof glass. These barriers, according to Dr. Matthew Rosenberg, serve not only as physical barriers, but also institutional divisions between doctors and patients. As one of two new doctors at Winters Healthcare, he has enjoyed the blurring of this dividing line and settled nicely into what he describes as a "very warm place."

Rosenberg was born in Michigan and did his undergraduate studies at the University of Michigan. Upon graduating, he joined the Peace Corps, which landed him in a Costa Rican village for about two years. He had not yet decided to study medicine, but during his time abroad steadily developed a desire to help others, a desire that ultimately guided him to Winters last July.

Upon returning home from Costa Rica he returned to medical school and, after graduating in 2001, moved to Oakland. He later began his residency, which had him splitting his time between Davis and Sacramento. It was during this time that he became familiar with Winters Healthcare and Dr. Davis' story.

"Bill has an approach to his patients that is what many people strive for," he says, noting the "red tape" and difficulties commonly associated with modern American healthcare. "Because of Sutter, Kaiser and the HMOs, people aren't always able to practice from the heart."

Rosenberg serves as both a family practice doctor and medical director for Winters Healthcare. He has found the dual role to be very satisfying in the



DR. ANNIE HARGADON



DR. MATTHEW ROSENBERG

sense that he is given the opportunity to treat people on a personal level as well as contribute to the creation of a system that is more responsive to people's needs.

"It's special being a primary care doctor for people who may not have anybody else if you're not there," he says.

"There is a kind of preemptive spirit here," he says, pointing out actions taken by both the healthcare foundation and the town as a whole. "People work to solve problems sort of before they happen. I'm really impressed."

"If I'm going to be somewhere for the next 30 years, I want to be doing something I'm proud of."

Medical office Hargadon and Rosenberg, along with Davis, practice medicine at the Winters Healthcare Foundation medical office, located at 23 Main Street.

The Winters Healthcare Foundation seeks to provide medical care for all Winters residents, even those without medical insurance. The foundation also recently opened a dental clinic at 31 Main Street, and dental insurance is also not necessary to see a dentist.

To make a medical or dental appointment, call 795-4377.

For more information about the Winters Healthcare Foundation, call 795-5200.