

Hospital should not move from Talbot

It disturbs me deeply when I hear that Memorial Hospital may relocate away from Easton. When my wife and I considered where to live in retirement, a primary issue was health care.

We would not have considered a town without a hospital, and we're not alone. The number of people who find Talbot County a great place to retire means we have an unusually large older population. Why, then, would Memorial Hospital leave Talbot's population center, the Town of Easton?

Is a move completely out of Talbot being considered?

It is troubling that Memorial Hospital has been so reluctant to openly share its plans. The president has yet to speak on the subject in open session as requested by the county council. The hospital will not make the alliance agreement with the University of Maryland Medical Systems available to the public.

The names of persons on the 18-month study committee aren't to be divulged, nor will there be a representative from the town government even though Mayor Willey requested it.

There have been conflicting statements by hospital officials regarding possible relocation sites. All of this secrecy can only mean plans to relocate away from Easton, forcing some of the older population to make dangerously long and at least inconvenient drives for hospital care.

This is shameful, and should not be accepted by the town and county citizens who have supported Memorial Hospital generously for 100 years.

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