

Letters to the Editor, April 19, 2007

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Hospital's future key for all, speak up

While discussing the Memorial Hospital at Easton a friend said, "If they aren't going to build a new one for 10 or 15 years, I don't have to bother with where it goes. I'll be long gone."

It is a shocking attitude, and an unthinking attitude.

Choosing a site for a new hospital now predicates a host of decisions about Easton's and Talbot County's future.

A site choice in the northern most or eastern most areas of Talbot increases travel time for patients, workers and doctors. Travel time for emergency patients is critical. Travel time for employees is an economic consideration. If employees are predominately Eastonians, would they continue to want to serve?

One would easily think not. Route 50's traffic problems are growing, exacerbated by the entire Eastern Shore's rapid development into a megalopolis. Looking at the lane expansion here in Easton, one can see the future of our traffic problems. Route 404, like Route 50, is becoming a full four-lane highway. The problems of getting patients to the western shore already have been documented.

The future of residential, commercial and industrial growth are dependent on service amenities such as schools, law enforcement and hospitals being close for users. Environmental impact on remote area development (especially an endeavor such as a hospital) will be significant.

Attend the meeting at the Avalon Theatre tonight at 7. Be a critical voice to keep Memorial Hospital at Easton in Easton.

ERNEST J. HEINMULLER,

St. Michaels

Build new hospital in Talbot

Location, location, location can be important; but in the case of Memorial Hospital, a new, state-of-the-art hospital that would keep doctors here, attract new ones, and give patients a clean, healthy environment, is critical! Build it and they will come!

Also, thank you to Talbot County Councilman Peter Carroll for doing his homework and doing the research. The location he has proposed to Shore Health, seems to

constructively address the legitimate concerns of the hospital system and the Talbot County citizens.

ELLA BRACY, Trappe