

PRESS RELEASE**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****CONTACT:**

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**SCHOOLCRAFT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
&
MANISTIQUE MEDICAL CENTER
CONSOLIDATE**

Manistique, MI - March 1, 2004

Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital announced today its purchase of the Manistique Medical Center. The Medical Center owned by the doctors under Manistique Medical Joint Enterprise agreed to sell their business shares to Schoolcraft Memorial after several months of negotiating.

David Jahn, CEO of Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital said today "The purchase of the Manistique Medical Center will be good for the community. It will assure continuity of access to primary care for the community, and improve patient access and convenience. The benefits of this endeavor to our patients will be paramount" Jahn went on to say "Technological upgrades to the Medical Center's systems in addition to relieving physicians from the burdens of running a business to focus more on patient care and the practice of medicine are just some of the additional benefits of this venture."

In total, twenty support staff, five doctors and one Physician's Assistant will be employed with full hospital benefits that include, health, drug, vision, dental, life insurance and a pension plan in addition to participating in the employee paid time-off bank.

As for the community, it's business as usual with one notable exception. The Medical Center Lab and the hospital's full-service lab have amalgamated. Any lab work that you previously had done at the Medical Center will now be performed at Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital. Bob Sands, Director of the Lab says, "The volume of testing will increase but our staff is well equipped and ready to serve the community." The hours of operation for the Lab are from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information, you can reach them at (906) 341-3265.

Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital continues its commitment to excellence by people who care.