

PRESS RELEASE

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SCHOOLCRAFT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL Celebrates National Laboratory Week April 24-30, 2005

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National Medical Laboratory Week (NMLW), April 24-30, 2005, is a time to honor the more than 280,000 medical laboratory professionals across the nation who perform and interpret laboratory tests that save lives and keep people healthy. Pathologists and laboratory technologist and technicians at Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital are among the many unsung heroes of medical healthcare.

Schoolcraft Memorial's full-service Laboratory team is a member of one of the largest industries in the United States. The dedicated efforts of laboratory professionals often go unnoticed.

Bob Sands, Supervisor of Schoolcraft Memorial's Lab says, "We are currently conducting over 200,000 tests per year covering Hematology, Chemistry, Blood Bank, Serology, Microbiology and Urinalysis."

Other laboratory staff include Mary Young, Tina Laramie, Kerri MacPhail, Mindy Asp, Sharon Boyd, Hank Richey, Marilyn Pennington, Amy Gould Mary Milavec and Marilyn Heet who boast a combined 88 years of service. "Our staff is a dedicated group of professionals" says Sands, "we are the only lab testing provider in Schoolcraft County. We service all Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital Physicians, the Tribal Health center, Curtis and Germfask Clinics and we also provide testing for physicians from outside the area needing work done on local patients."

"We are proud of the work we do," said Sands, "We have to be painstakingly meticulous in performing our jobs to provide dependable answers to your family physicians."

Advanced technology and instrumentation help laboratory professionals prevent disease by detecting unknown health problems and by aiding in the diagnosis and treatment of existing conditions by giving accurate, timely test results. Laboratory test results comprise an estimated 70% of a patient's medical records and are vital to the diagnosis and treatment of illness and disease.

In celebration of lab week, various staff activities have been planned in addition, patients who visit the lab during the week long celebration may register to win a 30 day free membership to the Fitness Center.