

# NEWS RELEASE

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**Lisa Church**  
**660-829-7788**

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## **BOTHWELL HEALTH CENTER – TRUMAN LAKE TO OPEN MARCH 2**

### *New Facility Offers Expanded Health Services in Benton County*

Construction is finished; equipment and furniture are in place; and physicians will be ready to see the first patients at the new Bothwell Health Center – Truman Lake on Monday, March 2.

The new health center at 1765 Commercial in Warsaw replaces Truman Lake Clinic, which Bothwell Regional Health Center has operated in Warsaw since 1995. It will be the new home for the medical practices of Drs. Jack Beltz, Melissa Stephens and Pearl Carillo, as well as Nurse Practitioner Patty Gawf-Garcia.

“Building a new health center in Benton County has been part of our strategic plan for more than four years,” said John Dawes, Chief Executive Officer of Bothwell Regional Health Center in Sedalia. “It is extremely rewarding to see this dream become reality and to know it means improved and expanded health-care services for this community.

“Warsaw is the fastest-growing community in our service area, and it represents a significant portion of our business. With this new \$7 million facility, we’re making an additional investment in the future of health care in Benton County.”

With 23,000 square feet, the new Bothwell Health Center – Truman Lake offers a larger reception area, 12 exam rooms, a full-service procedure room and expanded lab services.

“Our space on Hilltop Drive was limited, and patients had to go downstairs to access the lab and x-ray,” said Dr. Beltz. “At the new facility, all of our services are on one floor, with wide hallways and separate alcoves for initial weight, blood pressure and assessment when patients arrive. Not only is it more comfortable, it will give patients more privacy.”

Other new features at Bothwell Health Center – Truman Lake include a state-of-the-art digital imaging department to provide x-ray, ultrasound, mammography, bone density and other radiology services. The services are centralized to allow greater privacy and easier access for women receiving mammograms, ultrasounds and bone density tests.

“Because we’ll have digital imaging capabilities, Benton County residents can have an X-ray done right here in the community, and their physician – no matter where he or she is located -- can view the results online,” said Dr. Beltz. “This makes testing easier for the patient and allows

for quicker turn-around on reading the images, making a diagnosis and starting treatment. That's a huge benefit for the patient."

Bothwell Health Center – Truman Lake also will have electronic medical records, which offers physicians in the Bothwell system remote access to records. For example, if a person from Warsaw visits the Emergency Department in Sedalia and then follows up with a visit to his physician in Warsaw, the doctor will be able to see the records from the emergency visit.

"It allows for greater collaboration and coordination of care, and while this may look like something that takes place between health professionals, it's really the patient who benefits," Beltz said.

The new facility allows Bothwell to bring more services under one roof. Bothwell Therapy Center - Warsaw will relocate its physical, occupational and speech therapy services to the Commercial Street location. It also will now offer cardiac rehab services. The therapy area features four treatment rooms, as well as additional equipment in an expansive area with lots of natural light.

An area of six additional exam rooms, two procedure rooms and two offices are available for visiting specialists. A physician from Bothwell OB/GYN Associates will provide women's health services at the new location, and additional specialists are expected.

"Bothwell also is working hard to recruit full-time physicians to the Warsaw area," Dawes said. "We know that access to health care can be an issue in rural communities. Bothwell is working hard to recruit additional physicians. We know that access to health care can be an issue in rural communities. We want to assist in improving access to residents throughout the county."

The public is invited to tour the new facility and hear more about the services during a grand opening, which will be held from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, March 8.

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