



By Tim Linscott

Managing Editor

Twelve men from Perkins County set out in July to make a difference in the place they call home and continue to do just that through the 'Mr. Perkins County' campaign.

The 12 men from across the county were chosen to represent the Perkins County Health Services Foundation and their area during the campaign.

The 12 candidates are, Mike Perlinger, Glen Stanek, Terry Sis (from Elsie); Nick Ross, Dave Jantzen, Chet Harger (from Madrid); Steve Loeffler, JJ Long, Derek Wilson (from Grant); Glen Karst, Dave Schmitt, Steve Tucker (from Brandon/Venango). Each of the men is featured on a 2014 calendar that highlights their hobbies or professions and the proceeds benefit the campaign. The campaign is to help in expanding the hospital facilities.

"Each of the candidates are informed on the expansion project and several have come up for a tour of the current facility," said Jody Snogren, administrator for the foundation. "A big part of this campaign is spreading information about the project and all that it entails."

Each candidate has been working hard to raise funds for the project.

"Some of the guys have come up with creative ways to raise awareness and funds during the campaign such as challenging organizations, alumni and vendors," Snogren said.

Events that the Mr. Perkins County participants have taken part in are, the county fair breakfast, the Celebrate Perkins County Banquet, the PCS homecoming volleyball game, and the Fall Festival at Adams Bank.

Anytime a donation is made or a calendar is sold during the campaign, credit goes to the candidates. At a gala in January the candidate who has raised the most money for the project will be crowned Mr. Perkins County.

The PCHS Expansion and Remodel Project includes 20 new private patient rooms with their own showers; new HVAC system (to replace the over 40-year-old current system); new physical therapy department with hydro therapy pool; labor/delivery/recovery/postpartum rooms; wing designated for scope patients; new emergency room; updates in operating room; in-house nuclear medicine; expanded lab and radiology; chapel; additional clinic space; additional exam rooms for visiting specialty doctors; new kitchen and cafeteria on ground level and more.

Primary funding for the expansion project is coming from a low-interest, long-term loan from the USDA. Additional funding will come from two of the local banks and the Foundation.

Initial bids for groundwork and jobs that can be done over the winter months have been let. “A large group of contractors were on site in September for tours and to have questions answered so that they could prepare bids,” Snogren said. “The contracting companies will be bringing in large groups of employees at different times over the next two years that will be an impetus to our local economy.”

The gala is set for Friday, Jan. 3, 2014 at the Perkins County Fairgrounds. Matt Chandler-Smith is the emcee for the evening and will be playing music during the social time and dinner. Following dinner and the auction, Mr. Perkins County will be crowned.

Starting Nov. 1 (tomorrow), tickets are available to purchase from the PCHS Foundation office or by calling Snogren at (308) 352-7285 or (308) 352-8613.