

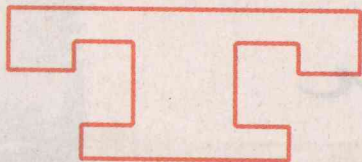
# Health Care Center Marks a Milestone

## BROWNWOOD FACILITY IS ON TARGET TO OPEN IN 2020



Photos by George Horsford | Daily Sun

Construction continues on the Center for Advanced Healthcare at Brownwood, left, and the Brownwood Hotel & Spa, right. The new 240,000-square-foot health care center is set to open in spring 2020.



By **CIARA VARONE**  
Daily Sun Senior Writer

The local health care landscape marked a major milestone Thursday. DPR Construction held a topping-off ceremony to celebrate the completed structural framework of the Center for Advanced Healthcare at Brownwood and the Brownwood Hotel & Spa. Set to open in spring 2020, the 240,000-square-foot health care center will house a host of services under one roof. "This is a game-changer for this community and this region," said Braulio Vicente, executive director of specialty services for The Villages Health. He described the project as a bedless hospital, meaning it will provide many services normally received in a hospital in an outpatient setting. The center represents a partnership between The Villages Health and other



Daniel Vincent, superintendent for DPR Construction, signs his name on the topping-off beam before it is placed in position.

Please See **HEALTH CENTER, A9**





George Horsford | Daily Sun

Abby Sinha, center left, and Heddy Jimenez, right, help serve drinks and lunch to construction workers Eugene Smith, left, and Christopher Thomas, right, during the Center for Advanced Healthcare at Brownwood's topping-off ceremony and celebration

## HEALTH CENTER

Continued from A1

established providers in the community, including Florida Cancer Specialists, Lake Medical Imaging, Lake Centre for Rehab and St. Luke's, said Dr. Elliot Sussman, TVH chairman.

The partner providers will offer oncology, ophthalmology and imaging services and an ambulatory surgery center, in addition to TVH's 13 specialties.

A Walgreens pharmacy will also be on site.

"What this represents for all the Villagers and their friends is more amazing health care resources for our very special and very deserving community," Sussman said.

Troy Purcell, practice administrator for Lake Medical Imaging, said he will be thrilled to see their sixth office open in the center.

"It will be our largest imaging center that we have

to date," he said. "We'll be able to provide state-of-the-art imaging for residents of The Villages."

In addition to other imaging services, the space will contain a 3T MRI scanner, which will allow the practice to participate in additional dementia studies, Purcell said.

Dr. Al Turri, director of audiology for TVH, said he looks forward to working with other specialists beyond patients' primary physicians to coordinate care.

"There are so many comorbidities associated with hearing loss," Turri said.

A team of educated providers translates to better, faster service for patients, he said.

Sussman said he didn't expect a project of this magnitude to come to fruition when he started at The Villages Health seven years ago.

"I dreamed, like everybody who comes to The Villages," he said. "It's a tremendously exciting day."

The project hits close to home for DPR construction superintendent Daniel Vincent, who is originally from Lady Lake and now lives in Fruitland Park.

"This is a very prideful hometown project," he said.

*Ciara Varone is a senior writer with The Villages Daily Sun. She can be reached at 352-753-1119, ext. 5395, or [ciara.varone@thevillagesmedia.com](mailto:ciara.varone@thevillagesmedia.com).*

**LUXU**  
— DIAMOND CO.  
**BUYERS & SELLERS OF**  
**352-877-2432**  
Holiday Hours: Mon.-Sat. 10am-5pm 1684

**NEED CEILING FAN**  
**art** ELECTRIC  
We can replace your existing