

LETTER

DSH 2-2-10

To the Editor:

I was a little surprised to see an article in the local paper [about Greg] Stubblefield, administrator of our local Baptist hospital here in Arkadelphia. I had just been discharged from the hospital the day before, nothing wrong with the administrator's article.

I just want to make a few first-hand comments of my own. Since I contracted cancer in 2000, I have been in several medical facilities. The cancer has been in remission for four years, however there have been many other complications, No. 1 COPD, better known as chronic bronchitis which restricts the breathing process.

Now for the point of this letter. In the past year, I have been rushed to the emergency room in our local BHMC-A, sometimes in the middle of

the night. Let me just say this, when you are choking and smothering, knowing each breath might be your last, you don't have time to drive 50 miles or even 25 miles to a unit that might or might not help you immediately.

I have been to our emergency room several times under such circumstances the past two years. Twice I was kept a few days for further treatment, the first time under Dr. Lomax, and I must say I received excellent care. Dr. Lomax was very professional, I would say among the top GP's in the state. The food was excellent, the entire staff was professional, and the nursing staff deserves an A plus.

I was admitted to the hospital Jan. 24, once again I was unable to get my breath. I was immediately taken into the emergency room where one doc-

tor and two nurses went to work and soon I was breathing again. To have had to travel 50 miles farther could have been too late. Once again, within the hour I was in a very nice clean room with at least three nurses making sure I was comfortable and my needs were met. This time I was under the care of Dr. Robert Coye and again you will not find a better doctor in the state. By noon he had me on IVs and medication. Again the food was good, the service was great.

I cannot say enough good things about our two on-staff doctors. Friends, please support our local hospital. I have told my family if I am sick, don't send me anywhere else. Two thumbs up to BHMC-A.

**Grady Runyan
Arkadelphia**