

SCOTTSDALE HEALTHCARE SHEA MARKS

25 YEARS of good health

Desert surrounded hospital in 1984. It's not even in the heart of the city today.

» Started with 300 employees and now has 3,000.

» More than 5,000 births annually, including Corey Anderson, son of Michelle and Taylor Anderson (below).

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Hospital hits its 25-year mark

Scottsdale Healthcare Shea grew along with city to become large operation

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In 1984, the newly opened Scottsdale Memorial Hospital-North was surrounded by desert rather than rooftops in what was then considered north Scottsdale.

Twenty-five years later, the hospital now known as Scottsdale Healthcare Shea — the name changed in 1998 — is surrounded by rooftops.

When the hospital was built, it was on the outskirts of the city. Now, it's not even in Scottsdale's geographic center. That is at Deer Valley Road, about six miles north of Shea.

Like the city, Scottsdale Healthcare Shea has grown. Today, it is a busy medical and research facility where every year more than 5,000 babies are brought into the world, 50,000 surgical procedures are performed and 50,000 emergency patients are treated.

The hospital at 90th Street and East Shea Boulevard broke ground in 1982. It opened on Jan. 4, 1984. Former first lady Nancy Reagan spoke at the dedication.

Since 1984, the hospital has added a number of services, including a family birthing unit, obstetrics, a women's center, pediatric and neonatal intensive care units, a bariatric center, children's ER, a total joint-replacement center and a cardiac-arrest center.

The campus also is home to the Virginia G. Piper Cancer Center and Scottsdale Clinical Research Institute. In 2005, the hospital became a primary clinical research site for the Translational Genomics Research Institute, or TGen, of Phoenix.

Tom Sadvary, president and CEO of Scottsdale Healthcare, was administrator at Shea from 1986 to 2001.

He said the biggest change has been the size and sophisti-



Back in the early 1980s, when Scottsdale Healthcare Shea was under construction, the site was surrounded by desert.

Scottsdale Healthcare Shea facts

- » Located on 60 acres at 9003 E. Shea Blvd.
- » Opened Jan. 4, 1984, as Scottsdale Memorial Hospital-North. A day earlier, then-first lady Nancy Reagan cut the ribbon.
- » Name changed in 1998 to reflect broader scope of services and geographic location.
- » Original construction cost: \$24 million. Construction began in 1982.
- » The hospital had about 300 employees when it opened. Today, it employs about 3,000.
- » In 1984, the hospital had 120 inpatient beds. Today, there are 433.
- » During its first week, Shea had 93 emergency department visits, 21 inpatients, nine inpatient surgeries and two outpatient surgeries.
- » Visits to the emergency department doubled from 320 patients in the opening month to 670 in November 1984.
- » More than 5,000 babies are born annually at Shea.
- » More than 50,000 surgical procedures are performed each year.
- » The hospital sees more than 50,000 emergency patients annually.

Source: Scottsdale Healthcare

cation of services.

"Shea opened in January 1984 as a small hospital with a very small patient volume," he said. "There were very few people that lived in the area. Over time, we've been able to develop not just a high volume of service but a very sophisticated level of clinical service for patients from throughout the Valley."

In fact, more than a third of the patients seen at Scottsdale Healthcare's three hospitals — Osborn, Shea and Thompson Peak — are from outside the Northeast Valley, Sadvary said.

The Shea hospital has expanded its services in other ways. There is free valet parking, a wellness center and boutique in the Women's Center and Tina's Treasures, a bou-

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tique for cancer patients in the Piper Cancer Center.

Sadvary said patients today are better informed on their health care choices.

"And much more — I would say — educated in terms of what questions to ask a physician or a hospital. A lot of it is because we have Internet capabilities now that we did not have 25 years ago," he said.

Hospital employee Michelle Anderson, 25, of Phoenix, recently had her second son, Corey Stephen, at Shea.

"I love the people. I loved it (the birthing center) the first time I delivered," she said.

Kathy Stinson is an orthopedic nurse manager who has been at Shea for 25 years.

Back then, Stinson said hundreds of acres of vacant land surrounded the new hospital.

"There were a few things here but not many. No shopping," Stinson said.

Peggy Reiley, Shea campus administrator, said the average daily census 25 years ago was about six patients. Today, the hospital sees 350 a day.

Despite its growth, the hospital has kept its small-town feel, Stinson said.

"I think the staff really still feels that we're part of a big family, bigger with more in-laws and so forth, but it still has maintained that feel," Stinson said. "That's why I've stayed for so long."

Shea hospital's innovations

» 1989: An advanced lithotripsy unit is installed at the Kenneth M. Piper Family Health Center, the first of its kind in the Southwest. Large kidney stones could be broken down and removed without surgery.

» 1994: Newborn hearing screenings begin at Shea, the first community hospital in the Valley to offer the service.

» 1996: A new 30,000-square-foot Piper Surgery Center opens.

» 1998: A breast health center and a new 16-bed pediatrics department open.

» 2000: New outpatient radiology center debuts.

» 2001: Scottsdale Healthcare installs Arizona's first da Vinci surgical robot.

» 2002: Arizona's first robotic surgery cases for prostatectomy and experimental heart-bypass surgery are performed.

» 2002: The Women's Center opens.

» 2003: Early clinical trials for drug-eluting stents and cooling therapy research are conducted.

» 2003: The state's first robotic heart surgery for mitral-valve repair occurs.

» 2004: International Genomics Consortium gene expression lab opens at Cancer Center.

» 2005: Northeast Valley's first pediatric-oriented ER opens.

» 2005: Arizona's first Bariatric Center of Excellence is awarded by the American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery.

» 2006: Bisgrove Trial is launched in partnership with TGen to determine the effectiveness of individualized therapy in patients with advanced cancer.

» 2007: First in Arizona to offer Realize adjustable gastric band for bariatric patients.

» 2007: Pilots the industry's first clinically validated room-service meal system.

» 2007: Arizona's first high-definition da Vinci surgical robot is installed.

» 2008: Skin-cancer treatment breakthrough in partnership with TGen gains worldwide attention.

» 2008: Scottsdale Healthcare Child-care Center opens on the Shea campus.

Source: Scottsdale Healthcare