

Newspaper article of the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, FL

The Beaches Shorelines



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INSIDE

A LATE EXHIBITION

She was a well-known instructor at Florida Community College at Jacksonville, but who knew about her art?

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ELECTION ORDERS

The Republican Party is ordered to stop its involvement in a non-partisan City Commission race in Atlantic Beach. It's an infraction of state law.

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LIVE ART

For this exhibitor at the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach, making the art is part of the exhibit.

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New centralized Mayo nearing completion

The medical campus will be integrated with patient facilities.

By MAGGIE FITZROY
Shorelines staff writer

It will have 214 beds and a 30-bed intensive care unit. It will open with 14 operating suites, a 21-bed emergency room and a helicopter landing pad.

The new Mayo Clinic hospital off San Pablo Road is nearing completion and is on schedule to begin admitting patients next spring.

Opening celebration ceremonies are scheduled for the end of March, said the senior administrator and project executive, Bob Walters.

And the hospital is slated to open April 12. While only Mayo physicians will practice there, the hospital "is for the community," Walter said. "It's for everybody."

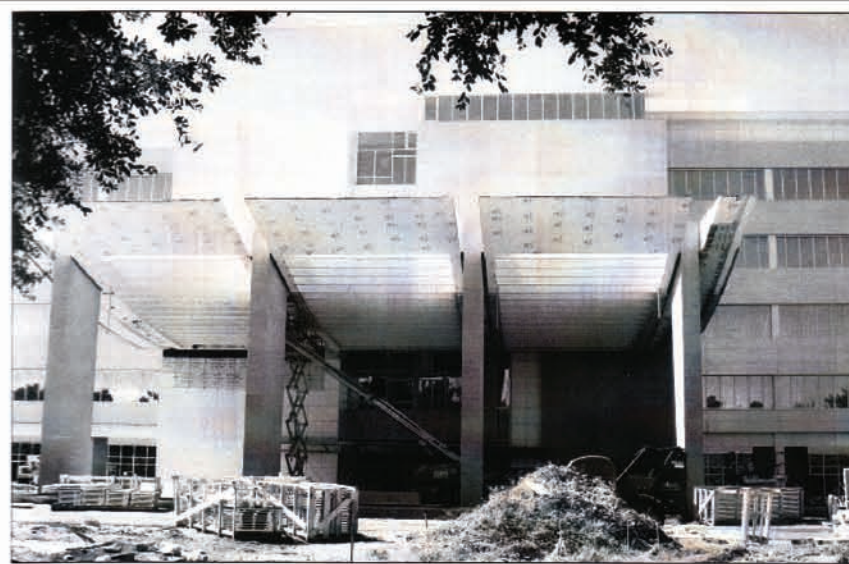
The new \$254.6-million hospital is the realization of a long-awaited dream to fully integrate the medical campus with inpatient and outpatient services and educational and research facilities.



SPECIAL

The \$254.6-million Mayo Clinic hospital is slated to open April 12.

MAYO continues on 5



MAGGIE FITZROY/Staff

Work is ongoing and nearing the end for the new Mayo Clinic hospital, on the campus of the medical facility off San Pablo Road.

Mayo

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in a single location.

When the Jacksonville campus — one of three Mayo Clinic locations in the country — opened in 1986 it had outpatient, research and educational facilities. A year later, it affiliated with St. Luke's Hospital, about 10 miles away, for inpatient services.

When Mayo began building its on-campus hospital in 2005, it sold St. Luke's to St. Vincent's Medical Center. Since then, Mayo has been leasing St. Vincent's back while the new hospital is under construction.

About 75 percent of St. Luke's patients are admitted by Mayo doctors, Walters said. Those patients will be transferred to the new hospital when it opens.

The new facility incorporates the existing Mayo building, which has been expanded from two stories to five, and that structure will be the entrance to the hospital, which features a new six-story bed tower designed to expand to 16 stories and 500 beds if growth war-

rants.

There are 900 pilings under the tower and each one extends 120 feet into the ground, Walters said. "We built the entire project with a 50- to 100-year plan in mind."

Walter said the exterior is mostly finished, as are portions of the interior.

This week, construction workers were working on the new entrance, which features a sweeping canopy that leads into the James E. and Florence N. Davis Lobby and Gallery.

That area has a red, yellow, blue and green glass chandelier designed by artist Dale Chihuly, a blue marble water wall and an area honoring benefactors.

While barriers prevent views of construction work, patients and visitors walking through the Mayo building from the

Cannady or Davis buildings can see the chandelier and the water wall.

Those and a large glass display in a hallway, which contains an artist rendering and miniature scale model of the new hospital, give visitors glimpses of the future.

"We're looking forward to it," said visitor Larry Davis from St. Augustine, who stopped to look at the display with his wife, Eunice, one recent day.

Davis said he and his wife are from Minnesota, where the original Mayo Clinic was built, and they are familiar with the Mayo system.

"It's a quality of service," he said. "Everything will be centralized now. That's important."

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