



PHOTO: TAO ZHANG

Greg Werner of Mortenson Construction at Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital's new outpatient entrance in the South Pavilion.

Good Shepherd Hospital Modernization Hits Home, and Home Run

AS THE LEADER of the Chicago office of Mortenson Construction, I am completely invested in the success of every project. The modernization of Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital, however, has hit closer to home than most—literally.

I live less than 10 minutes from the hospital. My family moved to Barrington 15 years ago, our youngest daughter was born at Good Shepherd, and we have spent quite a few days and nights at the ER for sports injuries and other minor emergencies. In other words, I know first-hand how important the hospital is to the Barrington community and the need to secure its future.

I can say with total confidence that we have hit a home run as the builder on this incredible project. The three-year, top-to-bottom renovation and building expansion is delivering many major improvements, including private patient rooms, new operating rooms, and new main entrance and drop-off areas.

What may be less visible to patients, doctors, and staff is how complex the undertaking has been. The Advocate Good Shepherd modernization has been one of the most complicated projects that Mortenson has ever undertaken, because the hospital has had to remain fully functional and accessible during the entire process. To ensure absolutely no disruption in patient care, we sequenced the construction into 26 separate phases of work. The success of completing such a complicated project is recognized in many areas, but the most important aspect to me is ensuring that each and every worker returns home to their family safe every day. Just a few months ago, we celebrated 365 consecutive days injury-free.

During construction, we employed state-of-the-art technology and lean techniques to improve quality, safety, and infection control while minimizing noise and disruption so doctors, nurses, patients, administrators, and other staff could focus on treatment and recovery.

Rather than build the patient bathrooms piecemeal onsite, for example,



During the draining of the south pond, a hospital security car, missing for 20 years, was found.

we used an innovative construction method called prefabrication to complete 84 bathroom pods at an off-site factory warehouse in Franklin Park, Ill. This approach made installing the pods in the new patient tower easier and safer and saved five weeks from the construction schedule.

The renovation project took into account environmental impact, as well. Good Shepherd now features two roof gardens, higher-efficiency mechanical and electrical systems and windows, and sensors that turn off lights in unoccupied rooms. We selected environmentally friendly materials for wall coverings, flooring, and paint. Rare among medical facilities, Good Shepherd also supplies and treats all of its own water from wells and storage units on the hospital campus, rather than relying on village water.

Both behind the walls and in patient areas, Good Shepherd has reshaped its physical layout and invested in up-to-date systems. During construction we installed:

- 3.7 million lineal feet of power and data wiring, enough to stretch from Barrington to the White House
- 9,200 cubic yards of concrete for footings, foundation, and floors, which would cover nearly two football fields
- 1,250 tons of structural steel, the equivalent weight of 425 SUVs
- 15.7 miles of plumbing pipes
- 1,540 pieces of glass weighing 222,000 pounds
- 1,325 doors and 7,000 light fixtures

As we added all of these materials, we subtracted one memorable item: a hospital public safety car that had been missing for 20 years that we uncovered as we were draining the south pond (see photos above).

Through both lighthearted moments and serious work, Advocate has revitalized Good Shepherd Hospital and prepared it for the new era in health care. I am sure it will remain a centerpiece of the Barrington community and will continue to be a personal source of pride. U

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