



Quality Care, Close To Home

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Being in tune with the community's needs, the local hospital has added services such as pain management, podiatry, orthopedics, vein treatment and a med spa. For Winthrop, it has always been important that residents had convenient services right where they live. Because of this, he was instrumental in extending the local hospital's reach to the Clyde area, setting up both Family Health Services and Fultz Medical Center for Women's Health in town, as well as collaborating with Firelands Regional Medical Center to open an Urgent Care. In addition, Great Lakes Physicians, a group of employed physicians, was created to offer more services and specialties to the community. Most recently, there was a need in the community for fitness options and the hospital became the first hospital in the U.S. to partner as a franchisee with Anytime Fitness.

serves the healthcare needs of residents in the Clyde, Bellevue, Fremont, and surrounding areas.



Community members, TBH board members and TBH employees attended the grand opening and ribbon cutting of Eagle Crest Health Park on December 12, 2018.

"We owe Mike our gratitude for all he has accomplished to sustain local healthcare in our community," Barth said. "He has created an amazing legacy for the Bellevue area—one that will continue well into the future."

Noteworthy projects of Michael K. Winthrop's tenure

- **The Bellevue Hospital:** Opened on Sunday, March 13, 2005, the \$36 million project focused on providing a patient-focused hospital to the community. Overall, the facility encompasses over 130,000 square feet.
- **Fultz Medical Center for Women's Health:** This center was opened in 2012 to better serve the healthcare needs of area women and expand TBH services to the Clyde area. The center offers complete obstetric and gynecological care for women of all ages and screening mammography services.
- **Clyde Urgent Care:** In January 2014, Firelands Regional Medical Center and The Bellevue Hospital collaborated on a joint venture, which brought Urgent Care services to Clyde. The Urgent Care, located at 1740 W. McPherson Highway,

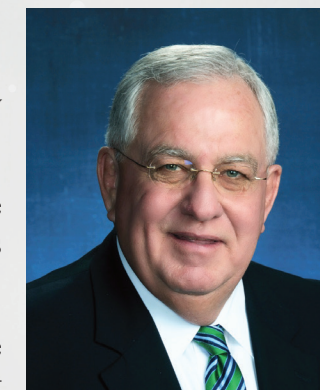
- **Eagle Crest Health Park:** The \$7-million project, which opened in December 2018, includes a 27,000 square-foot facility housing The Bellevue Hospital's Rehabilitation Services and Aquatic Therapy Pool; Anytime Fitness (a 24/7 access fitness center); Great Lakes Physicians Obstetrics/Gynecology Offices; Wound Reconstruction Center and The Reconstruction Institute. The building is conveniently located across from the hospital at 102 Commerce Park Drive in Bellevue.
- **Prairie Ridge:** This is an ongoing project that began in early 2019 that consists of constructing a mixed housing development with both single-family lots and condominiums in Bellevue. The 37 acres of land, which was owned by The Bellevue Hospital, was available and already annexed into the City of Bellevue. Under Winthrop's guidance, The Bellevue Hospital Foundation provided the initial funds to set up the infrastructure of the project. Once completed, the housing development has the capacity to have up to 45 residential single-family home lots and 95 condominium units.

Dear Fellow Citizens,

With my retirement just around the corner, this is my last time to address the community as CEO.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve The Bellevue Hospital these past 32 years. The Bellevue/Clyde communities welcomed me and my family from my first day and this has certainly become our home. Lifelong friendships, personal and professional, have been made.

The communities have been so supportive of the hospital over the years culminating in the relocation to West Main Street in March 2005. This would not have been possible without the extreme loyalty to the hospital, our staff and the physicians through the years. Additionally, the financial support of Firelands Regional Medical Center and Fisher-Titus Medical Center made our Board of Trustees' vision of a new, modern hospital a reality. We will always be grateful for their help.



We are living in unprecedented times to say the least. The world, our country, state and communities have been deeply affected. We may never again see the world as it once was. Our actions and behaviors have been changed forever.

One thing is certain, as members of the communities we serve, you can count on The Bellevue Hospital, its outstanding employees and excellent medical staff to be here to care for you as we have for over 103 years! We may look different with masks and all; visitors may be limited and the normal coming and goings will likely be forever changed. Yet, one thing remains the same – Quality Care, Close to Home.

Thank you for allowing me to play a small part in the larger history of The Bellevue Hospital. My heart will always be here.

I wish you, your family, and those you love the best of health – ALWAYS!

Sincerely,

Michael K. Winthrop, FACHE



THE BELLEVUE HOSPITAL
Quality Care, Close To Home

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Join us on Facebook and visit our website at www.bellevuehospital.com. Upcoming events and programs listed inside. Please contact the Marketing Department at 419.483.4040, Ext. 4899 with any questions.



➤ Honoring a 32-year Legacy to Sustain Local Healthcare in Our Community ➤

As an integral part of our community for 32 years, Michael K. Winthrop, Chief Executive Officer of The Bellevue Hospital (TBH), has provided visionary leadership to expand health services, technology and facilities at the locally owned hospital. On August 31, 2020, Winthrop will retire after a 43-year dedicated career in healthcare.

“The TBH Family has been honored that he served our community for more than three decades and led our hospital through its 100th anniversary,” said Thomas P. Barth, Chairman of TBH’s Board of Trustees.

“In a position where most CEOs average five years, a 32-year tenure as a CEO at one hospital is extremely rare.”

Currently, Winthrop is the longest serving President and CEO since the hospital was founded in 1917.

The Legacy Begins

On September 1, 1988, Winthrop, a native of Illinois, was appointed president of TBH. The hospital’s board of trustees selected Winthrop for the Bellevue position from over 200 applicants. His previous experience in hospital operations and his shared vision for TBH’s future and enthusiasm for the hospital’s mission earned Winthrop the lead role.



Winthrop began his career at TBH on September 1, 1988.

Winthrop came to The Bellevue Hospital from St. Mary’s Hospital in Kankakee, IL., where he had been a member of the 303-bed hospital since 1982 and was named president and CEO in 1984.

He received a bachelor of science degree from Valparaiso University in Indiana in 1974 and a master of health administration degree from Saint Louis University in 1977.

Winthrop served as assistant administrator at Waynesboro Hospital, in Waynesboro, PA from 1977-79, then moved to Scranton, Pennsylvania where he was assistant administrator at Moses Taylor Hospital from 1979-82.

Winthrop’s background in directing hospital departments, planning and developing new programs and services, and developing strong personnel and medical staff relations was a perfect fit for TBH’s short- and long-term goals.

The Winthrop Way

Mike and his wife, Gail, moved with their four children—Meagan, Geoff, John and Ryan—to Bellevue and called it home.

He began his career in TBH’s top position in 1988 thinking it would be a stepping-stone in his career, but he couldn’t predict the deep connection he would form with the rural Ohio town, its residents and the hospital.

Family is important to Winthrop, and as a leader he has created a great family type atmosphere both for employees and patients. He leads with compassion and knows the 400-plus TBH employees on a personal basis, even remembering specific details about their background and families. Winthrop has always had an open door policy and employees, physicians, and community members can talk to him about anything. Over the years, he could be found interacting daily with employees, shaking patients’ hands to thank them for choosing our hospital, and reminiscing with volunteers or visitors about the good old days.



Winthrop (Left), pictured with Dr. Theodore Ball and Thomas P. Barth, was named Citizen of the Year in 2002 from the Bellevue Area Chamber of Commerce.



In 2018, Winthrop received the Bellevue Area Chamber of Commerce’s Founders Award for a lifetime of commitment to the Bellevue community.

Not only is Winthrop valued by his hospital family, he is well respected throughout the area. Through the Bellevue Area Chamber of Commerce, Winthrop received Citizen of the Year in 2002 and the Bellevue Area Chamber of Commerce’s Founders Award in 2018 for a lifetime of commitment and outstanding contributions to the Bellevue community. He also serves as a member of the Bellevue Rotary and has been named as a Paul Harris Fellow through The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International.

“As a leader, Mike quickly established himself as a major contributor to the City of Bellevue and its citizens,” said Bellevue Mayor Kevin Strecker.

“With Mike’s vision, he has been a health care leader that helped to reshape TBH and also health care around our area. Mike and TBH have been one of the anchors that also helped to reshape our community.”

His achievements and commitment to his community and healthcare does not just exist at a local level, he has connections at a county, regional, state and national level. Throughout his tenure, Winthrop has served on various boards and committees.

“Mike has always been a Sandusky County Health and Wellness Champion leading TBH in health services, technology and facilities,” said Beth Hannam, Executive Director of the Sandusky County Economic Development Corporation (SCEDC). “The Bellevue Hospital has been an economic anchor within Sandusky County. The SCEDC appreciates the capital investment that The Bellevue Hospital has made within the county under Mike’s leadership.”

A Vision to Remain Independent



With a passion for rural hospitals and local health care, Winthrop has been determined that TBH would stay independent and remain a locally owned, not for-profit hospital, committed to offering patients the most advanced technology and medical treatment possible while providing personal care.

“Mike’s forward thinking has directed the organization and it drives us to do what is right for the communities we serve,” Barth said. “That vision is to always look to the future while maintaining our Mission of Caring. He has guided the hospital through some of its most critical times and led us into a new millennium with a new hospital.”

Expanding Health Care In Our Area

When Winthrop arrived in Bellevue, there were hardly any specialty physicians on staff. His goal was to create a solid community hospital and he worked to build relationships to make that happen. Under Winthrop’s leadership, TBH has also expanded services throughout the years.

“Mr. Winthrop has dedicated his career to ensure the sustainability

of The Bellevue Hospital by being progressive and having the foresight to predict the needs of the communities we serve,” said Dr. Corey Fazio, president of The Bellevue Hospital’s Medical Staff. “I have the utmost admiration for Mr. Winthrop. I have seen the sacrifices he has made and his determination to accomplish his goals. He has definitely made an impact on my life, and on the lives of countless community members. He has inspired me to follow his lead and protect our hospital and community and I will forever be grateful to him.”

One of Winthrop’s most memorable accomplishments and the largest project in the hospital’s history was the strategic planning, design and construction of a new 50-bed, 130,000 square foot hospital from 2000 to 2005. The hospital had been located in town for more than 90 years. Winthrop and the TBH Board of Trustees were at a crossroads with the original hospital, which was old, outdated and had no room for expansion. Winthrop, the TBH board and staff designed a state-of-the-art modern facility at the current location. Winthrop indicates that the experience of leading the planning, design and construction of the project was the “dream of a lifetime.”



On June 27, 2003, TBH held a groundbreaking ceremony for the new hospital located at the 1400 W. Main Street location. Pictured are, from left: Thomas Barth, Michael Winthrop and former Bellevue Mayor Charlie Trapp.



Area leaders and hospital officials cut the ribbon at the opening of The Bellevue Hospital’s newest facility on February 27, 2005.

“The entire hospital family, by providing excellent care to the Bellevue and Clyde residents, is the reason hospital could rebuild,” Winthrop said. “The Bellevue Hospital employees, medical staff and Board of Trustees are the finest I’ve ever worked with, period!”