

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Clueless Critics

To the editor:

Does Bill Rothman understand how to run a hospital? As a former builder of businesses, and having played a major role in rebuilding the Rafael Theatre while chairman, I understand a little about what it takes to build something. It's hard. Criticizing and being negative is easy. That's what the critics of Marin General Hospital do. They don't have a clue how hard it is to build and manage, especially a complex hospital in today's high-tech era.

Last year, I asked my brilliant internist to set up a meeting with David Bradley, the administrator of MGH, as I wanted to share with him a specific concern. David answered my questions honestly and accurately. After doing some more homework, I concluded that MGH was in excellent hands.

A recent serious experience proved to me that Marin General's ER department is absolutely first rate. It is managed and staffed by top-rate professionals. I can also tell you that the critical care unit is also top notch — as good as you will find. My cardiologist who uses MGH (he is world class) rates MGH excellent.

Its cancer center is renowned, the radiology is superb, and even the general medical wards are good.

Can MGH improve? Of course, as can all hospitals. But what I have seen of David Bradley and the excellent people he has brought in these last few years, he will not rest until MGH reaches the very top rank.

To even imagine that a group of amateur board members could run a free standing hospital in today's medical complexity defies my imagination.

When the good and bright citizens of Marin start doing their homework, as I have done, they will realize that MGH needs to be affiliated with a professional and knowledgeable company, like a Sutter. I have no affiliation with Sutter or any other health company.

As a naturalized American, I have such confidence

that we Americans will rally around the good, the positive and the truth concerning MGH. We need these traits now in Marin.

— Henry Timnick