

Thoughts regarding the hospital

Much has been said in this paper, on our website and also in the community at large about the situation at Quincy Valley Medical Center regarding the dismissal of surgeon Dr. Gaston Cornu-Labat.

Last month, the Post-Register was notified that the medical center had dismissed Cornu-Labat, a well-liked individual in our community. No reason was given on why he was dismissed. And, there still has been no official reason given for the action.

Administrator Mehdi Merred has stated that the medical center could not give a reason for the action because it is required to protect Dr. Cornu-Labat's privacy.

This has led to much speculation as

Ramble on



Chuck Allen

people try to understand why the medical center would take such an action against someone who seemed to be a great fit for the community.

I have been asked a number of times what I think about the issue.

Here is, essentially, what I have told people regarding the matter.

I have gotten to know both Dr. Cornu-Labat and Merred on a personal basis. I like them and find both to be good people.

I don't know what happened that would cause the hospital to take such action. Until I have more facts about the situation, I really cannot make a judgement.

When looking at the history of the medical center, there does seem to be a troubling high rate of employee turnover. I do not know if there is one main

reason for this (I doubt it), but I do think the medical center administration and hospital board should examine why this is the case and see if changes are needed to retain employees.

As far as the services provided by the medical center, I have seen firsthand the good work the medical center does for our community. Myself and family members have needed to use the services and facilities provided by the medical center on a number of occasions and I have always found the care to be excellent. Is the medical center perfect? No it isn't, but I feel confident that if I need to take my family there, they will be taken care of in a professional and personal manner.

Finally, I pledge to you that the Post-Register will continue to monitor and investigate the situation. When we have facts and more information, we will print them. QVMC is the public's hospital and we all have a right to know what's happening there.