

## THE UNION

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### **Western Sierra Medical Clinic expands service in Penn Valley**

Western Sierra Medical Clinic will expand operations and services to the recently opened health center in Penn Valley, due to an overwhelming demand and need from the community, a news release states.

The new health center, located at the center of the community at Penn Valley Drive and Spenceville Road, opened Feb. 21. After several weeks, the influx of patients has prompted Western Sierra to add a day to the schedule and introduce more services.

The health center will be open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, starting May 22. The 3,650-square-foot health center, which already offers medical and dental services, will soon add pediatric and women's health services.

"We are extremely appreciative and grateful for the support from the community," said Western Sierra CEO Scott McFarland. "The response from the community exceeds even our very positive expectations and is helping make the health center a huge success."

**“Additional health care services are definitely needed in Penn Valley, and Western Sierra is helping fill that void.”**

**— Hank Weston Nevada County Supervisor**

The health center opened with about 1,500 Penn Valley-area residents already receiving care at Western Sierra's primary health center in Grass Valley, about 10 miles away.

The new health center is closer and more convenient for many of those patients.

But the health center is also attracting new patients from many of the other 10,000 residents in the Penn Valley area. Several senior communities, including Lake Wildwood, are near the new health center.

"Additional health care services are definitely needed in Penn Valley, and Western Sierra is helping fill that void," said Nevada County Supervisor Hank Weston, who played a pivotal role in bringing the nonprofit Western Sierra health center to Penn Valley. "Many of our residents, especially seniors, don't have transportation or want to drive too far for health care. The new health center is accessible and will now offer more services."

The Penn Valley health center is the sixth for Western Sierra, and its third in Nevada County. Western Sierra recently opened facilities in Auburn, its first in Placer County.

A Kings Beach (Tahoe) health center will open soon.