



A New Day. A New Vision for the Valley.

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For immediate release*

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Merrimack Valley Hospital Hosts Free Medical Seminar "Breast Cancer Awareness: What Does That Really Mean"

Haverhill, MA – October 7, 2008- Merrimack Valley Hospital is offering a free "Meet the Expert" medical seminar in the hospital auditorium on October 23 from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. The seminar, presented by Haverhill Surgeon Dr. Kathryn Hughes, will focus on the real meaning of breast cancer awareness: Who gets breast cancer and how common it is; strategies to avoid getting breast cancer; and the importance of breast health screenings.

This event is free and open to the public, and 1.0 contact hour will be awarded to health care professionals at the completion of the presentation. Registration is required by calling 978-420-1157 or by email to mary.oneil@merrimackvalleyhospital.com. Light refreshments will be served.

"Meet the Expert" is a series of medical presentations offered at both Merrimack Valley Hospital and the Haverhill YMCA throughout the fall and winter months.

Merrimack Valley Hospital and the Haverhill YMCA are offering "Meet the Expert" medical seminars as part of their on-going commitment to build a healthier community. "Merrimack Valley Hospital has always been very supportive of the Haverhill YMCA. In the fall it was the sole sponsor of the Youth Basketball program and now the hospital is bringing educational programs to the Y. We are very excited to partner with the hospital in this way," stated YMCA Executive Director Tracy Fuller. The Haverhill YMCA is located at 81 Winter Street in Haverhill.

About Merrimack Valley Hospital:

Merrimack Valley Hospital maintains 108 acute care beds and 17 adult behavioral medicine beds; all are private rooms. The hospital's clinical strengths include a 24-hour emergency department; orthopedic, endoscopic and general surgery; adult behavioral medicine care with a focus on geriatric issues. MVH also provides a wide range of outpatient services, such as surgical day care; x-rays; MRI exams; PET-Scans; 64-Slice CT Scans; digital mammography; bone density testing; dysphasia testing; nuclear medicine; and physical therapy.

The hospital's awards for excellence include the Excellence Through Insight Award, 2008 (HealthStream Research); Best in Value Hospitals, 2008 (Data Advantage); #1 Nursing Team in New England Award, 2003 (Advance for Nursing Magazine); National Quality Leader Award for Pneumonia Care, 2006 (CareScience Select Practice); High Reliability Cardiac Care Award, 2006 (MassPRO); Top 100 Best Acute Care Hospital Award, 2004 (Total Benchmark Solutions); and Top Ranked Community Value Provider Award, 2007 (Cleverley & Associates). An affiliate of Essent Healthcare, Inc., the hospital serves Merrimack Valley and southern New Hampshire. More information can be found at www.merrimackvalleyhospital.com.