ST. ELIZABETH COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Hospital receives prestigious honor



The main entrance of St. Elizabeth Community Hospital. DN FILE

BY GEORGE JOHNSTON

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RED BLUFF >> The Leapfrog Group recently named St. Elizabeth Community Hospital a top rural hospital.

According to Marketing & Communications Manager Allison Hendrickson, St. Elizabeth Community Hospital was only one of 15 rural hospitals in the United States to achieve this award.

The Leapfrog Group is a national watchdog organization of employers and other purchasers. It is known as the toughest standard-setter for healthcare safety and quality.

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In addition to the Top Rural Award, St. Elizabeth Community Hospital also earned its sixth consecutive 'A' safety grade from The Leapfrog Group, which represents the highest level of achievement in patient safety. Hendrickson shared that this grade is based on rigorous, evidence-based criteria, including infection prevention, error reduction, and safety protocols, demonstrating our dedication to fostering a culture of safety and excellence.

"What makes these recognitions truly special is knowing that we are improving the care of the community we serve," SECH President Rodger Page said. "Our patients are more than just individuals seeking care—they are our neighbors, friends, and family. Whether it's caring for those traveling through our community, a lifelong friend, supporting a neighbor during a health challenge, or helping a family member heal, our mission is deeply personal. We are proud to serve communities that care for each other as much as we care for them."

Nearly 2,400 hospitals were considered for the award. According to Hendrickson, a total of 134 Top Hospitals from across the nation were selected.

"Protecting patients from preventable harm is central to The Leapfrog Group's mission," Leapfrog Group President and CEO Leah Binder said. "St. Elizabeth Community Hospital has set the standard for patient safety, earning the prestigious distinction of a Top Hospital. This elite honor reflects the exceptional efforts of the entire team and places St. Elizabeth Community Hospital among the nation's elite in health care. Congratulations to all who made this remarkable achievement possible."

Hendrickson added that to qualify for the distinction a hospital must rank top among peers on the Leapfrog Hospital Survey, which assesses hospital performance based on the highest standards for quality and patient safety and achieves top performance in their category.