Presented by UCHealth Yampa Valley Medical Center Foundation

# 2018 Doc Willett Health Care Heritage Awards



Dr. Allen Cohn

Health Care Professional

Ken Rogers

Health Care Community Advocate

7:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, September 6, 2018 **Strings Music Pavilion** 

uchealth

# 2018 Doc Willett Health Care Heritage Awards Celebration Schedule

Named in honor of Dr. Frederick E. Willett for his 56 years of service to Steamboat Springs and neighboring communities, the Doc Willett Health Care Heritage Awards will be bestowed upon two individuals who have advanced the cause of health care in the Yampa Valley through their dedication, innovation or extreme passion.

#### Welcome and Introduction

Brian Harvey, Master of Ceremonies

## **Hospital Happenings**

Frank May, CEO, UCHealth Yampa Valley Medical Center

#### Musical Interlude

Music Through Strings, Emerald Mountain School
Mary Anne Fairlie, Director
Mahala Wyant (violin), Josie Hermacinski (violin), Avery Moyer (viola),
Sal Malone (viola), Greta Schmitz (cello)

## Honoring the 2018 Health Care Community Advocate

Melissa Uchitelle-Rogers, RN, UCHealth Yampa Valley Medical Center and wife of Ken Rogers

### 2018 Health Care Community Advocate Award Presentation

Diane Moore, Recipient of the 2013 Health Care Community Advocate Award

Frank May, CEO, UCHealth Yampa Valley Medical Center

#### Remarks

Ken Rogers, Health Care Community Advocate Recipient

#### Honoring the 2018 Health Care Professional

Jan Fritz, Director of Cancer Services, UCHealth Jan Bishop Cancer Center

### 2018 Health Care Professional Award Presentation

Dr. David Wilkinson, Recipient of the 2013 Health Care Professional Award Frank May, CEO, UCHealth Yampa Valley Medical Center

#### Remarks

Dr. Allen Cohn, Health Care Professional Recipient

## Closing

Brian Harvey, Master of Ceremonies

# Dr. Frederick E. Willett, M.D. "Doc"

# A Legacy of Caring

Many community-spirited individuals have helped to shape the history of hospital care in Steamboat Springs. None was more influential than Frederick E. Willett, M.D., who became involved with the town's first public hospital in 1914. As Yampa Valley's "country doctor," Doc Willett made "ranch" calls up and down Routt County. By buggy or sleigh, horseback and later by automobile, no patient was too far, no snow too deep for Dr. Frederick E. Willett. During his 56 years of service to our community, Doc Willett established a remarkable legacy of caring that Yampa Valley Medical Center is proud to continue today. "The needs of the community were more important to him than his personal wealth," says Willett's great-nephew, Jim Stanko. When the community saw a need for a larger hospital in the 1940's, Doc Willett donated the proceeds from the sale of his building on Aspen Street to the cause. Through Doc Willett's contribution and the generosity of the community, the new hospital was dedicated in 1950. In recognition of Dr. Willett's personal and professional contributions to our heritage, the Yampa Valley Medical Center Foundation has established the Doc Willett Awards. Awards are given to community members who make an impact on health care: one to a noted local health care professional, and one to a dedicated community health care advocate. We are proud to honor those who embody the legacy that has made YVMC a thriving part of our community.

# History

# Past Recipients

#### Health Care Professional

2009 - Larry Bookman, DO

2010 - Jim Dudley, MD

2011 - Lambert Orton, MD, FACEP

2012 - Mark McCaulley, MD, FACP

2013 - Dave Wilkinson, MD

#### Health Care Community Advocate

2009 - John Kerst

2010 - Steve Dawes

2011 - Jan Fritz, RN, OCN

2012 - Sue Birch, MBA, BSN, RN

2013 - Diane Moore

# Health Care Professional **Dr. Allen Cohn**

Oncologist, Jan Bishop Cancer Center



Dr. Allen Cohn completed his undergraduate education at the University of Maryland - Baltimore County. Next, he attended the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore. He then made his way to Colorado, where he completed an internal medicine residency at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, followed by a fellowship in hematology/oncology.

Since 1995, Dr. Cohn has traveled from Denver to Steamboat Springs at least twice a month to provide medical oncology care for patients. Over the last 23 years, he's only missed two visits - and one of those was because of a blizzard.

Dr. Cohn was instrumental in the growth of cancer care services at YVMC and played a large role in bringing the UCHealth Jan Bishop Cancer Center to life in 2017. He provided foundational guidance in the development of YVMC's multidisciplinary tumor board, a forum where conversation is driven based on the needs of each patient. Dr. Cohn is involved with the Colorado Cancer Research Program, has presented nationally and internationally and has contributed to numerous publications.

Dr. Cohn is recognized among his colleagues as a peer educator who makes himself accessible for questions and consults.

He is board certified in medical oncology and internal medicine and is the medical director of research at Rocky Mountain Cancer Center.

Dr. Cohn holds an American Society of Clinical Oncology Clinical Trial Participation Award, and has been recognized six times as "Top Doctor - Oncology" by 5280, Denver's Mile High Magazine.

When he's not providing patient care, he enjoys being home with his wife, Joan, and his dog Gabby. He likes to ski, grill and listen to jazz in his spare time.

# Health Care Community Advocate Ken Rogers

District Manager, South Routt Medical Center



Ken Rogers started his career in the health care profession 40 years ago as a volunteer EMT with the fire department in a small town in Ohio. He moved to Colorado in 1976 where he owned a successful newsstand while continuing to volunteer as an EMT.

After moving to South Routt, Ken continued his medical career by attending Colorado Mountain College where he became a paramedic. He helped bring advanced emergency care to the area by volunteering with the Oak Creek Fire Department, and has continued his paramedic career as an adjunct faculty member with CMC's paramedic and EMS programs.

Four years ago, Ken became the district manager of the South Routt Medical Center in Oak Creek. His background in business and health care made him well suited to bring the different perspective needed to help grow and expand the services of South Routt Medical Center. With South Routt County being one

of the more underserved areas in the state as far as health care goes, it has been the goal of the Medical Center to serve the entire community regardless of their age, income or ability to pay. Under Ken's guidance, the center has doubled its patient load in the past four years - his biggest challenge now is finding more space. Ken has integrated comprehensive dental care back to the clinic, and is working to bring in more specialists.

Ken is very involved in the community outside of South Routt Medical Center as well. He serves on the board of Heeling Friends, a non-profit organization that offers animal-assisted therapy throughout the Steamboat Springs community, is also on the board of directors of the Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado, as well as the board of Yampa Valley Electric Association. In addition, he also works with Adaptive Action Sports, a non-profit focused on adaptive snowboard and skateboard programs for disabled veterans.

Ken and his wife, Melissa, who is a nurse at UCHealth Yampa Valley Medical Center, also run their own non-profit, Colorado Comfort Canines. This nonprofit brings teams of certified therapy dogs to crisis and disaster scenes. UCHealth Yampa Valley Medical Center Foundation would like to thank our major sponsors who have helped make this year's event possible.

















# William and Kristine Bensler Joseph and Mary Harker

## And thank you to our Friends of Doc Willett:

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