

# Editor's Desk: Centegra overcomes obstacles to open Huntley hospital

---

Published: Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2016 12:04 a.m. CDT

---

Congratulations to Centegra Health System and the village of Huntley.

After years of planning, bureaucracy, legal battles, construction and more, the new Centegra Hospital – Huntley is fully operational.

The 384,000-square-foot, 128-bed facility opened Tuesday at its Haligus Road campus in Huntley, but not without a surprise. [You can read more about that surprise in reporter Nate Linhart's story on page A3 today.](#)

Centegra – Huntley's opening is a win for McHenry County overall, especially for residents in the southern end of the county and northern Kane County. It employs about 400 people and will be a boon both to the economy and to the state of health care in the area.

It didn't come without its share of obstacles, however.

In order to break ground, Centegra officials had to work their way through Illinois' antiquated certificate-of-need process – health care providers must first get state approval to build or expand.

The hospital initially was rejected by the state, but finally was approved in summer 2012. Then came the legal challenges. Centegra's competitors filed separate requests seeking an administrative review of the state's approval. In late 2013, an Illinois judge ruled in favor of Centegra, setting the stage for Tuesday's official opening.

So while the road wasn't easy, overcoming the many challenges sure did pay off.

Congratulations, again, to everyone who made it happen.

• Dan McCaleb is executive editor of the Northwest Herald. Email him at [dmccaleb@shawmedia.com](mailto:dmccaleb@shawmedia.com). Follow him on Twitter [@Dan\\_McCaleb](https://twitter.com/Dan_McCaleb).