

# THE DAILY NEWS

thedailynewsonline.com

Batavia, N.Y.

Serving Genesee, Wyoming and Orleans Counties

Tomorrow

59°/51°

Thursday,  
May 28, 2009

60 cent

Batavia, N.Y.

Serv

## Funds OK'd for Med-Tech park project

By Paul Mrozek

pmrozek@batavianews.com

The Genesee County Economic Development Center approved spending \$250,000 Wednesday for site preparation at the Upstate New York Medical & Technology Park on Hawley Drive in the town of Batavia.

Topsoil will be stripped from the 32.5-acre parcel and the foundation will be laid for the Med Tech Park's first structure, a 43,000-square-foot building. A portion of the \$250,000 will also be used to pay for professional fees for the preliminary work.

The first tenants will be Genesee Community College's nursing program, United Memorial Medical Center's occupational and physical therapy offices and the GCEDC administrative offices.

GCEDC Executive Director Steve Hyde said the language had to be changed in a proposed lease between the EDC's real estate arm and UMMC in order for the preliminary site work to proceed.

UMMC cannot sign a long-term lease with the GCEDC's real estate division, the Genesee Local

See Funds — page A-2

# Funds

— From page A-1

Gateway Development Corporation, until the hospital gets approval to consolidate its OT and PT services in one location. UMMC's OT and PT operate out of separate offices in the city of Batavia.

The hospital needs the state Health Department to sign off on a certificate of need to transfer its programs to the Med Tech Park, Hyde said.

GCC already agreed to a

long-term lease with the Local Gateway Development Corporation, Hyde said.

Actual construction of the first building in the Med Tech Park cannot begin until the state DOH issues the certificate of need to the hospital.

The first Med Tech building will cost an estimated \$6.4 million. The contract for the project was awarded to D.A. Tufts Company of Batavia.

In another matter at its

meeting Wednesday, the GCEDC approved revisions in a bond it issued to help finance UMMC's \$8 million project at its Jerome Center on Bank Street. The top three floors of the six-story structure will be converted into condominiums for low- and moderate-income senior citizens.

The GCEDC originally issued a bond for the work in 2007. Modifications to the bond approved Wednesday will allow

UMMC to transfer ownership of the top three floors of the Jerome Center to another entity, Bank Street Senior Housing, LLC.

The purpose behind splitting ownership of the Jerome Center is to allow private entities to invest in the senior apartment complex. The hospital and GCEDC are also partners in the newly formed corporation, Hyde said.

County Legislator Hollis Upson said the revisions approved Wednesday were

made at the request of the bond underwriter.

The Jerome Center senior condo project will create an estimated 37 jobs, UMMC officials have said.

Conifer Realty of Rochester is the developer for the Jerome Center work, which is slated to break ground this spring. It will take about two years to complete.