

AREA BRIEFS**Local hospital reps attend meeting**

John T. Graves, chief executive officer, and Mike Wilson, M.D., chief of staff, of Callaway Community Hospital in Fulton, were among the leaders representing the hospital community in Washington, D.C., recently to meet with members of Missouri's congressional delegation and offer their views on issues

concerning rural hospitals.

While in Washington, D.C.; hospital executives, board members and medical staff discussed provisions of several bills currently before Congress, including bills addressing critical access hospitals and rural health access issues. Several of the bills are sponsored or co-sponsored by members of Missouri's congressional delegation.

Hospital leaders also discussed Medicare and Medicaid spending, reauthorization of the State

Children's Health Insurance Program and changes to inpatient rehabilitation care programs and standards.

"Missouri's rural hospitals provide important access to health services in their communities," said Dantel Landon, MHA senior vice president of governmental relations. "Fortunately, our congressional delegation has done an outstanding job of responding to the challenges rural hospitals face in working to build healthier communities."