Wellness Center: 2 years and going strong, new partner
by Dr. Scott Starks

September is the second anniversary of the opening of Dosher Wellness Center, and Dosher is marking the occasion by announcing Cape Fear Heart Associates-NHRMC Physician Group as a partner for cardiology services on the second floor of the 26,000-square foot medical complex.

On the first floor, Dosher services for family medicine care by Dr. Kristos Vaughan, Dr. Leigh Vaughan and Sally Delmastro, ANP, cardiac rehabilitation treatments, and satellite physical therapy services have surpassed expectations.

The great location south of Route 211 and east of Middleton Avenue in Southport also proved popular with physicians on staff at Dosher who have been leasing space at the Wellness Center to serve patients. These include cardiologist Dr. James W. McCriskin with Cape Fear Heart Associates, vascular surgeon Dr. David A. Weatherford with Coastal Carolina Surgical Associates, P.A., general surgeon Dr. Michael L. Cahn, and urologist Dr. Britt Zimmerman with Atlantic Urology-NHRMC Physician Group.

Now, Dr. McCriskin and several of his cardiology specialist colleagues will occupy one-third of the second floor under a partnership arrangement between Dosher and New Hanover Regional Medical Center Physician Group. Opening is planned for this fall.

Watch for additional partner announcements later this year—Dr. Scott Starks, Secretary, Dosher Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees

Dosher receives new quality-based accreditation from DNV GL

Dosher Memorial Hospital announces the successful completion of its new accreditation process from DNV GL - Healthcare. By earning accreditation, Dosher has demonstrated it meets or exceeds patient safety standards (Conditions of Participation) set forth by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. DNV GL’s accreditation program is the only one to integrate the ISO 9001 Quality Management System with the Medicare Conditions of Participation.

“The DNV GL program is consistent with our long-term commitment to quality and patient safety,” Dosher President & CEO Tom Siemers says.

Meet our new trustee: Linda Pukenas

Dosher held a reception for Linda Pukenas in the hospital lobby on August 7, the morning after the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners approved her to fill a vacancy on the Dosher Hospital Board of Trustees. At right, she speaks to guests as Board Secretary Dr. Scott Starks and front desk Volunteers look on.
Meet the internal medicine physicians

Dosher has more than 150 physicians and other professional providers on the Medical Staff of the hospital. In this issue of Dosher Heartbeat, we feature internal medicine. This is the branch of medicine concerned with the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of adult disease, also called general medicine. The four internists are medical doctors who see patients in their offices and each of them is accepting new patients. (Alphabetical by name of practice.)

Editor’s note: Internists are one type of primary care physician. The other, family medicine, will be featured in an upcoming issue.

Douglas K. Hiltz, MD
Earned a Doctor of Medicine degree from Tulane University School of Medicine, New Orleans, LA. Dr. Hiltz served an internship at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine at City University of New York and a residency at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick, N.J. He is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine and is Fellow of the American College of Geriatric Specialists. Dr. Hiltz joined the Dosher Medical Staff in 1989.

Terry L. Pieper, MD
Earned a Doctor of Medicine degree from University of Minnesota School of Medicine, Minneapolis. Dr. Pieper served an internship and residency at New Hanover Regional Medical Center. He is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine and joined the Dosher Medical Staff in 2002.

André L. Minor, MD
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W. Alex Newsom, MD
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Terry L. Pieper, MD

Hoe Street Internal Medicine
821 N. Atlantic Ave. / Southport
910-457-4368

Terry L. Pieper, MD

Randall M. Minor, MD


New Hanover Regional Medical Center.

Radiation safety

Dosher participated in a radiation drill on July 12, Staff from Duke Energy, Federal Energy Management Agency, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Brunswick County EMS, and the hospital practiced the protocol to be used in the event of a nuclear emergency at the Duke Energy plant.

The drill is mandated by the NRC. It takes place every year, but the location alternates between Dosher and New Hanover Regional Medical Center.

Patient Care Director Joann Burnage, RN, who managed the drill, "was very pleased with the work of all parties involved."

André L. Minor, MD

"The drill went great. The effort requires us to be timely and highly coordinated, and it was especially happy with our medical care during the drill," Turzer-Commesso says. "Although we only do this at Dosher once every two years, it went as smoothly as it could go."

Foundation capital campaign reaches 90% milestone

Dosher Memorial Hospital Foundation’s major gifts fund drive has raised $1.8-million of its $2-million goal. At an update meeting over the summer, Robert Howard told Dosher Foundation supporters that he and his wife, Becky, are honored to co-chair the “Helping Hands for a Healthy Community” campaign and that it’s an experience they will always treasure.

“The campaign is a success and the opportunities for Dosher to succeed well into the future are enhanced as a result of continuing community support. On behalf of the campaign committee, it is quite a satisfying experience, however, we need to reach our goal. Your continuing support and involvement is sorely needed and greatly appreciated,” Howard said.

In response, the 100 guests on hand that day donated or pledged an additional $15,000. Since the public portion of the Foundation campaign began last November, individuals, businesses and organizations have donated $300,000. Money raised is going toward equipment, programs and services at Dosher Memorial Hospital. The Foundation plans to conclude the fund drive at the end of this year.

For more information, call 910-457-3850 or visit www.Dosher.org/Foundation.

Did you know…

that Dosher offers dry needling?

Not to be confused with acupuncture, this procedure is used to help identify trigger points in the body, to improve blood flow, and allow muscles to relax.

Dosher has two physical therapists certified in this healing art which is covered by most health insurance plans. For more information, call 910-434-4701.

Urgent Care update

When the Barbie Bridge closes later this year, Dosher will relocate urgent care services from Dosher Medical Plaza on Long Beach Road to Dosher Wellness Center, 3009 Medical Plaza Lane, Southport. Hours of operation will be the same as the current location, weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Watch for updates at Dosher.org, Facebook and area news media outlets.

Wound lift

For the safety of large and heavy patients and staff, the Wound Care Center now is equipped with a lift. This is similar to the one that was installed in the Patient Care Unit in 2016. Posing with the lift are Wound staffers Melinda Rummage, RN, and Lisa Johnson, RN.

Channel 6 broadcast several of its newscasts from Southport on July 27. Among those interviewed were Emergency Department Medical Director Dr. Joe Pat Hatem (top right), Surgical Services Director Kim York, RN (left), and Dosher Foundation President Lynda Stanley.

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In the community: Southport Rotary

CEO Tom Siemers (left) and new primary care physician Dr. Alex Newsom speak at Southport Rotary Club over the summer.

County Care Fair

More than 100 attended the Brunswick Wellness Coalition Care Fair on July 16, Leland. Join the next one on Tuesday, September 18, 5-8 p.m. at Walmart parking lot, Shallotte. For more information, call 910-444-1872.