Dosher partners with Novant Health for surgical services for Dosher patients

The board-certified general surgeons from Novant Health Surgical Associates have performed some inpatient and outpatient operations and procedures at Dosher over the past few years, and through this partnership, will schedule more surgeries to continue caring for patients. The five providers are (alphabetically)—Dr. Matthew A. Benenati, Dr. Adolfo R. DeSandre, Dr. Richard R. Scallion, Dr. J. Andrew Smith, and Dr. Mark Tillotson.

“This is a big step to increase collaboration between the two not-for-profit, community hospitals in Brunswick County,” Dosher President & CEO Tom Siemers, said. “The Medical Executive Committee at Dosher and Novant Health physician leaders have been working together for several months to help implement this positive change.”

“We are excited to partner with Dosher to help ensure patients are able to stay close to home for the high-quality surgical care they need,” said Shelbourn Stevens, president, Novant Health Brunswick Medical Center. “Our surgeons opened an office in Southport several years ago and are looking forward to extending care to the community through this partnership with Dosher.”

To better coordinate medical resources, the hospitals have agreed that afterhours surgeries now will be performed at Novant Health Brunswick Medical Center. Within 90 days, two of the Novant Health general surgeons—Dr. Scallion and Dr. Smith—will begin caring for patients at the Dosher Medical-General Surgery physician practice at 819 N. Atlantic Ave., Southport. Until that time, they will continue to see Southport area patients at their office at 1456 N. Howe St.

“This collaboration expands the breadth of general surgery to include breast diagnostic and treatment as well as additional advanced laparoscopic procedures that now will be offered at Dosher,” Dosher Chief Medical Officer Dr. Brad Hilaman said.
Dosher Cardiac Rehabilitation earns national certification

The American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation (AACVPR) has certified the cardiac rehab program based at Dosher Wellness Center for its commitment to improving quality of life by enhancing standards of care. Dosher’s is the only cardiac rehabilitation program in Brunswick County to hold this distinction.

“The registered nurses and other caregivers on our Cardiac Rehabilitation team develop customized care plans for patients to help them recover faster and improve their quality of life,” Dosher VP/Chief Nursing Officer Carol Northup says.

Patients include those who have had heart attacks and coronary artery bypass or other surgeries as well as people with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and heart failure. All treatment plans include a combination of exercise, education, counseling, and support for patients and their families.

“Each plan is medically supervised by a board-certified cardiologist on staff at Dosher Memorial Hospital. Patients tell us that fact separates our program from traditional gyms and work-out facilities,” Cardiac Rehabilitation Manager Natalie Swiger, MS, RN, CCRP, says.

AACVPR-certified programs are recognized as leaders in the field of cardiovascular and pulmonary rehabilitation because they offer the most advanced practices available. AACVPR Program Certification is valid for three years.

For more information on Dosher cardiac rehab services at 3009 Medical Plaza Lane, Southport, call 910-457-3871 or visit www.Dosher.org/Clinics.

Foundation elects Bachara board chairman

Mark R. Bachara, Esq., is the new chairman of the Dosher Memorial Hospital Foundation. He had been vice chair and succeeds Barbara Boland who remains on the Foundation board. Bachara is an attorney at Oak Island and has served on the Foundation board for five years.

Also elected as new officers are Adam Powell, vice chair; Joyce John, treasurer, and Melody Ryan, secretary.

For more information on the charitable works of the Dosher Foundation, call 910-457-3850 or visit www.Dosher.org/Foundation.

Letters to the editor

Articles and ads about the Cardiac Rehabilitation Department’s new Steps to Wellness program prompted more than a dozen letters or messages, such as the following:

“Good job Erik, Lisa and Natalie.”
—Colette P

“Love this place...they are truly amazing people who become your friends. The whole experience was such an important part of my recovery.”
—Jennifer T

“Great job Lisa, Erik and Natalie.”
—Pat H

“Hugs and blessings to Erik, Nat and Lisa.”
—Kay W

“Natalie, Lisa and Erik are first rate.”
—Joel C

“Amazing place. It is the best.”
—James W

“I love that hospital.”
—Wanda B

“Missing you friends. Will be back in the fall.”
—Judy W

Board-certified pulmonologist Dr. Brian M. Legere is the new medical director, Cardiopulmonary Services and Sleep Disorders Center, at Dosher. Dr. Legere is with Coastal Pulmonary Medicine, Wilmington.

Dr. Legere earned a Doctor of Medicine degree at University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester. He served a residency at University of Rochester Medical Center, New York, and a fellowship at The Cleveland Clinic, Ohio. He is also board certified in critical care and sleep medicine.

Read more about cardiopulmonary services at www.Dosher.org. For an appointment with Dr. Legere, call 910-343-3345.

Golden Pineapples award

Lynda Stanley, Dosher Foundation president; Tom Siemers, Dosher Hospital CEO; and Lindsay Maher, Brunswick Wellness Coalition executive director pose in front of other Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce Golden Pineapple recipients for earning high praise for customer service during the second quarter of the year.

Our 3rd year of 3D mammography services

For Breast Cancer Awareness Month, technologists Renee and Leighann invite you to call for a mammography screening appointment, 910-457-3881.
Friday, October 12 – Dosher Memorial Hospital Foundation Golf Classic at Oak Island Golf Club. For sponsorship and player information, call 910-457-3850.

Tuesday, October 23
6 p.m. – Healthy cooking demonstration by Dosher Chef Lisa Botnick, “Everything pumpkin from soup to seeds.” 2nd floor conference room at the hospital. Free, although reservations are required to reserve a seat, 910-454-4731.

Read about several additional healthy cooking demos and other Dosher community programs at www.Dosher.org/Calendar.

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