MRI journey
By Dr. Scott Starks

Shortly before I joined the Board in 2015, CEO Tom Siemers and/or CFO Dan Porter attended public hearing after public hearing across The Tarheel State by state regulators considering various Certificates of Needs (CON) for health services and devices for operation in various communities. At each of these, hospital Administration made the case to allow installation of a new magnetic resonance imaging scanner at Dosher as a cost savings to patients. Then in October that year, the State Health Coordinating Council approved Dosher’s application—formally called a “petition”—and forwarded it along the approval process. After several additional months of review, the Department of Health and Human Services Division of Health Service Regulation granted a formal CON in July, 2016.

Since then, the hospital submitted periodic progress reports on the purchase, acquisition, construction and installation of the MRI. Last year, Dosher ended the contract for the old MRI—at Dosher Medical Plaza on Long Beach Road—which had been leased from a for-profit company in another state for more than a decade. While Diagnostic Imaging and Plant Operations

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Community thanks outgoing board chair

Board Chair Dr. Scott Starks thanks Sherri Marshall for her seven years leading the Dosher Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees. Twenty-nineteen marks her 12th on the board, this year as vice chair. Several dozen physicians, community leaders, hospital board, Foundation board and staff attended a reception in her honor on Jan. 7.
Meet the family medicine practitioners

Doshier has 150 physicians and other professional providers on the Medical Staff of the hospital. This issue features family medicine, the branch of medicine designed to provide basic health care to all members of a family. The family practitioners below have general medicine or osteopathic medicine training and see patients in all their offices. Editor's note: Family practitioners are one kind of primary care physician. The other, internal medicine, will be featured in an upcoming issue. Read all about our staff at Doshier.org/doctors.

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4700 E. Oak Island Blvd., Oak Island / 910-278-6414

G. Thomas Howard, MD
Earned a Doctor of Medicine degree from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. Dr. Howard served an internship and residency at Warren Hospital, Philadelphia, PA. He is board certified in family medicine and joined Doshier in 1998.

Brunswick Family Medicine
3960 Executive Park Blvd., Suite 600, Southport / 910-454-4343

Heather Lyle Goldfuss, PA-C
Earned a Physician Assistant degree at the University of Kentucky, Lexington. She is board certified in family medicine and joined Doshier in 2016.

Doshier Medical-Southport
906 N. Howe St., Southport / 910-454-1166

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Boiling Spring Lakes Family Medicine
3599 George B Highway, Southport / 910-845-3244

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Doshier Wellness Center
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BWC food drive: Success at Matthew’s Ministry

A ‘Give Healthy’ food drive by Matthew’s Ministry, Oak Island, brought in nearly 500 pounds of nutritious food for children the agency serves. The drive is part of a broader effort by Brunswick Wellness Coalition called the Give Healthy campaign to increase access to healthy, nutritious food for those that are food insecure. For information, call 910-444-1872.

Guest Chef

Chef Lucas Smith, Oliver’s on the Cape Fear, describes a healthy cooking method to guests at the guest chef program on Jan. 8.

Ad gold

Dosher earned a gold award from Carolinas Healthcare Public Relations and Marketing Society for best online ad among all hospitals/health systems in N.C. and S.C. in 2018 for one on Facebook about the smoke eradication program in our operating rooms. The June ad reached more than 37,000 people. Thanks to Lewis Advertising for assistance.

Monday, Feb. 4, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. – Brunswick Wellness Coalition hosts a free A1C diabetes screening at the Brunswick Center, Leland. For information on this simple, non-fasting blood test, call 910-251-9622. A second diabetes screening is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 21, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Southport Center. Call 251-9622.

Thursday, Feb. 7, 5 p.m. – “Heart to Heart” women’s heart health program at St. James Community Center. Includes heart health education, inspiring words from a heart patient/survivor, and tips for eating healthy. Tickets $25; sponsorships available $100-1,000. Proceeds benefit cardiac rehabilitation services at the hospital. Call 910-457-3850.

Tuesday, Feb. 12, 6 p.m. – Healthy cooking demonstration by Austin Alfonzo, owner, Kai Joes and Café Koa. 2nd floor conference room at the hospital. Free; reservations required to reserve a seat, 910-454-4731.

Additional guest chef lectures are planned on March 12, April 9 and May 14. Reserve a seat at 454-4731.

Thursday, March 7, 4-7 p.m. – Dosher is a sponsor of the Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce Coastal Consumer Showcase at St. James Community Center. For more on this free event, contact the Chamber at 910-457-6964.

Saturday, March 23, 9 a.m. – Brunswick Wellness Coalition holds its 2nd annual Spring Into Health 5K/1M run/walk in downtown Southport. Register by Feb. 23 for $10; $20 after; children under 13 free: BrunswickWellness.org/spring-into-health.

Thursday, April 4, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. – Save the date for Dosher drug drop.

Read about all our programs at Dosher.org/Calendar.

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Comments can be sent to Marketing & Community Relations, Dosher Memorial Hospital, 924 N. Howe St., Southport, NC, 28461. 910-457-3900.