Q&A with Trustee Debbie Wood

Question #1: What brought you to Smithville Township and how long have you lived here?

Wood: Realtor® Buddy Rudd actually introduced Oak Island to us, and you could probably hear an anchor drop when we first visited in 2002. We purchased our first house here in 2003 and became permanent residents of Caswell Beach in 2015.

Question #2: As a businesswoman, what’s the most important area of interest you bring to the Board?

Wood: My years in business and marketing have taught me to view everything through the customers’ (patients’) eyes and look to business at hand as well anticipate what we will require in the future.

Before therapy, TMJ patient couldn’t open her mouth; Just one success story

Kathy Lawler is uniquely qualified to discuss physical therapy services. She’s had several surgeries and joint replacements over the years, and spent her career as a nurse in clinical and hospital administration. “I see things differently than most people,” Kathy says. When it’s time for her to seek physical therapy, or any other treatment, she has high expectations. It was after moving to the Southport area 18 years ago that she had her first experience with Dosher Memorial Hospital’s physical therapy team. The first was after rotator cuff surgery. “I’ve had both shoulders worked on at different times,” she says.

During her recovery, she was treated by the Dosher therapists. “I found them to be very good.” Later, Kathy saw a Wilmington-based surgeon for a procedure to correct temporomandibular joint dysfunction (TMJ), a condition that affects

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Dosher Medical Plaza marks decade of service;
Saturday hours return for Urgent Care

Amanda Reynolds, FNP, Renee McCluskey, Wendy Perretta, Amanda Northcutt, Trish Beatin, Lanette Smith, and Dawn Sampson, PA-C—some of the staff at Dosher Medical Plaza—give the “10-year” hand sign to mark the anniversary of the first Dosher Medical clinic.

February marked the tenth anniversary of the opening of Dosher Medical Plaza, the first free-standing clinic owned and operated by Dosher Memorial Hospital.

Here’s a snapshot of services at The Plaza:

• Urgent Care staff examined an average of 400 patients per month last year. Saturday hours—9 a.m. to 1 p.m.—are now in effect.
• Diagnostic Imaging staff performed 5,200 X-ray, magnetic resonance imaging, mammography, and bone densitometry scans for the year.
• Laboratory staff conducted 300-400 lab draws per month.
• Our new tenant is Carolina Sports Medicine and Orthopaedic Specialists, a Wilmington-based ortho surgery practice.

“The Plaza is brick and mortar proof that a strong move toward outpatient services was the future of success for our organization,” Tom Siemers, Dosher president & CEO, says. “Outpatient services, including our 10 clinics, now account for more than 85 percent of Dosher revenue annually.”

Dosher Medical Plaza is at 4222 Long Beach Road, between Southport and Oak Island. For information on Urgent Care services, call 910-454-4732. Read more about the Dosher clinics at Dosher.org/Clinics.

Help Protect Our Patients!

Please do not visit if you have a fever, cough or sore throat.

1. If you’re sick, please call or write family members or friends rather than visiting them at the hospital.
2. If you have been sick, please don’t visit until 48 hours after feeling better.
3. No one under age 12 may visit.
You’ve survived a heart attack or open-heart procedure. Now what?

Our highly skilled nurses and other clinicians can get you back to activities of daily living with a cardiac rehabilitation program customized for you. All exercise participants at our new facility are medically supervised by one of the board-certified cardiologists on staff at Dosher Memorial Hospital.

Debra Murray and Charlie Carroll are two of our recent cardiac rehab patients.

Calendar

Thursday, March 1, 4-7 p.m. – Dosher is a sponsor of Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce Coastal Consumer Showcase at St. James Community Center. For information on this free event, call the Chamber at 910-457-6964.

Tuesday, March 13, 6 p.m. – “Superfoods” healthy cooking demo by Dosher Chef Lisa Botnick, formerly of Baked With Love. Free. Reserve a seat by calling 910-457-4731.

Tuesday, March 20, 6 p.m. – Menopausal Madness by Brad Hillman, MD, and Amy Burger, PA-C, Dosher Medical-Women’s Health. Reserve a seat at this free lecture at the hospital by calling 910-457-9292.

Thursday, March 22, 6 p.m. – Saving Limbs and Lives by David Weatherford, MD, and John Stone, CHRN, Dosher Wound Care Center. Reserve a seat at this free lecture at the hospital, 910-454-1192.

Saturday, March 24, 9:30 a.m. – Spring Into Health 5K run/1-mile walk by Brunswick Wellness Coalition from Dosher through Southport, $20. Register at Facebook.com/BrunswickWellness.

Friday, March 30 - National Doctors Day
Saturday, April 21 – Oak Island Lighthouse 5K, 10K, ½ Marathon & 1-mile fun run. Dosher is a sponsor. Sign up at oakislandlighthouserun.com. For more info, call Southport-Oak Island Chamber, 910-457-6964.

Friday, April 27, 6 p.m. – Dosher Foundation’s 8th annual Gala at St. James Community Center. For $125 tickets or sponsorships, call 910-457-3850.

Dosher Memorial Hospital

Dosher Heartbeat Editorial Advisors:
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the hiring process, she says. "We're looking for nurses who are compassionate, respectful, and communicate well." Catherine also notes the critical role that support staff, such as technicians and dietary aides, play in supporting nurses and patients.

"Every part of the hospital, from the cafeteria to the janitorial staff, plays a crucial role in ensuring a positive patient experience," Catherine says. "And we're always looking for ways to improve our services."