Local and regional officials and Nash Health Care employees prepare to cut the ribbon at a recent open house for the new facilities.

New Emergency Department, Heart Center unveiled to the community
In 1976, Nash General Hospital employed its first full-time physician in the Emergency Department. Could that first physician have imagined that in 2013, the Emergency Care Center at Nash Health Care would treat more than 60,000 patients a year, making it one of the busiest emergency departments in North Carolina? In 1976, the hospital itself was still the new kid on the block: Nash General Hospital had opened only five years earlier. As the first all-private room hospital in North Carolina, the health care facility set the stage for a journey that would be marked with several firsts.

In 2014, Nash Health Care once again marked the beginning of a new era, heralding the largest expansion in the system’s history since its inception in 1971. In late March, 2014, Nash Health Care will officially open its new Emergency Department—complete with a separate Pediatric Emergency Department—and its new Nash Heart Center, which features the most innovative cardiac catheterization suite technology in the United States. This technology—the GE Innova IGS 520 and 530—comprises a fully integrated imaging system that can meet a wide range of clinical needs, while at the same time providing excellent image quality.

This successful expansion was the result of much more than mere vision: It was a response to the transforming health care needs of the community. Nash Health Care held four open houses to give employees, local business leaders and community members a chance to tour the facilities before they were scheduled to treat patients in late March.

“Of the more than 114 emergency departments in North Carolina, Nash Health Care has the 25th busiest. Among hospitals not affiliated with a major medical center, Nash Health Care’s emergency department ranks as high as fourth in the number of patient visits. The previous emergency department at Nash Health Care was designed to treat 40,000 patients a year. However, last year the emergency department treated more than 65,000. The new Emergency Department will have the capability to treat 85,000 patients a year, Chewning said.

“I am excited for Rocky Mount and the surrounding counties,” said Dr. William Roper, CEO, UNC Health Care System, Dean of the UNC Medical School, and keynote speaker at the event. “This is not just about having a larger facility, but it is about the people we serve. We treasure the fact that we are able to serve the people of North Carolina,” he added, mentioning Nash Health Care’s recent management services affiliation agreement with UNC.

Larry Chewning, CEO of Nash Health Care.

Dr. William Roper, CEO, UNC Health Care, Dean, UNC School of Medicine.
The Emergency Department

The new Emergency Department features 56 treatment rooms (the previous one had 37), and the Emergency Department is divided into different “villages”—areas that cater to specific emergency needs—with a separate nursing station for each village. Some of the villages are: one fast track area, a high-trauma area, a psychiatric area, and an intensive care area. An elevator in the Emergency Department can take patients experiencing chest pain directly to the Nash Heart Center, located one floor above, for treatment and observation.

Because 20 percent of those treated in the Emergency Department—roughly 13,000 a year—are under the age of 17, health care professionals and administrators at Nash Health Care recognized the need for a specific area dedicated to pediatric patients. In 2011, the Nash Health Care Foundation began a Capital Campaign to raise a minimum of $2 million in support of the $4.5 million new Pediatric Emergency Department project at Nash General Hospital.

The Pediatric Emergency Department includes a separate and distinct entrance, a child-friendly waiting area, separate triage area including special radiology and imaging services designed for children and teenagers, and 10 pediatric-designated exam rooms. These unique amenities offer a more comfortable and safer experience for patients, their families and the doctors and other health care professionals who treat them.

Other interesting facts about the Emergency Department include:

- The new ED will feature two X-ray rooms; one ultrasound room; one CAT scan room; a satellite pharmacy; a satellite lab; and a family consultation room.
- The new ED will continue to offer telestroke technology that allows 24/7 access to an on-call neurologist with Duke Medicine.
- Corridors connect the ED with the Intensive Care Unit and the main hospital tower. An elevator connects the ED with the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit.
- New CareAware wireless technology for nurses, providers, and ancillary staff utilizes iPhones to help streamline patient care and provide alerts to health care professionals. This sophisticated system will provide lab results, patient updates, and even alert physicians if there is a sudden change in a patient’s vital signs.
- Decentralized nurse pods will keep nurses closer to patients as well as diffuse any noise that may occur when nurses converge at a single work station.
- A new sound-engineered nurse call system will eliminate overhead nurse pages, and high-end acoustical improvements will reduce noise levels.
- There will be two classrooms to accommodate educational meetings for nurses and other health care providers.

The adult section of the Emergency Department contains:

- 7 Super Track rooms,
- 3 Triage rooms,
- 5 Rapid assessment and evaluation rooms with 1 sub-waiting room,
- 4 Isolation rooms,
- 2 High-Intensity care rooms,
- 4 Trauma rooms,
- 6 Behavioral health rooms,
- 21 Additional treatment rooms.

The Pediatric ED has 9 private exam rooms, 1 isolation room and 1 sub-waiting room.

- The new facility embraces the “Ouchless Pediatric ED” philosophy by supplying televisions, comfort bears, and distraction devices to create a more comforting and kid-friendly treatment environment.
- The pediatric waiting room has an entertainment center with TVs.
The Nash Heart Center has been offering innovative, state-of-the-art treatment for decades; patients have been able to receive diagnostic cardiac catheterizations at Nash Health Care since 1989. In 2011, these services were expanded through a collaborative partnership between Nash Health Care, Boice-Willis Clinic in Rocky Mount, and Vidant Health. The Nash Heart Center now enables patients to have stent placement procedures performed locally. Since the beginning of 2011, the Nash Heart Center has performed hundreds of catheterizations, which have resulted in life-saving stent placements.

The increased demand for services, coupled with the fact that heart disease is the number one killer in Nash and Edgecombe counties, prompted Nash Health Care to invest in a new, state-of-the-art, cardiac facility featuring some of the most advanced equipment in the nation.

The Nash Heart Center is housed in the floor above the Emergency Department, bringing the latest advanced equipment to its new home. The heart center has:

- 12 chest pain observational units,
- 12-bed pre-and post-catheterization units,
- 2 heart catheterization suites,
- 8-bed cardiac ICU
- 1 non-invasive stress echocardiography room.

For photo highlights from the open house events, visit the website at www.nhcs.org.

Blast from the past

Cleveland Hunt (in the red circle and pictured above) was one of the workers charged with moving patients from Park View Hospital to the then-new Nash General Hospital in 1971. He is pictured at the ribbon-cutting ceremony posing with one of the restored ambulances used to transport patients on that historic day.
Celebrating our history:
Milestones for the Emergency Department and Nash Heart Center

1976 NGH employed its first full-time physician in the Emergency Department.
1984 A new Coronary Care Unit opened.
1985 Emergency Department waiting room renovated.
1985 Helipad completed, streamlining access to specialized trauma centers.
1989 Hardee’s Food Systems, Inc. contributed $500,000 toward the construction of a heart center.
1990 Nash General’s Hardee’s Heart Center opened to the public on April 18.
1993 The new Emergency Care Center opened in July.
1997 Emergency Care Center began a specialized training program for selected registered nurses to become certified forensic nurse examiners.
1998 Emergency Care Center was presented with the 1998 Award for Excellence by the Emergency Nurses Association as the “Best Clinic Site” in America.
2001 ECC nurses received Red Cross Disaster Training, inspired by ECC nurse John Wright, who volunteered with the Red Cross at Ground Zero, NYC after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11.
2003 NGH Heart Center renovations completed.
2009 CEO Larry Chewning outlined elements of the board’s strategic plan that enabled NHCS to remain competitive in the health care marketplace. These plans included expansion of the ECC and establishing a Nash Regional Heart Center.
2010 NHCS announced a cooperative agreement with Vidant Health and Boice-Willis Clinic that would provide more comprehensive cardiac care for area citizens.
2010 The NHCS board approved plans for a new emergency room. The Nash Health Care Foundation continued its fund-raising campaign for the Pediatric Emergency Department, which included its first annual Golf Classic Tournament.
2011 Nash Health Care’s Emergency Care Center implemented ER Express.
2012 Groundbreaking ceremony for the new Emergency Department / Peds ED / Nash Heart Center held.
2014 Open house and ribbon-cutting ceremonies held for the new Emergency Department / Peds ED / Nash Heart Center.

A Look Back: Opening of the previous Emergency Care Center

In late March, the new Emergency Department at Nash Health Care is scheduled to open for patients, marking the fruition of a dream. These photos are from a past edition of the NHCS Newsletter featuring highlights from the construction and 1993 opening of the Emergency Care Center.

Freddie Garrett prepares for the opening of the Emergency Care Center.

Nash Heart Center—retrospective:
The new Nash Heart Center is scheduled to open at its new location in late March 2014.

Hardee’s Heart Center Opens 1990
The Hardee’s Heart Center would later become the Nash Heart Center.

Ribbon cutting
County and hospital officials celebrate the opening of Hardee’s Heart Center in 1990. The medical director of the Nash Heart Center, Dr. David Varma, is pictured in the front row, second from left.
Interventional Radiology (IR) at Nash Health Care is a medical sub-specialty of radiology utilizing minimally-invasive, image-guided procedures to diagnose and treat diseases in nearly every organ system. These procedures have less risk, less pain and less recovery time compared to open surgery. IR is both a therapeutic and diagnostic specialty. The range of diseases and organs amenable to image-guided therapeutic and diagnostic procedures is extensive and constantly evolving. As a result, IR procedures have become an integral part of medical care.

The Interventional Radiology Department is currently located within the Nash Heart Center. However, when the Nash Heart Center moves to its new location, the Interventional Radiology Department will remain at its current location in the “cath lab” on the ground floor between Nash General and Nash Day hospitals. Many Nash employees may not be aware of the scope of services offered through interventional radiology.

Some of the services offered through Nash Interventional Radiology include: dialysis procedures, IV access such as PICC lines and central venous catheters, IVC filter insertion and removal, thrombolytic therapy, embolization, biopsies (including liver, lung, and renal), angiography and angioplasty, stents, abscess drainages, gastrointestinal procedures, biliary procedures, urology procedures and more.

The Interventional Radiology team is comprised of two interventional radiologists who have decades of experience—Dr. Allen Johnson and Dr. Tillman Bailey; three nurses—Donna Inscoe, RN, Joanne Lewis, RN and Dianne Bulluck, RN—and three radiologic technologists: Laura Godwin, BSRS, RT, who is the IR Supervisor, John Weeks, RT and James Keen, RT.

Of the six employees in IR, five have been with the department for more than 10 years. Leading the pack with the most years of service is Donna with 16 years, Joanne with 15, John with 12, James with 12 and Laura with 10.

“I love my job. It is absolutely fascinating. I love the work, I love the patients, and I love my coworkers.”
—Laura Godwin, BSRS, RT(R)

Dianne Bulluck (left) and John Weeks review charts.

James Keen, RT, checks equipment in the interventional radiology department.

Team members include, from left, Dianne Bulluck, RN; James Keen, RT; Laura Godwin, BSRS; Dr. Tillman Bailey; John Weeks, RT; and Joanne Lewis, RN.

Dianne Bulluck, RN—and three radiologic technologists: Laura Godwin, BSRS, RT, who is the IR Supervisor, John Weeks, RT and James Keen, RT.

“I love my job. It is absolutely fascinating. I love the work, I love the patients, and I love my coworkers,” said Laura Godwin, BSRS, RT(R), the supervisor of the Interventional Radiology Department.
Nash Health Care announces affiliation with UNC

Across the state and across the country, community hospitals are facing challenges in the ever-changing and rapidly transforming world of health care. The Affordable Care Act, coupled with changes in Medicaid reimbursement, increased health care costs, and other issues have forced many non-profit community hospitals to close in the face of these oncoming storms.

But for Nash Health Care, the oncoming storm presented an opportunity to strengthen the hospital system through a management services agreement (MSA) with UNC Health Care. A management services agreement is a contract through which NHCS buys a specific set of services from UNC Health Care for a predetermined annual fee. The hospital is not sold, and governance of Nash Health Care remains in the hands of its local Board of Commissioners. The agreement will officially take effect in April 2014. The agreement was officially announced in December of 2013.

Larry Chewning, president and CEO of Nash Health Care, said this agreement will not only help Nash Health Care reduce costs, but it will provide the system with additional tools that will aid its dedication to patient safety.

“Across the state and nation, hospitals are looking for partners, and similarly, NHCS knew it could not weather the storms ahead as a community hospital without a partner,” Chewning said. “The timing is right for community hospitals to partner with a non-profit, safety net hospital that serves our state, their communities and their patients, regardless of their ability to pay.”

Nash Health Care leaders believe the most dramatic savings will occur in the following:

- Major equipment acquisition costs
- Routine supply costs
- Pharmaceutical and drug costs
- Service, maintenance and licensing contracts
- The decision was made after the Nash Health Care Board of Commissioners considered MSA proposals from five different hospitals over the course of six months.

“A review of the proposals, it was clear that UNC Health Care is the right partner to help strengthen and guide our organization into the future,” said Vincent C. Andracchio II, chairman of the Nash Health Care Board of Commissioners. “Nash Health Care has enjoyed growth and success throughout its history. However, we know that it will be virtually impossible for community hospitals to operate independently in the ever-changing health care environment. We are joining a strong and growing hospital system with experience in working in communities across our state. UNC Health Care has an excellent track record of improving the quality of the local health care delivery system.”

The name of Nash Health Care will not change. In addition, Nash Health Care will continue to maintain the clinical relationships with Vidant Health for cardiovascular services and Duke Medicine for neonatology services. No taxpayer dollars were spent on this agreement.

“We feel the new relationship with UNC Health Care offers the opportunity to improve the quality of care delivered at NHCS facilities. NHCS will enjoy access to the expertise offered at one of our nation’s very best teaching hospitals and the UNC Medical School,” Chewning added. “We believe the expertise and resources available through UNCHC are extraordinary and can impact the clinical processes of our health system.”

The UNC Health Care System is a not-for-profit integrated health care system owned by the state of North Carolina and based in Chapel Hill. It exists to further the teaching mission of the University of North Carolina and to provide state-of-the-art patient care. UNC Health Care is comprised of UNC Hospitals, the UNC School of Medicine, home health and hospice services in seven central North Carolina counties, Pardee Hospital in Hendersonville, Chatham Hospital in Siler City, High Point Regional Medical Center, Caldwell Memorial Hospital and Rex Healthcare and its provider network.

“We are pleased to welcome Nash Health Care into our system,” said David Strong, chief operating officer of system affiliations for UNC Health Care. “This agreement combines the successful health care delivery at Nash Health Care with the managerial experience and capabilities of our system. Nash Health Care will help advance our system’s mission of providing excellent care, training the next generation of North Carolina’s physicians, and conducting ground-breaking research.”
Making life brighter for pediatric patients

Faith Jarvis, daughter of Dr. William Jarvis and Dr. Bennie Jarvis, made a substantial donation to the Pediatric Department of Nash General Hospital as a part of her Project VIPP (Very Important Pediatric Patients), an initiative designed by Faith Jarvis as a part of a community service project for her Girl Scout Gold Award. Jarvis is a member of Troop 48 from Red Oak.

Her donation included: 12 DVD players and 185 DVDs, a toy shelf, 500 books in English and Spanish that Jarvis designed and created, 500 pairs of children’s underwear, and 300 pairs of socks. In addition, she also redecorated the playroom.

“My mother, (Dr. Bennie Jarvis) used to leave me in the pediatric playroom. Of course, she was never far away as she made her hospital rounds,” Faith Jarvis said. “Years later, as I waited yet again for my mother to finish saving lives, I stuck my head in the playroom, remembering all the time I had spent there. But it was not as big as I remembered. A few boxes were cluttered, and the TV hooked to an ancient VCR. This happened around the time I had completed the prerequisites for my Girl Scout Gold award, allowing me to see these disparate elements in a way no one else did, or possibly could, and come up with a unique solution to a problem.”

After surveying the nurses and pediatricians about educational information they felt patients and parents needed to know, Faith Jarvis recruited her drama friends and a volunteer video editor to create the educational video, “Mighty Molly Goes to the Hospital.” The video is also available through the Nash General Hospital Patient Education channel.

To raise money for the DVD players, Faith Jarvis held a formal tea, soliciting help from her friends, who provided entertainment and waited tables. The event was so successful, Jarvis was able to use the additional funds to create comic books in English and Spanish that Jarvis designed and created, 500 pairs of children’s underwear, and 300 pairs of socks. In addition, she also redecorated the playroom.

“Mighty Molly” introduces children to pediatric healthcare practices and helps them to feel more comfortable when visiting a hospital. The video is available online through the Nash General Hospital Patient Education channel.

Donation to Pediatric Department

Employees of Nash Health Care and Girl Scout officials thank Faith Jarvis (third from right) for her generous donations to the Pediatric Department. Pictured are, front row, from left, Mary Strickland, executive director of the Women’s Center at Nash Health Care; Sheila Moore; Rebecca Davidson; Betsy Dugas, Faith Jarvis’s Girl Scout leader with Troop 48 from Red Oak; Faith Jarvis; and Dr. Bennie Jarvis. Back row, Gus and Connie Cobb from Quality Office Products, who printed the books; and Dr. William Jarvis.

Lights of Love raises more than $5,000 for Pediatric Emergency Department

Jackie Ward, a longtime Nash Health Care volunteer and the Lights of Love Committee, thanked hospital employees, volunteers, physicians, and others who helped make the event possible. For $5, anyone could purchase a light on the tree in honor or memory of a loved one. Proceeds went toward the Pediatric Emergency Care Center. The Nash Health Care Auxiliary has pledged $75,000 over the course of five years to the project.

Lights of Love Committee submitted this thank-you letter to the Newsline:

We would like to send a BIG thank you to everyone who helped to make our 2013 “Lights of Love” project successful. We sold approximately 1,000 lights and raised over $5,100 for the new Pediatric Emergency Department. If you did not attend the tree-lighting ceremony, you missed a very memorable evening. This project requires a lot of helping hands. We would like to thank the men in Plant Services, David Hinkle, Cam Blalock, Jeff Hedgepath, Larry Chevning, Dawn Wilson, Larry Peck and the ladies at the front information desk, Janice White, and a very special thank you to all the employees and volunteers who purchased lights. The trees are not only beautiful, but serve as a reminder of the special people in our lives. Together we created something beautiful.

Lights of Love Committee,
NHCS Auxiliary
Three honored for being Nash Health Care Heroes

There are many heroes at Nash Health Care: People who contribute to an environment that saves lives and who work selflessly to ensure that our hospital continues to serve as a place of hope and healing. But sometimes, even these heroes do something that is considered above and beyond the call of duty, something that reminds all of us why we decided to work in the health care industry, and something that inspires us to do more and to be more.

To honor these employees, the Human Resources Department has created a Heroes Wall on display in the Nash General Hospital lobby to honor those members of the NHCS family who have done extraordinary things for our patients, our community and our organization. Most recently, Tracey Dickerson-Taylor, Krista Mosley and Robin Horne were honored for their heroic help during emergencies.

Krista Mosley and Robin Horne: Teamwork saves a life

Mosley, the MRI supervisor in the Radiology Department at Nash Health Care since March 2013, was shopping at Rocky Mount’s Sam’s Club when she heard a cashier screaming. Someone yelled, “He doesn’t have a pulse. Does anyone know CPR?” Mosley ran to the nearby service area asking for their AED (automated external defibrillator) while two other customers administered CPR. When Mosley learned that Sam’s Club did not have an AED machine, she assisted the customers administering CPR. One of the customers administering CPR was Robin Horne, manager of imaging services in the Radiology Department. Horne has been with Nash Health Care since 2000. Horne assessed the patient and opened his airway while another customer began compressions. After administering CPR, Horne verified that the customer had a pulse. At this point, these Good Samaritans were relieved from duty by the Rocky Mount Fire Department First Responders.

Tracey Dickerson-Taylor

Dickerson-Taylor has worked at Nash Health Care Systems since April 2009 as the Director of Psychiatric Services at Coastal Plain Hospital. One Saturday morning, Dickerson-Taylor and her husband were driving by a fast-food restaurant in Wilson. While passing the restaurant, she noticed a man lying face down in a doorway surrounded by a crowd of onlookers who were not assisting the individual. Dickerson-Taylor instructed her husband to turn the car around so she could provide assistance. Once she arrived, she noticed the helpless individual was an elderly man who had fallen and cut his face; he was bleeding profusely. She asked the individual if he was taking blood thinners, and he told her that he was. Dickerson-Taylor provided basic first aid while waiting for EMS to arrive. At the individual’s request, she contacted the individual’s son to inform him of the injury and that he would soon be on his way to a local emergency department. Dickerson-Taylor is a Nash Health Care Hero because she noticed an individual in need, helped the individual, and kept the individual from bleeding to death until EMS arrived.
Pastoral Care Banquet celebrates the unsung heroes of Nash Health Care

Almost everyone has heard of the evangelist Billy Graham, but very few have heard of Pearl Good. Good faithfully followed Graham’s crusades across the country—at her own expense—and prayed for the event. For decades, no one affiliated with the Graham evangelistic team was aware of her silent, yet powerful, contributions to the ministry.

This same philosophy of unselfish faithfulness could easily apply to the chaplains at Nash Health Care. These chaplains were recently honored at a pastoral care banquet where they were recognized for their thousands of hours of service. Combined, these 47 volunteer adjunct chaplains contributed more than 8,000 hours to patients, family members, and employees of Nash Health Care.

Chaplain Mark Dickens was presented with special awards for having the most hours in 2013 and Chaplain Sally Imke was honored for having the second highest number of hours in 2013. Dickens contributed 1,977.75 hours of volunteer service in 2013 and had an overall cumulative 6,031.25 hours during his 15 years of service. Imke volunteered 826.75 hours in 2013.

“I can’t express our appreciation for all that you do,” said Pastoral Care Director Jeff Hedgepeth. “Much of what you do is done behind-the-scenes, and you do this not to get credit, but because you feel led to help people. Humility is a rare and valuable gift.”

—Pastoral Care Director, Jeff Hedgepeth

Richard Joyner (far left) and Shirley McFarlin (far right), chaplains at Nash Health Care, congratulate Adjunct Chaplains Mark Dickens (second from left) and Sallie Imke (second from right) for their years of outstanding service. Chaplain Mark Dickens was presented with special awards for having the most hours in 2013 and Chaplain Sally Imke was honored for having the second highest number of hours in 2013. Dickens contributed 1,977.75 hours of volunteer service in 2013 and had an overall cumulative 6,031.25 hours during his 15 years of service. Imke volunteered 826.75 hours in 2013.

The following chaplains were honored at the banquet:

**First Year**
- Dorothy Baylor, Philadelphia Missionary Baptist Church
- Dianne McNeil, Word Tabernacle
- Cassandra Frazier, New Revelation Baptist Church
- Pamela S. Johnson, Parkwood Baptist Church

**Second Year**
- Delores Batts, Morning Star Disciples of Christ

**Third Year**
- Ann Bonham, Grace Covenant
- Cliff Bonham, Grace Covenant
- Blondelle Cherry-Jones, Higher Calling World Outreach Ministries
- Marietta Craft, Church on the Rise
- Tanica Hammonds, Higher Calling World Outreach Ministries
- Jackie McRae, St. Paul Baptist Church, Enfield, NC
- Randall Mills, Proctor’s Chapel Baptist Church
- Bernard Richardson, Mount Bethel Baptist Church
- Ray Vick, Tabernacle of Praise
- Sandra Joyner, St. Paul Church of God in Christ

**Fourth Year**
- Francena Simpkins-Crockett, Englewood Baptist Church
- Joyce Bulluck Ricks, Conetoe Baptist Church
- Antoinette Harrison, Church on the Rock
- Angela Jones, St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church, Leggett, NC
- Lorenzo Jones, First Calvary Baptist Church
- Claudette Moore, Unity of Faith
- Sheila Simms, First Pentecostal Church of Deliverance
- Mary Hinton, St. Luke Baptist Church, Leggett, NC
Fifteen Nash Health Care nurses recently completed a new leadership development program, equipping them to face the demands and challenges of nurse management in a rapidly changing health care environment. These graduates were recognized during a ceremony that commended them for their dedication to excellence.

“We have a lot of talent at this organization,” said Leslie Hall, senior vice president and chief nursing officer of Nash Health Care. “We wanted to provide a way to nurture and develop this talent for another generation of health care leaders, so we created the nursing leadership development program.”

Through this program, nurses participate in online classroom modules and in a two-hour session once a month, where they utilize case studies and other learning tools as a part of their educational experience. Each participant must pass a test for each online module. The program consists of 12 online modules that cover in-depth topics such as: transitioning from nurse to nurse manager, mentoring, effective communication, utilization of data to determine staff levels, and budgeting. To qualify for the program, nurses must be working towards or have a bachelor’s degree in nursing.

Nurses successfully completing the program receive 50 points toward professional advancement programs and 24 hours of continuing education credit.

Those who recently graduated from the program include: Susan Battle, Lynn Bradshaw, Gina Champion, Emma Collins, Brandy Earp, Joel Hedgepeth, Holly Hester, Jennifer Kendrick, Mary Kay Magallon, Shakeerah McCoy, Erica Moore, Cricket Richardson, Patricia Silver, and Delight Strickland.
Creating a healthier community through wellness

Employees of Nash Health Care’s Wellness / Nash for Life Department helped employees from the City of Rocky Mount on a journey to better health by offering wellness screenings. Wellness employees are available to help area businesses reduce their health care costs by providing health care education and evaluation to employees.

From left, Suzanne Buchanan and Rich Jared of Nash Health Care conduct wellness evaluations for City of Rocky Mount employees.

Coastal Plain earns Lean and Clean Recognition

The Lean Steering Committee awarded Coastal Plain Hospital the 2013 Lean and Clean Week Award. Lean and Clean is a part of the Lean Healthcare initiative which seeks to improve financial efficiency by streamlining processes. A part of this initiative includes arranging and cleaning areas in a way that allows staff to do their jobs with greater ease and productivity. Not only did Coastal Plain have an extraordinary transformation—as illustrated in the before and after pictures—but they also created a PowerPoint presentation and established a sustainment plan.

Before

After

Tempsie Richardson, occupational health nurse for the City of Rocky Mount, confers with Jennifer Stephenson, RN, of Nash Health Care’s wellness program, concerning the health screening for Rocky Mount city employees.
CSX makes Hospice donation

James Williams, CSX safety chairman, Billy Maye, CSX employee and Pault Evans, terminal manager (far right), present a donation to Cynthia Hall-Thomas, manager of Hospice and Palliative Care of Nash General Hospital (third from left) and Hospice employees Debbie Stilley (far left) and Nancy Brinkley. Representatives from CSX said they know of several employees over the years who have benefited from—or who have had a loved one benefit from—the services of Hospice. Employees contributed to the donation as an act of appreciation.

Peacock named to Nash Health Care Board of Commissioners

Dr. Ivan Peacock, a board-certified diagnostic radiologist with Nash X-ray Associates, was recently named to the Nash Health Care Board of Commissioners. The Nash Health Care Board of Commissioners is a 14-member volunteer board appointed by the Nash County Board of Commissioners. Each board member is appointed for one 3-year term. Commissioners may be reappointed to serve two additional terms, for a maximum of three terms.

“I am interested in serving on the board in order to promote further advancement and integration of medical services at Nash Health Care, as well as to promote greater professional and institutional unity among the diverse physician community serving Nash through the development of physician leaders and shared physician objectives and outcomes,” he said.

Dr. Peacock is a native of Jacksonville, NC. He attended undergraduate and graduate school at East Carolina University and then received a regular commission in the United States Navy in 1977. He subsequently attended the Uniformed Services University in Bethesda Maryland where he received his MD degree and completed a radiology residency at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda. Dr. Peacock pursued advanced military operational training at the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute and completed primary flight school in Pensacola, FL where he was designated Naval Flight Surgeon 3801.

Dr. Peacock served 24 years as a naval officer attaining the rank of CAPTAIN (06). During his military career, he served with multiple forward deployed units of the Fleet Marine Force as a Flight Surgeon, and with the Naval Hospital Command as a Diagnostic Radiologist. After leaving active duty, Dr. Peacock joined Nash X-Ray Associates, PA in Rocky Mount and continues to practice full time at Nash Health Care as a board-certified diagnostic radiologist. His professional interests include musculoskeletal imaging as well as radiology administration and leadership.

Dr. Peacock is past president of Nash X-ray Associates and has served as past chairman of Nash Health Care’s Department of Imaging Services. He also previously served as the medical director of the Nash Breast Care Center and Nash Open MRI. Currently, he serves as chairman of the Comprehensive Community Cancer Program Committee and chairman of the Credentials, Bylaws, and Rules & Regulations Committee at Nash Health Care.

Fighting the flu

Occupational health nurse Karen Vick (left) gives a flu shot to Nash Health Care President and CEO Larry Chewning. Employees are required to have an annual flu shot not only for their protection, but to help ensure patient safety. Vick reported that the Occupational Health Department gave more than 2,000 flu shots.
FOCUS ON PEOPLE

Crawford named Manager

Terri Crawford has been named manager of the Nash Breast Care Center. Crawford earned her associate’s degree in radiologic technology from Meridian Community College in Meridian, MS and her bachelor’s degree in radiologic technology from the University of Louisiana in Monroe, LA. Before coming to Nash Health Care, she was the Breast Center Manager at Anderson Regional Medical Center in Meridian, MS. She holds registrations in radiology and mammography as well as holding a certification in Clinical Breast Examination through the National Consortium of Breast Centers.

PR and Marketing Department earns awards

Jeff Hedgepeth, director of marketing and public relations, and Dawn Wilson, communications coordinator, in cooperation with Five Oaks Design of Nashville and Lewis Advertising of Rocky Mount, earned several awards from the Carolinas Health Care PR and Marketing Society. Nash Health Care earned a Gold Award for a newspaper wrap, and Wilson earned a Gold Award for writing. They earned silver awards for website design, direct mail campaigns, and newsletter design.

Bob Unrue of Five Oaks Design is an award-winning art director/designer with 30 years of experience. Lewis Advertising is a full-service agency in Rocky Mount that has been serving clients for 40 years.

Brodie honored by Nash Health Care

Larry Chewning (left), president and CEO of Nash Health Care, presents Rosa Brodie (right), with a resolution honoring her service and dedication to the Nash Health Care Board of Commissioners. Brodie served three, 3-year terms on the board.

The Nash Health Care Board of Commissioners is a 14-member volunteer board appointed by the Nash County Board of Commissioners. Each board member is appointed for one, 3-year term. Commissioners may be reappointed to serve two additional terms, for a maximum of three terms.

Hunter is certified technologist

Antwaniece Hunter earned her surgical technologist certification through the Nursing Credentialing Center.

Strickland receives additional certification

Mary Strickland, executive director of Women’s Services, earned her certification in maternal child nursing through the Nursing Credentialing Center.

Vick earns certification

Kathy Vick recently passed her Certified Tumor Registrar exam.

CERTIFICATIONS

Vicky has earned her certification.

NASH HEALTH CARE

Welcomes these new employees

Victoria Abner
PCTI, CCU

Yvette Alicea
PA, Registration and Discharge

Alisha Allen
RN, General Surgery

Juanita Arp
Phlebotomist, Lab

Cassie Bacasse
CMA

Tara Bradby
PCTI, Emergency

Samuel Bell
ECG, Tech

Betty Campbell
Surgeon Tech II
Additional employees will be featured in the next edition of Newsline.
What you need to know: New Nash Health Care Emergency Department and Nash Heart Center.

In 2014, Nash Health Care celebrated the largest expansion in the facility’s history. A new, state-of-the-art Emergency Department will alleviate overcrowding and will feature a separate entrance and treatment area specifically designed for pediatric patients, making Nash Health Care one of eight hospitals in the state to have a dedicated pediatric emergency room. This expansion also featured a new Nash Heart Center, complete with an 8-bed cardiac ICU and two catheterization suites. Following are some frequently asked questions about the project:

When will the facility open?
The facility is scheduled to accept its first patients in late March.

Where will it be located?
As you drive onto the Nash Health Care campus, the new building is facing Winstead Avenue. For updated campus maps, visit our website at www.nhcs.org. Please be aware that traffic patterns will shift during and after opening, so drive carefully on the hospital campus and obey all posted speed limits.

How large is the facility and how much did it cost?
The $57 million facility is roughly 150,000 square feet, 50,000 of which is the new Nash Heart Center.

Where did the money come from?
The Nash Health Care Foundation raised $2.7 million toward the project. The remaining funds were obtained from the issuance of bonds.

Why does our area need a new Emergency Department?
The hospital’s current Emergency Department—which was originally designed to accommodate around 40,000 patients a year—is over capacity by 55 patients a day. The Emergency Department has treated more than 60,000 patients a year since 2006.

Is the Pediatric Emergency Department going to be there?
Yes. The Pediatric Emergency Department will have a separate entrance and feature an area specifically designed to treat the needs of younger patients. This means that Nash Health Care will be one of eight out of 130 hospitals in North Carolina with a dedicated area for pediatric patients.

Why do we need a new heart center?
The new facilities for the Nash Heart Center will complement the extended scope of services we are offering for area residents. Previously, the heart center was able to do heart catheterizations, but did not perform interventional procedures—such as stent placements. Often, patients would have to be transferred to another facility to have the same procedure performed by the same cardiologist. However, an affiliation with Vidant Health in Greenville has enabled the Nash Heart Center to offer stent placements, and over the past three years, the number of cardiac catheterizations has dramatically increased. A new facility will enable us to better meet the needs of local patients.

Will there be new equipment?
Yes. In fact, the Nash Heart Center’s cardiac catheterization lab is the first in the nation to feature the latest and most innovative catheterization suite technology.

For more information, please visit our website at www.nhcs.org.