



NEWS

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Gloria Seitz
Sentara Obici Hospital
(757) 934-4518

gjseitz@sentara.com



Contact:

Tom O'Grady
Suffolk Economic
Development
(757) 923-3620
togrady@city.suffolk.va.us

www.YesSuffolk.com

Sentara Breaks Ground On Medical Complex in North Suffolk

—Community Groundbreaking Ceremony: March 21 at 9:00 a.m.—

Suffolk, Va., -- February 14, 2007 – Construction begins on *Sentara BelleHarbour*, a comprehensive outpatient medical campus located off Rt. 17 (Bridge Road) in the BelleHarbour Section of northern Suffolk. Less than one mile west of the I-664 and Rt. 17 interchange, *Sentara BelleHarbour* will be within reach of residents in the tri-city area of Suffolk, Portsmouth, and Chesapeake. The complex is centrally located to improve access to emergency services for residents in other western Tidewater communities as well such as Isle of Wight County.

“We recognize that residents of North Suffolk need and deserve quality healthcare locally,” said Howard Kern, President and Chief Operating Officer of Sentara Healthcare. “Sentara BelleHarbour will offer residents the same noteworthy health care services other communities have come to expect from Sentara in this convenient, new location.”

First to open will be a three-story, 75,000 square-foot facility offering a full service 24-hour emergency department, advanced diagnostic imaging, laboratory, physical therapy, a sport medicine center, and physician offices.

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Page 2 Construction Begins on Sentara BelleHarbour

Primary care and specialty physicians will have offices on-site in the first phase to support the medical needs of the emerging residential and business community in that area. Cornerstone to the physician practices is North Suffolk Family Medicine, a family practice group established by Dr. Lynne W. Stockman, which has been serving patients in this area since 1995.

“We greatly value our relationship with Sentara Healthcare and their strong commitment to our community” said Suffolk Mayor Linda Johnson. “Their continued investment in Suffolk demonstrates how dedicated they are to ensuring the best medical care possible within the City. As Suffolk continues to grow, we value the fact that Sentara is willing to grow with us to meet our health care needs.”

Opening of the first building is expected in spring 2008.

The community is invited to a groundbreaking ceremony March 21 at 9:00 a.m. at the property.

Obici Hospital, a 138-bed acute care hospital, has served Suffolk and the greater western Tidewater communities since 1951. In 2006, it merged with Sentara Healthcare, a premier not-for-profit health care provider in southeastern Virginia and northeastern North Carolina. Sentara Healthcare is comprised of acute care hospitals, outpatient care campuses, nursing centers, assisted living centers and primary care practices.

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Fact Sheet

Sentara BelleHarbour Medical Complex

- ◆ **Groundbreaking March 21, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.**, marks the launch of the **Sentara BelleHarbour** health complex fronting Route 17 near the Bennett's Creek area of Northern Suffolk.
- ◆ Plans for the **20-acre health complex** include a complement of health care services for the entire family to be housed in **3 buildings totaling 180,000 s.f. where few immediate care services exist today.**
- ◆ **First to open** will be an approximately 75,000 s.f., three-story building **with 24-hour emergency department, advanced diagnostic imaging services, laboratory services, physical therapy, a sports medicine center, and an array of primary and specialty physician offices.**
- ◆ Walk-in patients will be treated by **Emergency Physicians of Tidewater**, the same board certified emergency physicians supporting other Sentara hospitals.
- ◆ The campus, located in **one of the fastest growing areas of the city**, will be within reach of an estimated 100,000 residents.
- ◆ **Convenience and efficiency are central to the campus design** from the placement of services and way-finding features to planned on-site retail venues.
- ◆ **Anticipated Opening of Building I of Sentara BelleHarbour: Spring 2008**

