

# Hospital Rounds



## Our Lady of the Lake Hosts Annual Blessing of the Pets

In honor of the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, Our Lady of the Lake hosted its 11th annual pet blessing for the community and their animals. St. Francis is the patron saint of nature, animals, and of Our Lady of the Lake's founders, the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady. The blessing of animals is a tradition that originated in the 13th century in remembrance of St. Francis, who believed all animals should be treated with dignity and respect. Father Don Ajoko administered the pet blessing on the lawn outside of LSU Health-Baton Rouge, Perkins Surgery Center.

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## Woman's Hospital's Bariatric Program Named a 'Blue Distinction Center Plus'

Woman's bariatric program has earned the Blue Distinction Specialty Care Center Plus (BDC+) designation from Blue Cross Blue Shield, which recognizes healthcare providers that deliver specialized care in a safe, effective, and cost-efficient manner. The distinction helps patients seeking weight loss surgery find both quality and value for their care, while encouraging healthcare professionals to improve the overall quality and delivery of healthcare, nationwide.

## Our Lady of the Lake Adds Cardiology Services to Baker Clinic

Our Lady of the Lake Physician Group Internal Medicine and Pediatrics at Baker has expanded its services to include cardiology, providing a more accessible and comprehensive healthcare experience for patients in the community. Services at the clinic now include general cardiology, preventive cardiology, and electrophysiology (heart rhythm disorders). Patients will be able to receive important heart testing on-site, including echocardiograms, vascular ultrasound, and stress testing. The cardiologists providing diagnostic exams and treatment at the clinic are Drs. Leon Cannizzaro, III, Jeffrey Hyde, David Moll, and Wenjie Xu.

## Baton Rouge General Opens Express Care Clinic on Picardy

Baton Rouge General announced the opening of its new after-hours Express Care clinic on Picardy Avenue in Baton Rouge on the Bluebonnet campus. Open seven days a week, the clinic will accept walk-in patients of all ages, and will treat common illnesses and injuries, including allergies, colds, eye swelling, fever, heartburn, nausea, sprains, and strains. Baton Rouge General Express Care also features a lab, an X-ray machine, and an EKG for more moderate injuries.

"Patients expect convenience, affordability, and excellent service," said Edgardo Tenreiro, President and CEO of Baton Rouge General. "Now, if you wake up with strep throat or pink eye on Sunday morning, you don't have to visit the ER to get the high quality of care BRG is known for."

## BCBS of LA, Ochsner Announce Partnership to Address Rising Healthcare Costs

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana, the largest insurer in the state, and Ochsner Health System, a nationally ranked, global healthcare destination, will be working together to identify solutions to help remedy rising healthcare costs, increase access to healthcare options, and address quality issues for individuals and businesses in Louisiana. Ranked 49th in the 2016 America's Health Rankings report, Louisiana has ongoing problems with poor health outcomes and rising costs. Meanwhile, 6 of the 10 most expensive places to purchase healthcare in the nation are in Louisiana, according to a 2013 Institute of Medicine study looking at Medicare markets.

"What's unique is that an insurer and provider are now aligned with a shared vision of what it takes to improve the health delivery system, and we are working in partnership with Ochsner Health System to do just that," says Blue Cross President and CEO Steve Udvarhelyi. "We both understand

that transforming healthcare is the only way to achieve the results we need in terms of quality and value."

## Our Lady of the Lake Earns 110 WellSpot Designations

Our Lady of the Lake is helping drive healthier lifestyles across Louisiana through its 110 WellSpot locations, recently designated by the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH). A WellSpot is a place, space, or organization that has implemented voluntary changes to make healthy living easier for Louisiana residents.

"As a healthcare provider, we lead by example to promote and recognize healthy choices in the workplace and beyond," said Coletta Barrett, Vice President of Mission, Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center. "We have embraced a culture of wellness that extends not only inside our own organizations, but reaches families of team members, children in schools, and the community around us."



## BR GENERAL'S VINCE WEAVER, MD, PERFORMING NEW STROKE PREVENTION PROCEDURE

Dr. Vince Weaver, a vascular surgeon with Baton Rouge Vascular Specialty Center, is the first physician in South Louisiana, and the only physician in Baton Rouge, to perform a new, minimally invasive procedure called TransCarotid Artery Revascularization (TCAR), which reverses the blood flow through the brain to divert blood clots and plaque away from the brain, to prevent blockage and stroke.

"Strokes can be tragic and life-altering, and I'm thrilled to be able to offer such an important new option in the fight against them," said Dr. Weaver. "TCAR is particularly suited for the large portion of patients we see who are at higher risk of complications from other, traditional procedures."



## **Pink Concrete Mixer Truck Kicks Off MBP OLOL Cancer Center's Geaux Pink Campaign**

Martha Thomas, a driver for Quality Concrete Group (QCG), is proud to drive the company's new pink concrete mixer truck around town to help spread greater awareness for breast cancer. Thomas has been touched by cancer, with both of her parents having fought the disease. As a woman, she's excited to be a part of the rolling public service announcement that thousands will see as she visits job sites throughout Baton Rouge. The newly designed truck is part of QCG's participation in Mary Bird Perkins - Our Lady of the Lake Cancer Center's annual Geaux Pink fundraising and awareness campaign.

Mike Price, QCG co-owner, said that, as a company, they wanted to do something to help fight breast cancer in the community and partner with an organization through which their support could touch the greatest number of people. "Patients being treated for breast cancer can get the best care possible at the Cancer Center, and our city is fortunate to have a facility of this caliber," said Price. "We wanted to be a part of bringing even greater care to those fighting a disease that has touched almost every person we know in some way."

In addition to generating awareness with the pink truck, Price and his business partner, Jeff Poche, will also make a contribution to the Cancer Center to directly support cancer awareness, early detection, and screening programs in the local area.

"We so appreciate Quality Concrete Group's willingness to do something so vastly different and visible that will make a strong statement about their support for those fighting breast cancer, and we also thank them for their generosity in helping to fund the vast services we surround patients with when they receive a cancer diagnosis," said Ethan Bush, Vice President and Chief Development Officer, Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center. "It takes many resources and experts to provide premier care, and community partners like Quality Concrete Group help us continue providing the highest quality cancer care locally."