2:00 pm

74°

Interactive Radar Zip code Lookup

HOME

LOCAL

WEATHER

SPORTS

WMBF INVESTIGATES

CRIME

68°

Feels Like: 68°

LIFESTYLE

11:00 am

71°

HEALTH

PROGRAMMING

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ID badges part of more security measures at Grand Strand Regional Medical Center

Posted: Sep 04, 2013 9:51 AM EDT Updated: Sep 04, 2013 9:51 AM EDT

By Alex Holley - bio | email



MYRTLE BEACH, SC (WMBF) - Now when anyone comes through the doors at the Grand Strand Regional Medical Center, they have to stop and get a badge with their picture on it as part of tighter security efforts at the hospital.

An average of more than 900 people walk through the hospital doors each day, which can be a security concern. Spokesperson Joan Carroza says the hospital is now more prepared to handle these concerns.

The new system will "make sure that people here at the hospital have a reason to be here," Carroza said. "They're either visiting a department, an individual, a patient, an employee, but they have a reason to be here."

Everyone who visits the hospital should now make sure they have their government issued I.D. in hand, and be prepared to "say cheese" and the reason for their visit. The new system then saves the picture and a copy of the I.D. for the database

It takes extra time, but visitors WMBF News talked to say it's worth it.

"I was surprised," visitor Howard Moore said. "But certainly glad to see it. It was

Carroza says nowadays, these security upgrades are necessary.

"That's why people don't seem to mind, because they're getting used to it," Carroza said. "When they go into a school they have to show an I.D., and when they're at the airport or they go into large buildings.

But there's more than just a camera at the front desk. Other security measures have been added: more lighting and emergency call boxes in the parking lots, more cameras and more locked hospital units.

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NEWS

2 displaced after mobile home fire in Duford

Updated: Oct 14, 2013 7:44 AM EDT HORRY COUNTY, SC (WMBF) - Horry County Fire Rescue Assistant Chief Justin Gibbons said crews worked the scene of a mobile home fire Friday around 9 p.m. Assistant Chief Gibbons said the single-wide mobile More >>

NMB to crack down on dilapidated homes

WITH VIDEO

2013 7:37 AM EDT

Hazardous, inhabitable homes will be the focus of the new ordinance. It is quickly being pushed through the council because of a current situation happening in the Palmetto Shores community.

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Horry County to dedicate road for fallen officer Monday

Updated: Oct 14 2013 7:29 AM EDT



A road dedication and sign unveiling will take place early next week dedicated in honor of the first Horry County Police Officer who died in the line of duty. More >>

More of the same weather, says Storm Team Updated: Oct 14, 2013 7:21 AM EDT



Expect more of the same today: mostly cloudy with at 30 percent chance of light rain or drizzle this afternoon, says WMBF Storm Team Meteorologist

Maria Branson