

NEWS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release

HALIFAX REGIONAL THANKS DOCTORS *Dr. Fiorilli Is An Example of A Caring Physician*

ROANOKE RAPIDS, NC. (March 24, 2011) When Dr. Mario G. Fiorilli walks into the exam room, patients relax. His smile, friendly demeanor and comfortable way of treating patients put them at ease.

Whether seeing a patient at 3 a.m. in the Emergency Care Center of Halifax Regional or seeing a patient for a scheduled appointment in his office, he is the same. “You learn to function when you are tired,” he says with a smile.

He’s had that same friendly manner since he came to Roanoke Rapids, first as a part-time doctor in the Emergency Room in 1975 while undergoing training at UNC, and then as a full-time physician in 1979. Dr. Fiorilli cites the example of his mentor and partner, Dr. A. I. Portela, whom he calls “an institution in the Roanoke Valley.”

Dr. Fiorilli had offers to practice medicine in large metropolitan areas, but chose to stay in Roanoke Rapids because of the physicians in the community, the opportunities and infectious Diseases at Halifax Regional. He is a diplomat of the American Board of Internal Medicine and specializes in Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases at Halifax Medical Specialists.

In a quote from Dr. Isaac Miller, a partner at Halifax Medical Specialists for many years, “there is a uniqueness in the relationships at Halifax Regional that exists among staff, patients and physicians. Something that would be hard to duplicate in a bigger center.*when you are here ...You are FAMILY!*”

“Dr. Fiorilli is beloved by his patients,” said Will Mahone, president of Halifax Regional. “He is not in a hurry when treating them, and he cares about each one. He’s what all of us want in a physician.”

He and the other 125 physicians on the Halifax Regional Medical Staff are being treated this week as the Medical Center celebrates Doctors Day. They will receive a special breakfast and a recognition gift as expressions of the Medical Center’s appreciation for their dedication.

Asked how many patients he has treated in his 32 years of full-time practice in Roanoke Rapids, he mentally adds up the number and the years and guesses at about 250,000 patient visits.

“I’ve probably seen everyone in a four county area at least once,” he says. “When you are enjoying what you do, you stick with it.”

“It boils down to the patient and the doctor in the exam room,” he explains. “It’s one on one trying to solve a problem.” It doesn’t matter, he says, if the setting is a metro hospital or a doctor’s office in Roanoke Rapids. “We are here to help the patient the best we can.”

He and other physicians at Halifax Regional have the same advice for patients to stay healthy.

- Reach and maintain a healthy weight.
- Exercise regularly.
- Follow a heart healthy diet, watching your salt and sugar intake.
- Take some supplements and medications, based on your doctor’s recommendation.

Doctors Day began in 1933 in Winder, Georgia to celebrate the contributions of physicians in the United States. It became National Doctors Day when President George Bush signed a bill into law in 1990.

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About Halifax Regional

Halifax Regional Medical Center is licensed for 204 beds, including psychiatric and nursery. A non-profit organization, Halifax Regional is fully accredited by the Joint Commission. For more information, visit www.halifaxregional.org.