

NEW SMYRNA BEACH EDGEWATER ~ OAK HILL

# Hometown News

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TOUGH

NSB Mayor Sally  
Mackay says  
bring it on!  
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## Bert Fish adding health care clinic in Venetian Bay

By **Jamye Durrance**  
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NEW SMYRNA BEACH — Bert Fish Medical Center is expanding by seven miles.

Well, sort of. The hospital is expanding its care with a new facility in Venetian Bay, set to open in March.

The Bayview Urgent Care center will be located at the northern entrance of the

850-unit residential community and will serve as an ancillary arm of Bert Fish, serving those in the Westside of the hospital's taxing district.

"(The residents in that area) have been somewhat removed," said Bert Fish spokesman Garry Mac. "There are thousands of residents in that area that didn't have an urgent care center close to them. This is just an

ideal location."

The clinic will provide minor care such as shots, X-rays, school physicals, sutures and splints, said Maureen France of Emergency Medicine Professionals, which represents the emergency physicians at Bert Fish.

"We're excited about this venture," Ms. France said. "It will be very positive for the community."

The clinic will eliminate the need for residents to travel more than seven miles to Bert Fish, located downtown.

Mr. Mac said Bert Fish always wanted to target that area.

"We were waiting for the growth," he said. "Everything has fallen into place."

In December, the City Commission approved the clinic to move into the

northern location of Venetian Bay for a maximum of five years until the community's Town Center is completed.

"We wanted to establish our reputation (with the temporary location)," Ms. France said. "It's a very visible location."

Mr. Mac said Bert Fish's taxing district includes

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## Clinic

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everything south of Spruce Creek to the county line. He said the Bayview clinic is just one more way to help those tax-paying residents.

"We always said this facility will fulfill a key strategic planning goal," he said. "We

knew the area west of I-95 was as an area we must serve."

Ms. France said the idea has been well-received by the area's residents.

"They do not have much convenient access to health-care," she said.

The clinic will be located at 573 N. Airport Road.