Dialysis center opens in Colonial Heights

New business one of several changes on Boulevard

By JAMES PEACEMAKER JR.
Managing editor

With the opening of U.S. Renal Care on Tuesday, people suffering kidney problems in Colonial Heights won't have to travel as far for the frequent treatments that keep them alive.

Those patients include DeJuan Daniels, who was diagnosed with kidney failure in 2009 and needs dialysis three times a week.

He has been treated by

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Roger Green, executive director of the Colonial Heights Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Satish Bankuru, medical director of U.S. Renal Care in Colonial Heights, and patient DeJuan Daniels spoke at the grand opening.

VIPs cut the ribbon for the new U.S. Renal Care location in Colonial Heights.

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Dr.Satish Bankuru since being diagnosed and is now the first patient at this new facility after Bankuru made the recommendation to come here.

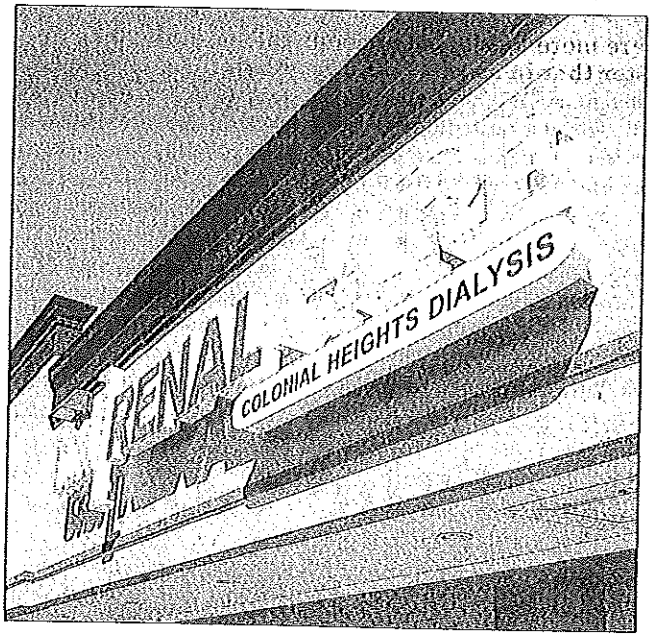
"These guys have been great to me since I've been here," Daniels said. "[Bankuru] has been honest and forthright with me since he started working with me in '09."

It was that personal relationship that brought Daniels to the new facility, when Bankuru recently became the new medical director.

"Always I have ... offered the best care to my patients, not only the care but also treating them with respect and humility and being open to discussing about making them aware of their problems," Bankuru said.

The new location has 13 stations for treating patients and will have six new employees.

Each station includes heated massage chairs



hour sessions needed three times a week.

Pam Pacheco of U.S. Renal care said the renovation of the 8,000-square-foot space was done quickly in about 90 days but cost more than $1 million including medical equipment. She said a market study showed a need for a dialysis center in the this area. The company has about 100 clinics

officials to welcome the new business at the ceremony on Tuesday, noting it was one of the latest changes to improve the Boulevard.

"With this, taking ownership of what all of us remember as an old grocery store, it obviously looks a lot better inside, a lot better outside, and adds to that viable economic devel-

Colonial Heights," Scott said.

The location at 1617 Boulevard is just one of several new businesses that have popped up along the Boulevard recently.

A new Family Dollar has opened right across the street at 1604 Boulevard.

The BB&T bank branch at 2609 Boulevard has been completely rebuilt.

Another new building for lease is being constructed across the street, south of Rent-E-Quip.

But the Boulevard has had at least one loss. The Blockbuster video store at 3107 Boulevard will close on April 7. The longtime fixture in the Colonial Square Shopping Center is currently selling off remaining movies and even store fixtures. Earlier this year, Blockbuster announced it would close another 300 stores in the United States, bringing the