

SOUTHWEST WAKE NEWS

HOLLY SPRINGS

Coworking Station hopes to draw new workers

■ The Coworking Station - Holly Springs' first co-working space - will undergo renovations in August to attract more tenants.

BY KATHRYN TROGDON
ktrogdon@newsobserver.com

HOLLY SPRINGS

The Coworking Station will undergo some renovations in August after a successful first four months in business in the hopes of attracting even more local entrepreneurs to Holly Springs' first co-working space.

The Coworking Station, which opened in April, now houses employees from 18 different companies - many of them one- or two-person operations - in the more than 5,000-square-foot community workplace at 104 W. Balentine St.

Co-working, a growing trend, allows people in different jobs and careers to share space for work. They often are used by startups or freelancers.

The space features 45 work stations, including private and shared offices, with access to standard office resources like high-speed internet and off-site staff to provide tenants with technical assistance. There is even beer on tap from Holly Springs-based Carolina Brewing Company.

Rent runs from \$99 for a five-day pass to \$599 per month for a private office suite. This includes free beverages, unlimited internet and more. Conference rooms also can be rented starting at \$5 per hour.

"All the tenants here seem thrilled with their space," said Tara Luellen, Coworking Station's community manager. "They don't seem like they have any plans to leave."

Private offices were rented soon after the Coworking Station opened in April, she said, and there are few remaining shared spaces. Non-members also frequently rent the two conference rooms

SEE COWORKING, 3A

FUQUAY-VARINA

Free clinic helps hundreds in need of dental care



Dental patients fill several chairs in the tooth cleaning area, foreground, of a free dental clinic July 29, 2016 in downtown Fuquay-Varina. Hundreds of health care workers and volunteers signed up to work during the two-day clinic held by North Carolina Missions of Mercy.

■ A two-day dental clinic in Fuquay-Varina was expected to serve at least 600 people in the clinic's 66 chairs between Friday and Saturday.

BY HENRY GARGAN
hgargan@newsobserver.com

FUQUAY-VARINA

At 8:15 a.m. Friday, the sun was still low enough that Tracy McKinley and Kenneth McMillan could wait in the shade of a van parked next to the old Stephens Ace Hardware building on Broad Street. The pair had waited in line Thursday for two of the 300 numbered wristbands the dental clinic handed out, which guaranteed they'd get inside before the sun rose enough to render the van useless as a shade-giver.

It was the first day of a two-day free dental clinic put on by the North Carolina Dental Society's Missions of Mercy in the



Dr. Kamran Qureshi of Cary, seated left, works on a patient in need of dental fillings July 29, in the former Stephens Hardware building. The event is an outreach program of the North Carolina Dental Society.

former hardware store at 405 Broad St. It was one of six the nonprofit will hold throughout the Carolinas this year. Organizers expected to serve about 600 or 700 people in the clinic's 66 chairs over two days.

Only services for adults were provided. No proof of income was needed, but patients signed a statement about their financial status.

McKinley and McMillan didn't know each other before Friday morning,

but like many others in line, they became friendly with each other in the hours they spent together by the time McMillan's number, 272, was called at 8:45 a.m. McKinley was No. 299.

Both used to have office

jobs in the Triangle but are now unemployed and without insurance. McKinley, who drove to Fuquay-Varina from Lillington, said she worked in accounting for Strategic Technologies in Cary before she was laid off.

McMillan, a lifelong Fayetteville resident, said he was in management with Georgia Pacific before he got colon cancer and became too sick to work.

His cancer treatments made his teeth brittle, but his insurance dried up before he could do anything about it.

McMillan said he's also a veteran of the 82nd Airborne Division, but because he's "only 70 percent disabled," as he puts it, the military won't cover his dental bills. Friday, he hoped for a partial denture.

McKinley wasn't sure what she would ask for. "They'll let you do one service, so whatever will be the most effective is what I'll have done," she said. "I have one filling I need in the front, and I broke some teeth in the back falling down some stairs."

More waiting was in store once patients were inside, but it was air-conditioned there. After paperwork and a preliminary screening, patients were sent to a separate waiting area for the service they would receive: a cleaning, fillings or extractions. A black curtain enclosed what used to be the hardware store's sales floor, separating rows of dental chairs in its interior from rows of waiting room chairs along its perimeter.

Those who didn't get a wristband Thursday waited in a separate line toward the back of the parking lot and in the shade of a row of trees. Some got in line late Thursday night. Many brought chairs; others brought sleeping bags and blankets. In anticipation of the heat to come, organizers wheeled out a cooler of free bottled water.

In that line, a former diesel line mechanic who

SEE CLINIC, 3A

WAKEMED SOCCER PARK

State's first soccer school planned for Cary

■ The Accelerator School will offer students a middle school education, and daily soccer training. The school will be associated with the Carolina RailHawks.

BY KATHRYN TROGDON
ktrogdon@newsobserver.com

CARY

North Carolina's first soccer school is expected to launch this August at WakeMed Soccer Park, bringing a combination of middle school academics and soccer training to the Triangle.

The Accelerator School will be associated with the Carolina RailHawks, a Cary organization that already has undergone several changes since owner Steve Malik bought the team last October. "This school is another

important step toward having a world-class player development and education pathway," Curt Johnson, team president and general manager of the RailHawks, said in an email. "We have more work to do in this area, and the RailHawks need to continue to be a leader in player development so that more players in North Carolina can reach their full potential."

The Accelerator School is designed for children who dream of playing Division I college or professional soccer. To do this, American children need more training time to compete with international players, said Chris Mumford, the school's director and a professor of practice at UNC-Chapel Hill's Kenan-Flagler business school.

Today, he said, Amer-



Carolina RailHawks fans cheer at a game against West Ham United at WakeMed Soccer Park July 12. The team's coaches will coach students at the Accelerator School, and students will interact with the team's players.

ican children, even at the academy level, only train about seven to eight hours per week while youth in South America and Europe train 15 to 20 hours per week. But the new school is expected to provide students with more than 400 hours of soccer training annually. "Right now, we as

American soccer players, our youth are just getting outworked by other soccer players worldwide," he said.

FORMING THE PROGRAM

The Accelerator School, which was founded by Mumford; John Kerr, Duke University's men's soccer coach; and Terry Ransbury, a local entrepreneur, will start its 2016-17 school year as a small, private middle school where students are provided soccer training in the morning, academics in the late morning and afternoon and club soccer in the evening.

"Everybody is going to have an individualized learning plan and a personalized training plan, and you just don't get that elsewhere," Mumford said.

The first year will run from mid-August through mid-June with about 15 to 20 children, who already have been selected, and two teachers. Students will be coached by Carolina RailHawks coaches and will have the opportunity to interact with and train alongside RailHawks players.

"There is a whole movement that is going on in San Francisco, Palo Alto, Chicago and New York," Mumford said.

There, the schools have no more than 150 students, he said, which gives them the chance to have quality one-on-one time with their teachers.

The cost for the Cary school is \$15,000 per child. Similar programs in other parts of the country have higher tuition, such

SEE SOCCER, 4A