

News

Local doc busy since joining hospital

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PHOENIXVILLE — Whether it is rotator cuff surgery or shoulder replacements, Dr. David Raab has kept busy since joining the medical staff in the practice of Orthopaedics at Phoenixville Hospital.

Since arriving in Phoenixville in November, Raab has performed over 50 surgeries, ranging from shoulder injuries to fractures.

"There are a lot of slip and fall injuries this time of year," said Raab. "Other shoulder injuries occur during automobile accidents, and heavy laboring such as overhead lifting. I've also performed nu

merous rotator cuff surgeries."

Raab said he became interested in medicine and sports injuries while participating in baseball and wrestling in high school.

Upon graduating from West Chester East High School in 1993, Raab attended the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

He completed his graduate medical training at Graduate Hospital, where he was named the Senior Orthopaedic Resident of the Year in 2006.

After completion of his residency, Raab joined a busy Orthopaedic group in Chambersburg, specializing in shoulder surgery employing minimally invasive and arthroscopic techniques.

Following the birth of his son Ethan, Raab said he and his wife Kelly decided to move closer to the area.

"We started job hunting before we moved from the Chambersburg area," he said. "We knew Phoenixville is a good hospital, and they are very proactive. I felt it was a great place to start a practice."

Raab is board-certified by the American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and is a member of the American Osteopathic Association, the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons and the American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopaedic Surgery.

He said he enjoyed the reconstructive nature of orthopaedics.

"It involved working with all age groups," he said. "There are young folks who suffer sports injuries to seniors with arthritis. I see both high level collegiate to weekend warrior injuries.

"A lot of the surgeries I've been performing are minimally invasive surgeries, such as shoulder replacement surgery. You replace the shoulder with a metal ball within a metal socket with a plastic liner. Patients tend to do well afterwards. It takes less than two hours, and within three months, patients see plenty of improvement."

Raab spoke of injuries that he'll be seeing soon in the spring and summer.

"There will be a lot of pitching injuries," he said. "Youngsters need to maintain flexibility with their pitching shoulder. They need to warm up their arms, and build a core body strength. There will be less wear and tear on the arm, along with more velocity."

As far as the future of orthopaedics is concerned, Raab said that he sees more preventative care in younger patients.

"I see younger people taking better care of their arms during athletics," he said. "I also see more minimally invasive surgeries in the elbow and shoulder areas. There may be more biological implants during shoulder replacements instead of using metal."

Raab is currently seeing patients in his Phoenixville, Limerick and Paoli offices.

To schedule a consultation, please call 610-644-7755.

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