

COMMUNITY HEALTHLINE

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NEW CARDIAC SERVICES UNIT OPENS

Elective Angioplasty Program Approved

AFTER YEARS OF planning, months of construction, and more than \$3 million in new equipment, Huntington Hospital unveiled its new Cardiac Services Unit in November. Equipped with two new cardiac catheterization laboratories and a new electrophysiology laboratory, the unit, part of the Mariani Cardiology Center, gives the hospital the ability to perform elective cardiac angioplasty. Using this technique, interventional

cardiologists can obtain high quality diagnostic images of the coronary arteries and internal structures of the heart, as well as open coronary arteries that are narrowed by plaque.

“This brings a new level of advanced cardiac care to the Huntington community,” said **Paul Moulinie**, MD, Chief of Cardiology.

Prior to this, Huntington had participated in an emergency angioplasty program for patients experiencing an

Chemoembolization Fights Liver Tumors

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Minimally Invasive Thyroid Surgery

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Weight Loss Surgery Offers New Hope

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:



Interventional cardiologists **Ramanjit Bagga**, MD, and **Raj Patcha**, MD, Director of the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory, discuss a case in one of the new lab's control rooms.

acute heart attack. During angioplasty, an interventional cardiologist inserts a needle into an artery in the groin or wrist and threads a narrow, hollow tube, called a catheter into the heart. Dye injected through the catheter enables the cardiologist to take a moving image of the heart's chambers and vessels. If a blockage is detected, a tiny mesh tube, called a stent, is attached to a deflated balloon and inserted through the catheter. Saline is used to inflate the balloon, pushing the stent to the true coronary artery walls, and restoring blood flow.

Huntington's cardiac catheterization laboratory opened a decade ago and in 2010 performed more than 1,000 angiograms, making it one of the busiest centers of its kind on Long Island. It is also consistently one of Long Island's top performers

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MARCH 2011





A MESSAGE FROM KEVIN F. LAWLOR

Huntington Hospital's President & CEO

A WISE MAN ONCE SAID, "You can't be all things to all people." What do wise men know, anyway?

When it comes to healthcare, our goal at Huntington Hospital is to be all things to the people we serve. We are a valued resource for our patients, employees, and the community at large.

To our patients, we are the place that provides 24-hour-a-day emergency care, sophisticated diagnostic technology, expert physicians, nurses, and other staff, a safe environment for inpatient care when needed, and an institution that is focused on safety and quality.

In this issue of **HEALTHLINE**, you will read about our significant investment into our cardiology capability. If you are at risk for or diagnosed with heart disease, this commitment translates into advanced cardiac care at any hour of the day or night, without having to travel great distances to be cared for in an unfamiliar environment by healthcare providers you have never met before.

This newsletter also includes information about our efforts to bring sophisticated, minimally invasive treatments to our local hospital. You will

read about the cutting-edge methods **Dr. David Axelrod** uses to prolong life and improve the quality of life for those with liver tumors, and the advanced diagnostic and surgical approaches that **Dr. Joshua Rosenthal** takes to diagnose and surgically remove

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ELECTROPHYSIOLOGY LAB Brings Latest Technology to Huntington

WITH THE OPENING of the new Electrophysiology Laboratory in the Mariani Family Cardiology Center, Huntington Hospital's heart rhythm specialists have access to the latest technology to diagnose and treat dangerous electrical disturbances in the heart. The lab incorporates the newest generation of cardiac imaging equipment, enabling electrophysiologists to identify the source of arrhythmias with pinpoint accuracy and to safely treat them using a variety of techniques.

A new EP stimulator allows physicians to trigger arrhythmias in the controlled setting of the lab in order to locate the source of the electrical malfunction.

Under the direction of Paul Maccaro, MD, Medical Director of Arrhythmia Services, more than 1,000 procedures are performed in Huntington's EP lab each year. The EP team also includes electrophysiologist Kent Stephenson, MD, MPH, as well as specialized nurse practitioners and technologists who are experienced in heart rhythm disturbances.



Paul Maccaro, MD, Medical Director of Arrhythmia Services, and **Carol Patrick**, RNFA, MS, CCRN, CNAA, view an image of the heart projected onto a monitor in the EP Lab.

Patients benefit from the pre- and post-procedure care provided by experienced cardiac nurses and nurse practitioners who staff the Cardiac Services Unit.

RADIOFREQUENCY ABLATION AND CRYOABLATION

Some arrhythmias may be treated with radiofrequency ablation. This technique uses radio waves to painlessly eliminate the abnormal activity. Electrophysiologists insert a catheter

into the heart through a vessel and apply very high frequency waves to the problem area, heating it until the tissue is destroyed. Alternatively, the site can be eliminated by freezing it with an ultra-cold substance administered through a catheter.

PERMANENT PACEMAKERS AND CARDIAC DEFIBRILLATORS

A permanent pacemaker may be used if the heart's natural (CONTINUED ON PAGE 19)



Arrow Electronics Supports EP

Hospital President and CEO **Kevin F. Lawlor** (left) and Medical Director of Arrhythmia Service **Paul Maccaro**, MD (right) thanked hospital Trustee **Brian McNally**, President Arrow EMEA, for the company's generous \$30,000 contribution. The Arrow grant will be used to purchase a new EP Stimulator. This device is used to stimulate the heart in order to trigger a cardiac arrhythmia in a controlled laboratory setting. Electrophysiologists do this in order to diagnose life-threatening heart rhythm disturbances which they can treat with implantable pacemakers, medication, or radiofrequency ablation.

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A MEDICAL MISSION TO GRENADA

LECTROPHYSIOLOGIST

Kent Stephenson, MD, MPH, in Grenada recently on a medical mission to offer a cardiology clinic to residents of the small island nation, performed a life-saving pacemaker implantation. Working with St. George's

University School of Medicine in Grenada's Adult Visiting Cardiology Program (VCP), Dr. Stephenson performed the procedure on 65-year-old Maureen Wade, who was at risk for sudden cardiac death and needed a permanent pacemaker as soon as possible.



Kent Stephenson, MD, MPH, with patient **Maureen Wade.**

VCP Coordinator Dr. Johansen Sylvester, was able to obtain a pacemaker, leads and a device programmer at no charge from device manufacturer Medtronic.

Dr. Stephenson performed the implantation at the General Hospital. (CONTINUED ON PAGE 24)

Cover Story (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

in moving heart attack patients swiftly from the Emergency Department to the cath lab for this life-saving procedure. Known as “door-to-balloon time,” Huntington’s median time for restoring blood flow in cardiac patients is faster than the national standard.

“Patients begin to feel better almost immediately once the blocked vessel is opened,” explained **Raj Patcha, MD**, Site Director of Huntington’s Catheterization Laboratory.

With 11 interventional cardiologists on staff, and the support of North Shore-LIJ Health System, Huntington’s lab is ready to provide expert care during an emergency at any hour of the day or night.



Marco Papaleo, MD, checks on his patient in the Cardiac Cath holding area.

NURSE PRACTITIONERS PROVIDE CONTINUITY OF CARE

Cardiology nurse practitioners (NPs) provide on-site staffing for the Cardiac program, assisting the medical team with monitoring patients around-the-clock. The nurse practitioners have completed advanced training and education that enables them to assess patients, order diagnostic tests and prescribe medication when necessary. They work closely with each patient’s cardiologist to ensure seamless care throughout the hospitalization.

“The presence of cardiology nurse practitioners definitely enhances the quality of care that we provide,” said **Jeffrey Weigers, RN**, Director of Cardiac Services.

PREVENTIVE CARE EMPHASIZED

“The best way to survive a heart attack is to prevent it from ever occurring,” said Dr. Moulinie. That’s why Huntington’s cardiologists are focused on identifying individuals who may be at risk for heart disease, the leading cause of death for both men and women in the United States.

Adults should visit their primary care physicians for regular check-ups, and learn




Paul Moulinie, MD, Chief of Cardiology, visits with an inpatient in the hospital’s Coronary Intermediate Care Unit.

whether their blood pressure, cholesterol, and blood glucose levels are within the normal range. It is also important to maintain a healthy weight relative to height. This ratio determines body mass index (BMI), which correlates to overweight and obesity, risk factors for cardiac disease.

Those at risk for heart disease may be referred to a cardiologist for further diagnostic testing or ongoing monitoring. Huntington Hospital’s staff includes more than two dozen cardiologists, many of whom studied and trained at leading universities and hospitals.

For information about Huntington’s Cardiac Services Unit, or a referral to a Huntington Hospital primary care physician or cardiologist, please call (855) 855-4448. //

Echo Lab Tells the Story of the Heart

 **N ECHOCARDIOGRAM** uses sound waves to create a real-time, multi-dimensional moving image of the structure of the heart. By sweeping the probe back and forth across the chest, echocardiography technologists can visualize the valves, chambers and speed of the blood flowing through major vessels.

At Huntington Hospital, a well-trained, experienced staff of echocardiography technologists performs more than 4,000 studies each year. The tests are used to rule out heart disease in patients with shortness of breath, chest pain, or loss of consciousness, as well as to diagnose specific structural anomalies such as valvular heart disease or holes in the heart.

“Echocardiography tells the story of someone’s heart,” said Frederick Judd, Technical Director of Echocardiography. “Being a technologist is an art form. The test needs to be performed slowly and methodically in order to yield the best results.”

While the test is most often used to rule out heart problems so that clinicians can progress through the diagnostic process, Mr. Judd said that in rare cases, an unusual problem can be detected. Recently, echocardiography uncovered two tumors within a patient’s heart.

As individuals age, the heart’s valves become less pliable. Mr. Judd explained that this can cause blood to leak backwards through the valve, resulting in a heart murmur.

“If we scanned everybody, more often than not we’d find a murmur,” he said. “Most people have one. Some are more serious than others.”

Mr. Judd recommended that individuals undergo regular health screenings and checkups to monitor their heart’s health.

“You remember to change the oil in your car but forget about your heart,” he said. “It’s important to see your doctor periodically, so you know you don’t have a problem.”

As part of the Mariani Family Cardiology Center’s recent renovation and expansion, the hospital’s Echocardiography Laboratory will soon be relocated to an easily accessible area adjacent to the new Electrophysiology Department and Cardiac Catheterization Laboratories. Mr. Judd pointed out that the lab is fully accredited, with state-of-the-art digital equipment. Despite the high volume of tests performed, results are provided within 24 hours.

Its location within the hospital means that the staff is accustomed to performing tests on patients who are acutely ill or have cardiac issues or other complications. In addition to echocardiograms, the department also performs transesophageal echocardiograms, a more invasive exam in which the patient is given anesthesia and the

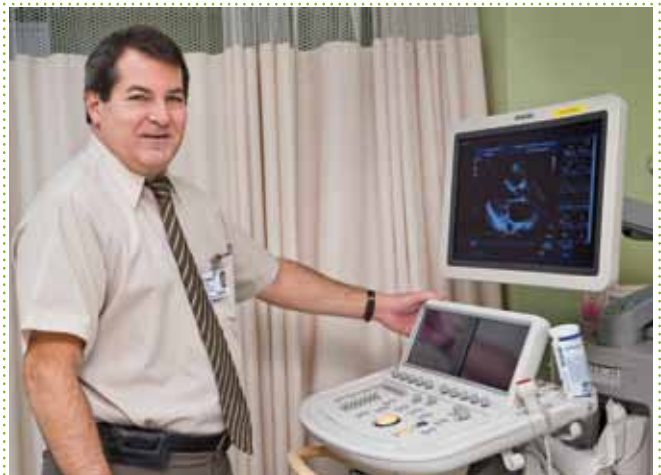
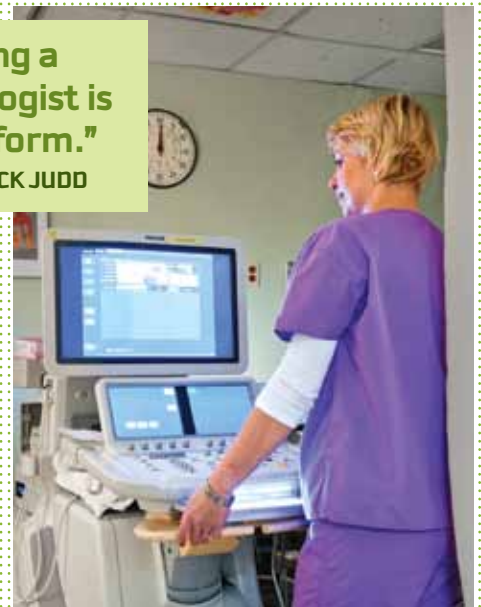
ultrasound probe is passed down the esophagus in order to obtain a closer look at the heart. Other tests include stress echos in which patients’ hearts are imaged under exercise conditions, typically while walking on a treadmill, as well as pharmacologic stress echos in which the heart rate is increased by using medication. This is useful for patients who are unable to walk on a treadmill.

With the opening of the second cardiac catheterization lab, Mr. Judd expects his department to become even busier. Despite this, the commitment to providing high quality imaging services and swift turn-around of test results will remain unchanged. //

“Being a technologist is an art form.”
—FREDERICK JUDD

Echocardiography technologist **Lana Belyaeva** performs a study on a patient.

Frederick Judd, Technical Director of Echocardiography.



HUNTINGTON EARNS NAT

One of Nine North Shore-LIJ Hospitals to be Recognized by Centers for Med



HUNTINGTON HOSPITAL was one of nine North Shore-LIJ Health System hospitals to be awarded more than \$814,000 by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. It was the highest monetary award for any health system participating in a national pay-for-performance (P4P) Hospital Quality Incentive Demonstration™ (HQID) project. Conducted by CMS and the Premier healthcare alliance, HQID is the first national project of its kind, designed to determine if economic incentives to hospitals are effective at improving the quality of inpatient care.

In New York State, Huntington achieved the highest monetary awards of any community hospital, and ranked fourth overall, along with three North Shore-LIJ Health System teaching hospitals. In the State, NSUH ranked number one and was followed by Staten Island University Hospital, LIJ Medical Center and Huntington which received \$122,318 in incentives.

Through the HQID project, Premier collects a set of more than 30 evidence-based clinical quality measures from the 225 hospitals across the country. The model includes financial incentives for 20

percent of hospitals in each of six clinical areas: acute myocardial infarction (AMI); coronary artery bypass graft (CABG); heart failure (HF); pneumonia (PN); hip and knee replacement (HK) and the surgical care improvement project (SCIP).

“As one of the largest healthcare providers in the New York metropolitan area, North Shore-LIJ Health System is proud that every one of our nine hospitals participating in this pay-for-performance project won an award in at least four clinical areas,” said **Michael J. Dowling**, the health system’s president and chief executive officer. “Our goal is to instill that same commitment to quality standards at each and every one of our facilities across the health system.”

For hospitals participating in the HQID project, the average Composite Quality Score (CQS), an aggregate of all process and outcomes measures within each clinical area, improved by 18.3 percent over the project’s first five years. Examples of the measures include the proper administering of aspirin, beta blockers and antibiotics; and readmission and mortality rates.



Huntington Doctors Teach Techniques to Visiting British Surgeon

British surgeon **David Floyd**, MD, (left) recently visited Huntington Hospital to learn first-hand about the latest breast reconstruction techniques including direct-to-implant mastectomy using a nipple sparing approach. Mr. Floyd observed a procedure performed by plastic and reconstructive surgeon **Ron Israeli**, MD, (right) breast surgeon **Erna Busch-Devereaux**, MD, (not pictured) and **Nikolas McEnerney**, RPA-C (center).

IONAL QUALITY AWARDS

icare & Medicaid Services as part of national pay-for-performance project

HUNTINGTON TAKES TOP HONORS

Over the past year, Huntington Hospital has achieved a great deal of third-party recognition, signifying its significant accomplishments in promoting healthcare quality, clinical excellence, and patient satisfaction. Following is a partial list of accolades the hospital has recently received.

- American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines® Stroke Gold Plus Performance Achievement Award
- Magnet Status in recognition of nursing excellence
- 5-East Nurses Named "Best Nursing Team" by Advance for Nurses Magazine
- Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval™ for health care quality in hip and knee replacement surgery

Additional research by Premier using the Hospital Compare dataset showed that, by September 2008, HQID participants scored on average 6.4 percentage points higher (95.05 percent to 88.64 percent) than non-participants when evaluating 19 common Hospital Compare measures. The hospital quality of care information gathered through the initiative is available to consumers on the Hospital Compare website at www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov.

"Here at Huntington, our focus has always been on doing the right things at the right time for all our patients," said Michael B. Grosso, MD, Sr. Vice President of Medical Affairs. "Our continual commitment to high quality healthcare is evidenced by this recognition."

"There's an emerging model of care in which patient outcomes will be tied to reimbursement," said Kenneth J. Abrams, MD, North Shore-LIJ's senior vice president of clinical operations and chief quality officer. "As healthcare providers, our goal is to make sure that patient care continues to improve. The HQID project is a step toward a national improvement." For complete information about the HQID project, visit www.qualitydemo.com. //

Message from the President (CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

potentially cancerous thyroid nodules.

In this publication you will meet [Jennifer Guadagno](#), who lost more than 160 pounds after undergoing bariatric surgery with [Dr. David Buchin](#). Dr. Buchin's holistic philosophy supports patients at every step in this life-transforming and health-enhancing process.

To our employees, we provide a challenging, stimulating and rewarding environment in which to grow personally and professionally while contributing to our vital mission. Reading about our Magnet Nurse Award winner, [Christine Guarnieri](#), it is apparent that this outstanding professional has seized every available opportunity to flourish in her chosen career here at Huntington.

To the community at large, we are a resource for health education, health promotion, and disease prevention. Throughout the year we offer free programs such as parenting education, cardiac screenings, skin cancer screening, smoking cessation, cancer survivorship forums, men's health screenings, numerous professionally led support groups, and a host of other timely and informative events. For a complete list please visit our website at www.joinus.hunthosp.org/lectures.

After reading this newsletter, I invite you to take the next step to strengthen your ties with Huntington Hospital. Call our new, toll-free physician referral number at 855-855-4448 to connect with one of our well-trained and skilled physicians.

Join us at our upcoming Great Parenting Series, Skin Cancer Screening or Cardiac Screening. Enjoy an evening of fun while supporting our mission by participating in our Strike Against Cancer bowling event or our night at an Islanders hockey game. Become a fan of our Facebook page for information about the hospital and timely health tips. Visit our website at www.hunthosp.org to learn more about the hospital or to make a charitable donation to support a vital patient care project of your choice.

While we may not be all things to all people, there is one thing that we will always be—your hospital, committed to providing you with the personalized healthcare that you and your family need and deserve. //

Chemoembolization Targets Liver Tumors with One-Two Punch



AVID AXELROD, MD, an interventional radiologist at Huntington Hospital, has begun offering chemoembolization, a minimally invasive technique that fights liver tumors on two levels, by both impeding their blood supply and delivering a targeted dose of chemotherapy directly to the cancer.

“The unique thing about many liver tumors is that the majority of their blood supply comes via the hepatic artery, while the majority of blood to healthy liver tissue comes through the portal vein,” explained Dr. Axelrod. This makes it easier to focus treatment on the tumor by concentrating on the hepatic artery.

Chemoembolization involves the insertion of tiny beads into the artery to prevent blood from flowing to the tumor, effectively cutting off the tumor’s source of nutrients necessary for growth. Making the treatment even more effective, one of the



David Axelrod, MD

latest advances in this technology allows the beads to slowly release chemotherapy drugs directly into the artery. This enables a higher and longer acting dose of cancer fighting agents to be delivered directly to the tumor, while minimizing systemic side effects such as hair loss often seen with traditional systemic chemo agents.

“The drug eluting beads release the medication slowly over about two weeks, as opposed to traditional intravenous medications which wash out of the system right away,” Dr. Axelrod said. “And this method allows us to deliver a more concentrated dose of medication than the tumor would otherwise see if the drug was given intravenously.”

Chemoembolization may be most appropriate for patients who are not candidates for surgery or have post-operative recurrence of their disease, but some are treated to stabilize the malignancy as they await transplant.

Patients whose tumor

occupies greater than 50% of the liver volume, those with an obstructed portal vein or who do not have relatively good liver function would not be considered ideal candidates for embolization, according to Dr. Axelrod. In some of these patients, particles without the chemotherapy, called bland embolization, may remain an option.

Because embolization is done under local anesthesia and sedation through a tiny incision in the skin rather than under general anesthesia in the operating room, the procedure is easier for patients to tolerate than a major operation. Real-time imaging guidance under fluoroscopy adds an additional measure of safety to the procedure as well as allowing for initial assessment of success.

“Embolization for primary and some types of metastatic liver tumors has been shown to prolong life in patients who are good candidates. Of at least equal importance, it does so while preserving quality of life due to the minimal side effects and short recovery time,” Dr. Axelrod said. “Chemoembolization patients don’t need to spend time in the hospital recovering from large incisions. Typically, an overnight stay is all that’s required.”

Immediately prior to joining Huntington Hospital in October, Dr. Axelrod was an attending physician and Clinical Assistant Professor of Radiology at SUNY Stony Brook. He completed fellowship training in Vascular and Interventional Radiology at Mt. Sinai Medical Center. He came to Huntington, he said, because it provided him with an opportunity to “collaborate with a team of excellent physicians in providing patients with sophisticated radiological care within a community setting.” //

Microscopic beads release chemotherapy drugs directly into the hepatic artery. The beads are color-coded by individual particle size.





Car Raffle Winner Congratulated

Bridget Driekonski (third from right) couldn't believe her ears when she received a telephone call informing her that she had won Huntington Hospital's annual car raffle, sponsored by Jaguar Huntington, Land Rover Huntington and Volvoville Huntington, members of the Long Island Automotive Group. Mrs. Driekonski and her husband, **Alex** (second from right), along with their children, **Alex John** and **Danielle** (in car), were congratulated by **Robert Mottola**, Vice President of Development at Huntington Hospital, **Michael Levitan**, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Long Island Automotive Group, and **Dawn Cames**, Land Rover Huntington General Manager.

Minimally Invasive Techniques ADVANCE THYROID SURGERY

ANINE ALFALLA fit the description of a typical thyroid patient. "The typical patient has no idea...no symptoms at all," said otolaryngologist Joshua Rosenthal, MD. So subtle were Janine's symptoms that she initially visited an allergist for treatment. He was the first to suspect that she might have a thyroid disorder and sent her for a scan.

The scan revealed that Janine had a nodule on her thyroid which might have been cancerous. Fortunately, she was referred to Dr. Rosenthal, who specializes in diagnosing and treating thyroid disorders. Dr. Rosenthal performed an ultrasound and needle biopsy in his office. He also performed an exam called elastography,

a specialized ultrasound that determines whether the tissue is elastic, like normal tissue, or stiff, like cancerous tissue. Dr. Rosenthal is one of only a handful of doctors in the region who has this advanced diagnostic technology within his office. The biopsy results were negative, but the nodule had some suspicious characteristics, including irregular borders, signs of calcification and increased blood flow.

Dr. Rosenthal suggested a wait and watch approach. When repeat tests five months later revealed that the nodule had grown, both Dr. Rosenthal and Janine agreed on surgery to remove the suspicious tissue.

Dr. Rosenthal performed a hemithyroidectomy, or removal of half the thyroid gland where the

nodule was located. Intraoperative diagnostic testing and specialized surgical tools allow Dr. Rosenthal to operate with greater precision and help his patients return home sooner. He uses a harmonic scalpel, which simultaneously cuts through and seals tissue to reduce pain and bleeding during surgery. Sophisticated laboratory testing helps identify patients who are at risk for a rapid and severe drop in their calcium levels following surgery. This information



Joshua Rosenthal, MD

allows Dr. Rosenthal to prescribe medication in order to prevent complications associated with calcium loss.

Minimally invasive thyroid removal involves endoscopic tools including miniature video cameras which are inserted into tiny incisions. Using these techniques, Dr. Rosenthal left Janine with a tiny, nearly undetectable scar.

"The old way of doing this surgery was to make a 3-to-4 inch incision across the neck," Dr. Rosenthal explained. Using minimally invasive techniques, Dr. Rosenthal is able to make an incision as small as 1 to 1.5 inches in patients with small nodules and lower suspicion of malignancy. Patients with thyroid cancer may require a slightly larger incision of between (CONTINUED ON PAGE 23)

WILLIAM GERHRARDT, MD, NAMED Medical Director of Dolan Family Health Center



WILLIAM GERHRARDT, MD, has been named medical director of Huntington Hospital's Dolan Family Health Center. In this role he will be responsible for oversight of all clinical services provided by the Center with the goal of providing consistently high quality, evidence-based, comprehensive primary care. Previously he served as the Center's Acting Director.

Dr. Gehrhardt has been a member of the hospital's Department of Pediatrics since 2002, devoting his clinical and leadership skills to the Dolan Center as Director of Pediatric Services. In that capacity, he has been involved in patient care, performance improvement initiatives, and education of

medical residents associated with the Steven and Alexandra Cohen Children's Hospital.

"Working with the patients and staff at the Dolan Center has been both professionally and personally rewarding experience for me," said Dr. Gehrhardt. "As medical director, I am looking forward to future opportunities, such as integrating students from the Hofstra – NSLIJ School of Medicine into the Center in order to further promote excellence in education and patient care."

"Dr. Gehrhardt has demonstrated superior clinical acumen, tireless energy, and unwavering commitment to promoting the best interests of the patients and families who call the Dolan Center their



William Gehrhardt, MD

medical home," said Michael B. Grosso, MD, Sr. Vice President of Medical Affairs.

After graduating medical school, Dr. Gehrhardt completed his training at SUNY Stony Brook, St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital Center, and North Shore University Hospital. His professional experience includes

working at the Nassau County Department of Health. He and his wife, Mary, live in Commack with their three children.

Huntington Hospital's Dolan Family Health Center is Long Island's only hospital-owned, privately funded, charitably supported primary healthcare center dedicated to meeting the healthcare needs of the uninsured and underinsured. Located in Greenlawn, New York, this free-standing center provides medical services, health education, and outreach in a manner that is culturally sensitive and helps to remove the geographic, financial, cultural and linguistic barriers to healthcare. It opened in October 1995 and recorded 28,000 patient visits in 2010. //



Porto Vivo Collects Holiday Gifts for Dolan Patients

Joy Mangano, owner of Porto Vivo Restaurant (kneeling with children), and members of her staff, including Executive Chef **Giuseppe Napoli**, Consulting Chef **John Doherty** (left and second from left) and Vice President of Operations **David Costa** (right), visited the Dolan Family Health Center, bringing holiday gifts for young patients. The gifts were donated by children who visited the restaurant during the month of December for Porto Vivo's weekly Brunch with Santa. They were thanked by **Kathy Giffuni**, RN, Dolan Center Nurse Manager, and **William Gehrhardt**, MD, Dolan Center Medical Director (third and second from right).

Michael Repice, MD, Named Chief of Department of Medicine



HEUMATOLOGIST MICHAEL REPICE, MD, has recently been named the new Chief of Department of Medicine at Huntington Hospital. Dr. Repice has been affiliated with the hospital and had a private practice in the Huntington community for 32 years.

As Chief of Medicine, Dr. Repice's main focus will be to ensure patient safety throughout the hospital.

"My ultimate goal as Chief of the Department of Medicine is really only one thing and that is to take care of people in the safest possible manner, to protect

patients and to make sure that everything we do in the hospital is in the best interest of the patients," Dr. Repice said.

As part of his role, Dr. Repice represents all physicians in the hospital's Department of Medicine. To help further the Department's commitment to patient safety, Dr. Repice has implemented a policy to include a different hospitalist and a different medical subspecialist at each of the numerous Quality Assurance

meetings Huntington Hospital holds.

Starting out at Huntington Hospital in 1978 as a private practitioner, Dr. Repice hadn't considered becoming involved in the administration of the hospital until he was appointed Chief of Division of Internal Medicine five years ago. Dr. Repice currently sits on Huntington Hospital's Medical Board, Pharmacy Committee, Laboratory Committee and Credentials Committee. He is a graduate of Georgetown University School of Medicine. //



Michael Repice, MD

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Hospital Supporters Celebrate at Crystal Ball

MORE THAN 400 guests enjoyed Huntington Hospital's annual gala, the Crystal Ball, at the beautiful Oheka Castle in Huntington. Featuring a casino, one-of-a-kind live and silent auction items and raffle prizes, the black-tie affair raised more than \$265,000 for the renovation of the hospital's Maternity Unit, where more than 1,500 babies are born each year.

Major sponsors of this year's event included Porsche Cars of North America, Atlantic Automotive Group, Frassanito

Jewelers, The Arlindo & Evelyn Jorge Family Foundation, Libutti Diamond Jewelers, and Huntington Hospital's Medical Staff.

The gala was organized by an energetic committee that included Kristine Colleluori, Huntington; Rebecca Griffiths, Northport; Meredith Hassett, Huntington; Jennifer Levinson, Huntington; Lisa McCartan, Cold Spring Harbor; Trish Rongo, Huntington; and Elizabeth Vaughan, Huntington. The committee was co-chaired by Nicole Gerberg, Huntington, and Rachel Spencer, Centerport. //

Jeannine and Jim Libutti (seated), owners of Libutti Jewelers, were joined by store employees Maggie Hinchliffe and Danielle Rounds.



Crystal Ball Gala Committee
Huntington Hospital President and CEO Kevin F. Lawlor (third from left) thanked Gala Committee members (left to right) Kristine Colleluori, Meredith Hassett, Jennifer Levinson, Rebecca Griffiths, Nicole Gerberg, Elizabeth Vaughan, Patricia Rongo, Rachel Spencer and Lisa McCartan for their hard work.





❖ Guests included (standing, left to right) Cary Kravet and his wife, Lisa; Hospital President and CEO Kevin F. Lawlor and his fiancée, Karen Chivattoni, and (seated, left to right) Jennifer and Nick Fitterman, MD, Amanda and Henry Olszewski, and Jeanne and Anthony Giaccone.



2



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6

1 The event featured a display of exciting Porsche cars and a chance for one lucky guest to win a Porsche driving experience.

2 Among the many physicians who supported the Crystal Ball were Ann Sacks-Berg, MD, Chief, Infectious Disease, cardiologist Douglas Byrnes, MD, Medical Staff President, and his wife, Kathleen.

3 Enjoying the evening's festivities were (standing,

left to right) Joyce and Clifford Friedman, Noah Finkel, MD, and Risa Finkel, Katherine Yland, MD, and Michael Grosso, MD, and (seated, left to right) David Zitner and Deborah Zitner, MD, Felicia Callan, MD, and Thomas Callan, Cathleen Scanlon and Robert Scanlon, MD.

4 A steady beat drew guests to the dance floor throughout the evening.

5 A just for fun casino imbued the gala with a Monte Carlo atmosphere.

6 Karen Chivattoni, Kevin F. Lawlor, Jo-An and Ron Gaudreault enjoyed the opportunity to socialize.

2010 GALA

Crystal Ball

Thanks to our generous sponsors, more than \$265,000 was raised for the renovation of Huntington Hospital's Maternity Unit.

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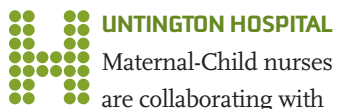
GALA VICE CHAIRS

Nicole Gerberg, Rachel Spencer

GALA COMMITTEE

Kristine Colleluori, Rebecca Griffiths,
Meredith Hassett, Jennifer Levinson,
Lisa McCartan, Trish Rongo, Elizabeth Vaughan

GPS SERIES HELPS NEW MOMS NAVIGATE THE FIRST SIX MONTHS



HUNTINGTON HOSPITAL

Maternal-Child nurses are collaborating with the Suffolk YJCC to create an educational/support program designed to help new mothers successfully navigate the first six months of their newborn's life, and to identify and reach out to those who may be at risk for postpartum depression. The project has been funded in part by the Sommer Hochberg Fund of UJA Federation of New York.

The project is called GPS (Great Parenting Series), and it features a series of four classes, each with a distinct focus. The first session is "Getting to Know your Newborn" and offers information on bath and skin care,

baby's cries, sleep, and diapers. "Taking Care of Yourself" is the topic of the second session, which will cover realistic expectations as well as recognizing postpartum depression. The third session deals with baby's growth and development in the first six months of life. The series concludes with a resource fair featuring exercise specialists from the YJCC, nutritionists and massage therapists from Huntington Hospital, information on CPR training and other parenting classes, and distribution of a resource directory created as part of the grant. At the conclusion of the series, a professionally led postpartum depression support group



will be established to provide women at risk for this disorder with a safe and therapeutic environment in which to share their feelings.

"Few people are prepared to deal with the debilitating

depression that affects up to 13 percent of new mothers in the first year after giving birth," said Susan Goldman, RN, MSN, BC, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Maternal Child. "Despite the prevalence of PPD, there is a lack of free or low-cost resources to help new mothers identify and address the issue."

The four-session GPS Program begins on March 11 and meets on consecutive Fridays from 1 – 3:00 PM in the Murcott Conference Center, located at the Dolan Family Health Center at 284 Pulaski Road in Greenlawn. For additional information or to register for this free program, call (855) 855-4448. //



Knockout Fashions Supports Thrift Shop

Cathy Draskin, (far right) owner of Knockout Fashions in Huntington, ran a used clothing drive to benefit the Huntington Community Thrift Shop. She urged her customers to donate their gently used clothing, which she in turn donated to the shop, designating Huntington Hospital as the beneficiary. Thanking Ms. Draskin for her efforts were (left to right) Dolly Sorensen, Thrift Shop Manager, Valerie Tyner, Account Executive, Long Island Radio Group, who helped coordinate the clothing drive, Harriet Miller, Huntington Hospital Thrift Shop Chairman, and Shop volunteers Mary St. John, Theresa Caruso, Lois Kfoury, Joanne Grover, and Adrianna Stevens.

Christine Guarnieri Wins Prestigious



UMBLE. DRIVEN. Patient-focused.

Educated. Compassionate. Motivated. These are just a few of the adjectives that have been used to describe Huntington Hospital's 2010 Magnet Nurse Award winner **Christine Guarnieri, RN.**

Ms. Guarnieri came to nursing as a second career, after working as an executive administrator and graphic arts salesperson for a multinational company in Manhattan. Following the birth of her daughter, she decided it was time for a transition so she began taking night classes with the goal of becoming a social worker. But an insightful college counselor suggested she consider nursing instead. It turned out to be a perfect fit.

"It has been said that you don't choose nursing, it chooses you," Ms. Guarnieri commented. "If you want to inspire people, share your knowledge, help others and really have their best interest at heart, nursing is a great profession."

It took Ms. Guarnieri seven years to become a nurse. As a single parent working in Manhattan, she could only manage one course at a time.

Although the schedule was grueling, she was determined to succeed. "When

you are pursuing your goal and you have passion and a desire to succeed, you just go and keep going," she said.

Ms. Guarnieri joined Huntington Hospital in 2006. One year later she transferred to the hospital's Don Monti Oncology Unit, where she cares for cancer patients. Soon after, she enrolled in a bachelor's to master's nursing program at Stony Brook University. This year she earned her BSN with an additional 12 credits towards a master's degree.

Her commitment to continuing education is one of the qualities that make her a Magnet Nurse. In addition to pursuing her degree, she frequently attends continuing education programs and conferences to enhance her skills. Ms. Guarnieri is a willing mentor to her peers, creating Powerpoint presentations to share what she has

learned with her colleagues. Although she is relatively new to nursing, she regularly mentors novice nurses as a preceptor.

After two years on the oncology unit, Ms. Guarnieri studied for and passed both the Oncology Certification and Gerontology Certification exams. She now encourages other nurses to become certified in their subspecialty fields.

She has earned a reputation as someone who is an advocate for her patients and her fellow nurses.

"Promoting a culture of teamwork, collegiality and holism is something she does without thought," said Marie Brennan, RN, Nurse Manager of the Don Monti Oncology Unit.

She recently completed cross-training to enable her to fill in at the Women's Health Center when needed.

WHAT IS THE MAGNET PROGRAM?

As one of an elite group of hospitals in the nation to achieve Magnet status from the American Nurses Credentialing Committee, Huntington Hospital's nurses have been recognized for excellence. Huntington is the only hospital on Long Island to have achieved Magnet recognition two consecutive times. The hospital's annual Magnet Award honors an exemplary nurse who embodies the key qualities necessary to achieve Magnet designation.

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Magnet Nurse Award



Christine Guarnieri, RN

“She does patient education with a command of this discipline as if she had been here for years,” said Judy Koles, RN, OCN, CBCN, Coordinator of the Women’s Health Center.

Her caring nature extends beyond the walls of the hospital to the community at large, where she is an active volunteer. Realizing the extent of need within the Huntington community, she spearheaded an ongoing, year-round food drive and delivers food to local pantries. She has also volunteered at the American Cancer Society’s “Look Good...Feel Better” program; Huntington Hospital’s annual Skin Cancer and Men’s Health screenings; and the hospital’s Cancer Survivor’s Day.

Within the hospital, Ms. Guarnieri is an active participant on the Ethics Committee, Nursing Research and Evidenced Based Nursing Practice Council, Complementary Medicine/ Holistic Nursing Committee, and the

Service Excellence Committee. She also participates in a hospital-sponsored leadership class with the expectation that she will assume a leadership role within the institution.

“To see Christine in action is to watch someone evolve from novice to expert and beyond,” said Deborah Feehan, MS, RN, CHPN, C, nursing administrator and one of three nurses who nominated Ms. Guarnieri for this award. “Her patients, families and fellow staff benefit from her dedication, her desire for personal growth and contributions to society and the profession of nursing as a whole.”

In the true spirit of the Magnet Award, patients are the ultimate beneficiaries of Ms. Guarnieri’s exemplary skills and dedication.

“Every day we encounter people who are sick and look to us for guidance, attention, and care,” she said. “If I can make one ounce of difference in somebody’s life, then I’ve done my job.” //

Electrophysiology Labs

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

pacemaker is found to no longer function effectively. Implanted under the skin, a pacemaker sends electrical signals to the heart to regulate its beat. An implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) slows a too-rapid heartbeat by delivering a small electric shock after it senses that a heart is exceeding the programmed rate.

ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES

Those who have suffered heart failure in the past may be treated with cardiac resynchronization therapy, during which a specialized biventricular pacemaker or ICD improves pumping effectiveness by re-coordinating the movements of the left and right ventricles.

Arrhythmias can also be detected by an implantable loop recorder, which is inserted under the skin in the upper chest area during a process that takes under half an hour. To determine whether or not a patient is at increased risk for sudden cardiac arrest due to dangerous arrhythmias, a non-invasive T-wave alternans study takes measurements using electrocardiogram tracing.

“Our lab is one of the most technologically advanced in the country,” said Dr. Maccaro. The “cockpit” design puts all of the necessary tools in the physicians’ reach, and displays all relevant images and monitoring results on a six-screen ceiling mounted display. //



Range Rover Donates Safari Animals to Dolan Patients

Dawn Cames, General Manager, Range Rover Huntington (left) and Michael Levitan, Long Island Automotive Group Vice President and COO (kneeling) were thanked by three of the Dolan Family Health Center’s young patients along with **Kathy Giffuni**, RN, Dolan Center Nurse Manager and **William Gehrhardt**, MD, Dolan Center Medical Director, for their donation of stuffed safari animals. As part of a holiday promotion, Range Rover donated one plush toy for every plush toy that was purchased by visitors to their showroom.

WEIGHT LOSS SURGERY PROVIDES A CHAN

ANYONE WHO HAS ever tried to diet knows how difficult, frustrating, and ultimately ineffective dieting can be. This is especially true for those who have a significant amount of weight to lose, in the range of 100 pounds or more.

Jennifer Guadagno knew that frustration well. She had tried many diets over the course of her 37 years, and her weight had ricocheted up and down. When a coworker revealed that she had undergone weight loss surgery a number of years earlier, with lasting success, Ms. Guadagno decided to investigate.

A look through her insurance company's website led her to bariatric surgeon David Buchin, MD, FACS. Intending to meet with him as a preliminary step in

her early research, Ms. Guadagno instead decided immediately to schedule her surgery with Dr. Buchin.

"I went to his office on a fact-finding mission," she recalled. "But I felt so comfortable speaking with him and Sophia (Sophia McLeod, Physician Assistant), that I didn't even look at other doctors. I came home, discussed it with my family, and that was it."

The initial meeting paved the way for next steps, which began with conversations about her history of weight loss and weight gain, the various surgical weight loss options, and selecting the best option for her. Ms. Guadagno elected to undergo gastric bypass surgery, which Dr. Buchin performed laparoscopically



Jennifer Guadagno (inset) Before her bariatric surgery and after

What Bariatric Surgery Can Do

Bariatric surgery is a powerful tool which helps individuals achieve safe permanent weight loss and a healthier way of life. Dr. Buchin and his team offer a comprehensive treatment program designed to help patients with all aspects of treatment, before and after surgery. In addition to providing support through experienced nutritionists, psychologists, and other healthcare specialists, we also offer free informational seminars and support groups.

NEW WEIGHT LOSS PROCEDURE: LAPAROSCOPIC SLEEVE GASTRECTOMY

Dr. Buchin was the first bariatric surgeon on Long Island to offer the Laparoscopic Sleeve Gastrectomy and he remains one of only a few surgeons in the area to offer this technique. He also performs the following procedures:

- Single incision and laparoscopic gastric banding surgery (Lap Band and Realize Band)
- Conversions of Lap Band to Sleeve Gastrectomy or Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass
- Laparoscopic roux-en-y gastric bypass
- Revisional bariatric surgery including Stomaphyx

BENEFITS OF BARIATRIC SURGERY

Ninety percent of bariatric surgery patients lose at least 50% of their excess body weight. According to a landmark study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), bariatric surgery has been shown to be an effective long-term weight loss treatment for morbidly obese patients. After surgery, the study showed that:

- Type 2 diabetes went into remission in 76.8% of patients and significantly improved in 86%
- Hypertension was eliminated in 61.7% of patients and significantly improved in 78.5% of patients
- High cholesterol was reduced in more than 70% of patients
- Sleep apnea was eliminated in 85.7% of patients
- Joint disease, asthma and infertility were also dramatically improved.
- Surgery patients lost between 62 and 75 percent of excess weight and reported improved self-esteem and increased energy

ATTEND A FREE SEMINAR TO LEARN MORE

Dr. Buchin offers a free educational seminar on weight loss surgery on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Please visit liobesitysurgery.com for a schedule of upcoming events, or call Dr. Buchin at (631) 351-2024.

CE TO LIVE LIFE

through a series of tiny incisions.

Since her surgery in July 2009, Ms. Guadagno has lost more than 160 pounds, undergoing a life-altering transformation.

"I look at the pictures of myself and I can't believe it," she said. She now has the energy and ability to enjoy activities that most people take for granted.

"I really enjoy shopping now, and pay more attention to the styles of clothing," she said. "The first time I was able to take my little one to the playground and crawl through the tunnel with her was an unbelievable feeling."

After surgery, there are dietary and lifestyle modifications that must be followed to ensure success. But Ms. Guadagno did not find it difficult to adhere to them.

"I was very comfortable with changing my lifestyle," she said. "I really needed to learn not just portion size, but how to proportion meals the right way, to make sure I'm getting enough protein and nutrients."

A mother of two, Ms. Guadagno was fortunate that her weight had not yet resulted in significant health problems.

"My mom has had some health problems because of her weight," she revealed. "I'm convinced that my health would have definitely been impacted if I didn't make the change."

Family support was very important to Ms. Guadagno, as was the personalized care she received from Dr. Buchin and his team. "Dr. Buchin and Sophia were very supportive," she said. "Sometimes you don't feel a connection with your doctor, but they make you feel like you are part of their lives."

Based on her experience, she would encourage others struggling to lose 100 pounds or more to consider surgery. "You can't let your fears always hold you back," she advised. "You have to learn how to live life." //

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Sons of Italy Supports Emergency Department Expansion

With the proceeds from their successful dinner dance and fashion show at Larkfield Manor, representatives of the Perry Como Lodge of the Sons of Italy made a generous donation to support the expansion and renovation of Huntington Hospital's Emergency Department. **Maureen Ibrahim**, RN, Emergency Department Assistant Nurse Manager (left) and **Robert Mottola**, Vice President of Development (fourth from left) thanked Sons of Italy members (left to right) **Lucille Catanese**, Lodge President **Gabriel Ciccone**, **Regina Bordonaro**, **Carol Nucci**, **Carole C. Lucca**, **Debra M. Sciacca**, and **Rosemarie Kluepfel**.

Healthier Tomorrows Gives Kids THE KEYS TO A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

HILDREN AND adolescents come in all shapes and sizes, and that is completely normal. However, doctors have begun to realize that the eating and exercise habits that we establish during childhood can remain with us for life and impact on our health in both childhood and adulthood.

That's why Huntington Hospital partnered with the Huntington YMCA to create "Healthier Tomorrows," a program that teaches young people ages 9 – 16 about healthy eating and supports them in finding fun ways to be physically active and fit.

"Nobody is advocating putting children on a diet," said pediatrician Thomas McDonagh, MD, Medical Director of the project. "Instead what we've tried to do is find an enjoyable way to help children establish healthy habits that will last throughout their lives."

In the four years since the

program began, it seems to have achieved that goal. More than 200 children have gone through the program. While not all have experienced weight loss, that was not necessarily the objective, according to Dr. McDonagh. Instead, many of the participants reported increased knowledge, increased participation in physical activity, and improved self-esteem.

Healthier Tomorrows meets twice weekly for 15 weeks. The children begin the session with exercise supervised by a YMCA exercise specialist. Using the YMCA facility allows the children to participate in a wide range of activities such as swimming, obstacle course, rock wall climbing, and indoor and outdoor games.

"I have lots of fun there," reported 11-year-old Amanda Montelione, who says her favorite activities are the obstacle course and playing dodgeball.

Following the exercise session, the children meet with either a nutritionist to learn about healthy food choices, or a psychologist to talk about their feelings and focus on their self-esteem.

"During the nutrition discus-



Amanda Montelione

Kaylee Rannazzisi

sion you talk about healthy ways to eat and order food at restaurants," said Amanda.

Her friend, Kaylee Rannazzisi, 9, said that she has learned a lot during the nutrition sessions. "I learned that some foods that I like could have a lot of carbs and that if you have too much of your favorite food you can gain a lot of weight."

During the group discussion, participants talk about their

own feelings but also learn how to deal with others. "You talk about how you feel about the program and what is going on in your life," said Amanda. "In group discussion I learned that you should always respect other people's feelings."

The program has undergone slight changes since it began in response to participant feedback and to ensure that it is relevant to the needs of children and their families. The next 15-week session, which begins on March 1, will include a component for parents in an effort to support the entire family in making healthy lifestyle choices.

There is a nominal \$10 per week fee for the program. For additional information or to register, please call 855-855-4448. Registration forms may also be downloaded from Huntington Hospital's website at www.hunthosp.org.

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Prime Tree Lighting Kicks Off Holiday Season

Prime Restaurant in Huntington kicked off the holiday season with the lighting of a huge spruce tree on the restaurant's waterfront deck. With help from (left to right) Town Council members Glenda Jackson, Susan Berland and Mark Cuthbertson, Prime co-owner Michael Bohlsen (center) welcomed special guests Frank Petrone, Huntington Town Supervisor, and hospital President and CEO Kevin F. Lawlor (right). Honoring the important role the hospital plays in the health of the entire community, Mr. Bohlsen used the tree lighting as an opportunity to present the hospital with a \$5,000 donation.

Techniques Advance Thyroid Surgery

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11)

1.5-2.5 inches so that lymph nodes can be removed at the same time to permit more comprehensive management.

While thyroid cancer is on the increase, according to Dr. Rosenthal, the death rate associated with thyroid cancer is not increasing.

"We don't fully understand the mechanisms causing the rise, but thyroid cancer remains highly treatable," he said. Thyroid nodules are fairly common, occurring more often in women than men, and often targeting adults between 20 and 60. However, Dr. Rosenthal says that only 20 percent of nodules are malignant.

Janine considers herself lucky to be one of the 80 percent with a benign condition. Even so, she remains under Dr. Rosenthal's watchful care, as does her mother who also had a thyroid nodule removed by another surgeon several years ago.

"My mother's scar is 6 or 7 inches across her neck," said Janine.

An Islip resident, Janine says she would "travel anywhere to see Dr. Rosenthal.

"His bedside manner is just amazing. He made me feel comfortable when I was nervous," she said.

As the mother of two young sons, Janine says that she feels fortunate that her condition was detected and treated even before she had obvious symptoms.

"If we didn't take it out, it doesn't mean it wouldn't have turned to cancer," she said. "I think I was really lucky to find it when I did." //

HUNTINGTON HOSPITAL PRESENTS STRIKE AGAINST CANCER TO BENEFIT HUNTINGTON HOSPITAL'S DON MONTI CANCER CENTER

Thursday, March 10, 2011 • 7:00 PM-10:00 PM

300 Long Island, 895 Walt Whitman Road, Melville

\$45.00 includes unlimited bowling, shoes, and buffet dinner

\$20.00 for non bowlers includes dinner

Corporate Teams are Welcome (5-8 bowlers per team)

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE



Bring your friends, family and co-workers for an evening of fun in support of vital cancer services!

For information or to register call (631) 470-5204, visit www.hunthosp.org or e-mail dbross@hunthosp.org

A Mission to Grenada

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

The surgery was successful and Ms. Wade was discharged within two days.

“Two weeks prior it had been said that it would be a miracle if this worked out. I said ‘We have to try,’” said Dr. Sylvester. The surgery was the second pacemaker implantation to be done in Grenada in 2010. Prior to these, none had been done since 2007.

In addition to the clinical component of the trip, nurses and other staff members in the hospital’s Electrophysiology contributed to the mission by donating supplies to the Queen Elizabeth Home for Children in Tempe St. George. //

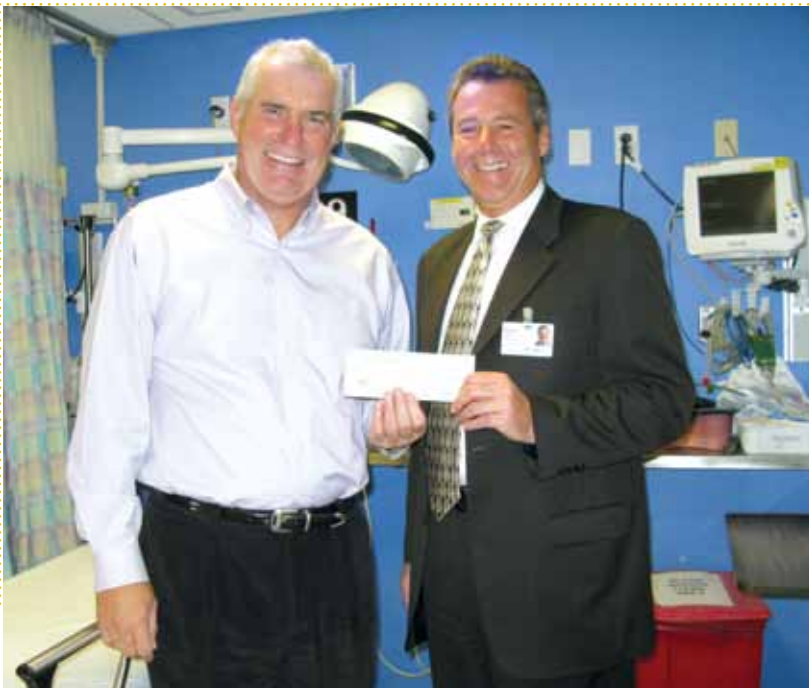
SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT US!

Massage Therapy by Diana

Receive a 1 hour massage for \$55, and \$5 of your cost will be donated to Huntington Hospital’s Women’s Health Center



210 East Main Street, Huntington • Call 631-335-2674



Clark Gillies Makes a Gift to Children's Emergency Center

NHL Hall-of-Famer and retired New York Islander Clark Gillies (left) recently visited the hospital's Clark Gillies Children's Emergency Care Center and presented a \$50,000 donation to hospital President and CEO Kevin F. Lawlor. The funds were raised by the Clark Gillies Foundation and are part of the Foundation's \$250,000 gift to build and equip the Children's Emergency Center.



Auxiliary Donates More Than \$200,000 in '10

Kevin F. Lawlor, hospital President and CEO (left) gratefully accepted the hospital Auxiliary's \$212,243 donation. This represents the total of the Auxiliary's multiple fundraising initiatives throughout 2010, including funds raised through lobby sales, telephone and television rental, and other special events. The donation was presented by (second from left to right) Auxiliary Executive Committee members Edna Fetkowitz, President; Evelyn Darby, Secretary; Jackie Port, VP, Fundraising; Anita Rizzo, VP, Advocacy and Outreach; and Tom Rizzo, Treasurer.

FREE WEIGHT LOSS SURGERY INFORMATION SEMINAR



Obesity can shorten your life and can lead to life-threatening health problems such as cancer, heart disease, stroke, sleep apnea and diabetes. Are you willing to take that chance? Come meet **Dr. David Buchin**, Director of Bariatric Surgery at Huntington Hospital, and our bariatric surgery team at a free educational seminar.

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDE:

- Reasons some people are overweight
- Effects of obesity on your health
- Results of weight reduction surgery and its impact on your health
- Surgical options for weight control
- Lap Gastric Band
- Lap Gastric Bypass
- Lap Sleeve Gastrectomy

For additional dates or more info, please visit liobesitysurgery.com or call 631-351-2024

OUR NEXT SEMINARS WILL BE:

March 8 & 22, April 12 & 26
Tuesdays at 5:00 pm

1-South Conference Room
Huntington Hospital
270 Park Avenue,
Huntington, NY 11743



North Shore LIJ Huntington Hospital
Hope lives here.™



VIEW FROM THE CHAIR BERNARD M. ROSOF, MD

Chairman, Board of Trustees

ONE OF THE MOST important functions of Huntington Hospital's voluntary Board of Trustees is to identify the critical issues that impact on the health of our community, and to respond by establishing goals that will enhance the community's health.

We are guided in part by the national focus on healthcare quality, which emphasizes three pillars — better care, affordable care and healthy people/healthy communities. Patient and family engagement in healthcare delivery are essential in order to achieve these goals. The National Quality Forum notes that healthcare should honor each individual patient and family, offering voice, control, choice, skills in self-care and total transparency, and should adapt readily to individual and family circumstances. All patients, their families, and their caregivers should have access to the tools and support necessary to navigate, coordinate, and manage their care effectively. Patients, their families, and caregivers should also have access to information and assistance

that enables them to make informed decisions about their treatment options. Lastly, all patients, their families and caregivers should be asked for feedback on their experience of care.

We currently ask our patients to complete a survey assessing their satisfaction with various aspects of their hospital care. In addition, I have recently formed a subcommittee of the Board which will be chaired by Trustee **Carmela Anglim**. This subcommittee will work with the nursing staff and administration to better understand the factors affecting the patient's care experience and share this information with all caregivers.

Patients are at the center of everything we do; they are the common thread in the care continuum. The patient's experience is a reflection of the quality, safety, access and reliability of care delivered. We look forward to reports from our new committee and to achieving even greater transparency and collaboration among all caregivers as a result. //



ONGOING EVENTS

Breast Cancer Support Group I
For women newly diagnosed in the past year
Meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month

5:30PM • Women's Health Center

Call Gail Probst, RN, AOCN at (631) 351-2568 or Judy Koles, RN, OCN, CBCN at (631) 351-2564

Breast Cancer Support Group II
For women who have been diagnosed more than one year ago

Meets the 3rd Thursday of each month (no meetings in July and Aug.)

7:00 – 9:00PM • 1-South Conference Rm

Call Toni Lico at (631) 757-4581 for info

Grupo de Apoyo de Mujeres

Latinas con cancer en los senos

Pare mas informacion, por favor de llamara Carmen a (631) 951-6908

Ostomy Support Group

Meets 3rd Monday of each month (except Jan., Feb., July and Aug.)

7:30PM • 1-South Conference Room

If you do not receive a notice by mail prior to the meeting, please call 351-2374

Nicotine Anonymous – Ann's Hope

A 12-step fellowship of men and woman helping each other to lead nicotine-free lives.

Meets every Wednesday
7:30 – 8:30PM • Trailer #1

For more info, call Patti Aliperti at (631) 385-1410

Oncology Support Group

Meets every Wednesday
7:00 – 9:00PM • Women's Health Center

For info, call Sue Degnan, LMSW, OSW-C, NBFC (631) 351-2013 or Mary Gordon, RN (631) 351-2343

**HUNTINGTON HOSPITAL'S
PRESCRIPTION
FOR PARKING PROBLEMS**

**Monday – Friday
7am – 6pm**

MAIN ENTRANCE



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

ALL EVENTS
ARE FREE

2/24 "Learn to be Tobacco Free"

Smoking Cessation Program

6 – 7:15PM • Dolan Family Health Center

Meets for six consecutive Thursdays.
Reunion April 14

Free medications, nicotine patches, nasal sprays provided by the Suffolk County Department of Health. Sponsored by the Suffolk County Department of Health.

To register, contact Irene Housley, RN, at (631) 351-2385.

2/28 Sisters of Greater Long Island

An African-American Breast Cancer Survivor's Organization

7PM • Huntington Hospital

For information, call Ronice at (631)-253-0430, Judy at (631) 991-0186 or Cynthia at (631) 351-2343

3/21 Bereavement Support Group

7 – 9PM • Women's Health Center

Meets Mondays for 8-week sessions. For information, please call Sue Degnan, LMSW, OSW-C at (631) 351-2013.

2/28 WomenHeart of Huntington

Offers support and education for women living with heart disease

2 – 3PM • Dolan Family Health Center

For additional information, please call (631) 499-4160 or (631) 271-3766

3/8 Obesity Surgery Seminar

5 – 6PM • 1-South Conference Rm.

Find out if you are a candidate for bariatric surgery, learn about the surgical procedures and realistic expectations for weight loss. Bring your family and friends. Bariatric surgeon David Buchin, MD, FACS, will answer all of your questions. For additional information call (631) 351-2024 or visit www.liosurgery.com.

3/22 Obesity Surgery Seminar

5 – 6PM • 1-South Conference Rm.

See 3/8 for more details.

3/28 WomenHeart of Huntington

Offers support and education for women living with heart disease

2 – 3PM • Dolan Family Health Center

For additional information, please call (631) 499-4160 or (631) 271-3766

PHYSICIANS IN THIS ISSUE

This issue of the **HEALTHLINE** features a number of Huntington Hospital's talented attending medical staff. Their names, phone numbers and areas of specialization are listed below.

Please see pages 4-5 for a list of cardiologists.

David Axelrod, MD

Interventional Radiology :: 351-2351

David Buchin, MD

Bariatric Surgery :: 351-2024

William Gehrhardt, MD

Pediatrics :: 425-5250

Thomas McDonagh, MD

Pediatrics :: 425-2110

Michael Repice, MD

Rheumatology :: 271-1640

Joshua Rosenthal, MD

Otolaryngology (ENT) :: 923-1900

3/10 Controlling Diabetes

Diabetes Education Series

Speaker: tbd

7PM • Dolan Family Health Center

For information, call Virginia Smith, RN, at 631-547-7179. Registration is not required. Sessions are free! Speakers are subject to change.

4/7 Vasculitis Support Group

6:30PM • Dolan Family Health Center

For additional information, please call (631) 335-0979 or visit www.wix.com/longislandchapter/vasculitis

3/11 GPS: Great Parenting Series

Support and education for new mothers

1 – 3PM • Dolan Family Health Center

For additional information or to register, please call (631) 470-5201.

4/11 Sisters of Greater Long Island

An African-American Breast Cancer Survivor's Organization

7PM • Babylon Pool & Recreation Center, Phelps Lane, Deer Park

For information, call Ronice at (631)-253-0430, Judy at (631) 991-0186 or Cynthia at (631) 351-2343

3/14 Sisters of Greater Long Island

An African-American Breast Cancer Survivor's Organization

7PM • Babylon Pool & Recreation Center, Phelps Lane, Deer Park

For information, call Ronice at (631)-253-0430, Judy at (631) 991-0186 or Cynthia at (631) 351-2343

4/12 Obesity Surgery Seminar

5 – 6PM • 1-South Conference Rm.

See 3/8 for more details.

HUNTINGTON HOSPITAL

270 Park Avenue

Huntington, NY 11743



Preventing an emergency is always better than surviving one. Huntington Hospital's membership in North Shore-LIJ gives you direct access to one of the country's largest and most respected integrated academic health systems—and the recipient of the 2010 National Quality Forum Healthcare Award. Let our network of expert cardiologists and state-of-the-art preventive services help you avoid an emergency introduction. Call (855) 855-4448 to get connected with a physician who can assess your risk of heart disease.

“Unfortunately, too many people meet me like this.”

– Brian C. Strizik, MD, Interventional Cardiologist

C A R D I A C S E R V I C E S

North
Shore LIJ Huntington Hospital
Hope lives here.™

Call (855) 855-4448 to find a physician. Or visit hunthosp.org/cardiac for more information.