FALL/WINTER 2019

FOUNDATIONS

A publication for the friends of The Eddy, Albany Memorial Hospital, Samaritan Hospital, and St. Mary's Campus

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Robot-assisted Minimally Invasive Surgery

Major Gifts Campaign to Fund New da Vinci Surgical System at Samaritan

Archeological evidence and anthropologic studies have indicated that crude surgical procedures existed even in prehistoric times, thousands of years before "barber surgeons" performed gruesome operations during the Middle Ages — oftentimes with not very positive outcomes!

It wasn't until the 19th century that modern surgery, as we know it, was introduced, thanks to the use of anesthesia and antiseptics.

As the 20th century approached, scientific advances had significant impact on the field of surgery. Discoveries such as X-rays and antibiotics improved the chances for successful outcomes, yet for decades, surgery was still being performed through large incisions that could accommodate a surgeon's hands and hand-held tools

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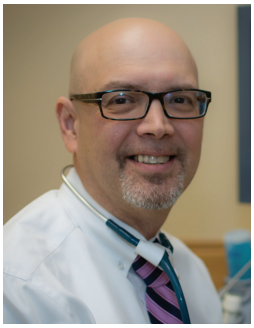

Each year, the Northeast Health Foundation provides millions of dollars to Albany Memorial Hospital, Samaritan Hospital, St. Mary's Campus, and The Eddy as we strive to offer the best care to residents of our community. Here are some examples of how those dollars are used:

- Purchase of the new da Vinci XI to enable Samaritan Hospital to improve patient care and clinical outcomes, increase operational efficiency, promote surgeon engagement/recruitment/retention, and remain competitive within our region.
- Support of our state-of-the-art Hildegard Medicus Cancer Center at the St. Mary's Campus offering medical oncology, hematology, and infusion services.
- Renovation of the radiation oncology services at Samaritan Hospital, including a new linear accelerator.
- Acquisition of new equipment and technology at the Albany Memorial Hospital emergency department to better serve the nearly 42,000 patients seen annually.
- Free educational programs to families caring for elderly loved ones.
- Scholarship programs to support nursing students, staff members and summer campers.
- Early access to free prenatal services to ensure healthier pregnancies and stronger babies.

Also, we are embarking on two major campaigns within Eddy Senior Living. In Niskayuna, plans call for The Terrace at Glen Eddy to undergo renovations, including a new, larger dining room, enhanced front entrance portico, and expanded library. At The Glen at Hiland Meadows in Queensbury, a project is planned to bring much-needed residential memory care to the campus.

In addition, Eddy Senior Living plans to pursue certification for "enhanced assistive living" which means that independent and assisted living residents will be able to age in place and, in some cases, avoid the need to move to a higher level of care.

As always, we thank you for your ongoing support that enables us to continue to provide the highest quality care to those we serve. Please know that your generosity makes a very real difference to so many people across our vast network of services.

Robert Benton, MD, FACC, CPI
Chairman
Northeast Health Foundation

Interested in receiving our newsletter electronically? Just send us an email at Melissa.M.Phillips@sphp.com.

Make sure you include your name and email address and we will add you to our email list. Or, if you wish to have your name removed from our fundraising request list, please call us at *(518) 482-4433*. You can also email Melissa.M.Phillips@sphp.com.

Robot-assisted Minimally Invasive Surgery

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like a scalpel. Such open surgeries required overnight hospitalizations, and meant greater pain, greater chance for infection, and longer recovery times.

Today, thanks to innovative technologies, less invasive approaches to surgery have been introduced that have benefited patients unlike any other time in history.

At St. Peter's Health Partners, surgeons across all of the network's acute care hospitals utilize the most advanced minimally invasive surgical techniques to provide each patient with the very best surgical outcome.

Christopher Bloss, M.D., associate director of St. Peter's Health Partners' Minimally Invasive Center of Excellence. explains: "Quite simply, minimally invasive surgery refers to a variety of surgical techniques that enable even very complex operations to be performed with the least amount of trauma or damage to the body."

In addition to endoscopic and laparoscopic approaches, robot-assisted surgery has become increasingly successful and has been rapidly adopted by hospitals in the United States and Europe for use in the treatment of a wide range of conditions.

Today, more than 20 surgeons at St. Peter's Hospital and Samaritan Hospital are expertly trained in robotic surgical techniques across many surgical specialties. In recent years, more than 13,500 robotic surgeries have been performed at St. Peter's and Samaritan.

At both hospitals, the use of the da Vinci Surgical System, which was approved by the FDA in 2000, provides surgeons with greater control and vision during surgical procedures, allowing physicians to perform safe, less traumatic, and precise surgical procedures.

During robotic surgery, surgeons operate from a console equipped with two master controllers that maneuver four robotic arms to perform the actual surgery. By viewing a high-definition 3D image of the patient's organs, the surgeon is able to see the surgical site and the procedure more clearly than ever before. Computer software, driving the robotic surgical system, takes the place of actual hand movements and can make extremely precise movements.

Dr. Bloss notes that the benefits to patients are many: smaller incisions, less blood loss, less pain (which means less opioid-based pain medication), lower risk of infection, shorter hospital stays, quicker recovery time, less scarring, and improved clinical outcomes.

He adds that the new da Vinci XI Surgical System will help Samaritan provide better patient care with improved clinical outcomes, as well as increased patient satisfaction. In addition, the system will allow Samaritan to remain competitive, will improve operational efficiency with standardization across the St. Peter's network, and will promote surgeon engagement, recruitment and retention.

To help support implementation of a Minimally Invasive Center of Excellence at Samaritan Hospital, including the purchase of the da Vinci XI Surgical System, the Northeast Health Foundation launched a major gifts campaign seeking charitable contributions of $1.7 million.

The Samaritan Hospital Auxiliary generously contributed its first gift of $100,000 to the campaign; paving the way for additional community support. The Northeast Health Foundation is grateful for the Auxiliary's ongoing support which is ensuring that Samaritan Hospital and St. Peter's Health Partners can continue in its commitment of caring for our community.

For more information, or to learn how you can participate in this important campaign, please contact Karl Cote, Karl.Cote@sphp.com, 518-525-1032; or Cheryl Rankey, Cheryl.Rankey@sphp, 518-525-1104.

The Campaign for The Terrace at Glen Eddy

The Terrace at Glen Eddy has announced a $1.4 million campaign for a major renovation and expansion project to address the increased care needs of the community's assisted living residents.

According to Andrea Hebert, Vice President, Eddy Senior Living, "When The Terrace opened in 2001, the design did not take into account residents' increased mobility needs. Simply put, more space is needed to safely accommodate our residents and the staff who serve them."

Planned facility enhancements are designed to be practical, forward-thinking and flexible. Project highlights include:

- **Dining Room –** Currently, residents and staff must walk through the dining room to get to the Union Room and independent living apartments, thus causing a disruption during meal times. The dining room will be redesigned and expanded by 40 percent and will include a separate storage area for wheelchairs, walkers, and scooters.
- **Front Entrance Portico –** The current front entrance portico was designed for residents who were mobile and able to enter/exit a vehicle quickly. With an increasing number of less mobile residents, we find that the current canopy exposes many to rain and snow. An extended portico will help keep our residents dry and safe.
- **Library –** Originally designed for ambulatory residents, this space presents limitations for those with mobility devices. The planned expansion will increase the library by 23 percent and provide better access to this enjoyable amenity.
- **Certification –** We plan to pursue certification as an "Enhanced Assisted Living Residence" which will allow both independent and assisted living residents to age in place, and in some cases, avoid the need to move to a higher level of care should their needs change.

To learn more about the campaign and project, please contact Karl Cote, Karl.Cote@sphp.com, 518-525-1032.

Eddy SeniorCare PACE Expanding Vital Senior Services

In January 2020, Eddy SeniorCare will expand its Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) to a second location at newly renovated space at St. Joseph's Provincial House on Watervliet-Shaker Road in Latham.

The expansion is the result of a collaborative agreement between Eddy SeniorCare and The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in which Eddy SeniorCare will provide care for the aging sisters who will remain at the Provincial House. The additional location in Latham will enable Eddy SeniorCare to expand its PACE services into Albany and Rensselaer counties.

PACE is a unique health management program designed to help frail elderly adults live independently in their community, manage their medical conditions and avoid

Cherished Memories – The Campaign for Memory Care

The Glen at Hiland Meadows in Queensbury has provided unparalleled independent and assisted senior living to North Country residents for nearly 20 years.

In recent years, however, the need for memory care has become increasingly critical. In fact, a recent study by Murdock Strategies indicates that the Queensbury area and surrounding communities are under-bedded for memory care by more than 100 units.

Therefore, we are pleased to announce plans for a new, 30-bed, 25,000 square foot Memory Care Center on The Glen's beautiful campus. The center will provide residential care to individuals with Alzheimer's disease, dementia and other memory loss problems.

The Eddy has a long tradition of caring for individuals with memory loss at Marjorie Doyle Rockwell Center in Cohoes and Eddy Memory Care at Eddy Hawthorne Ridge in East Greenbush. Both are nationally recognized models offering a residential environment that preserves self-esteem and self-confidence, and supports independence and personhood.

Undoubtedly, these plans bring a challenging financial requirement and accordingly, The Glen at Hiland Meadows will launch its first ever capital campaign through a robust philanthropic partnership with the communities and constituencies we serve.

For more information on this exciting project and fundraising campaign, please contact Cheryl Rankey at the Northeast Health Foundation at (518) 525-1104.

nursing home placement. Participants in PACE receive all of their healthcare from Eddy SeniorCare staff and contracted network providers. In August 2020, The Eddy will again expand its Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) relocating to a larger facility on 1930 Curry Road in Rotterdam. The move will enable Eddy SeniorCare to serve an additional 55 seniors in Schenectady County, an increase of 26 percent.

The relocation will enhance services provided by Eddy SeniorCare, including the availability of transportation for seniors to and from the facility. Participants will continue to receive services at the new site. There will also be additional office space for Eddy SeniorCare's team of primary care physicians, as well as on-sight providers including podiatry, optometry, and dental services.

The entrance to Eddy SeniorCare's new Latham location.

The location in Rotterdam also features more than 2,800 square feet of handicap-accessible landscaped outdoor space, which will enable expanded activities programming, including outdoor exercise groups, Tai Chi, and walking programs.

We're Invested In Our Community

St. Peter's Health Partners (SPHP) strives to be a healing presence in our communities. Through programs and events, SPHP serves as a leader in community wellbeing. The following are just a few examples of how SPHP reached out to the community in 2019.

Park and Play Movie Night

To kick off the summer, Samaritan Hospital's Healthy Future, Healthy Troy Committee hosted its annual "Park and Play Movie Night." On Friday, June 7 at Samaritan Hospital's St. Mary's Campus, the Troy community gathered to watch "The Greatest Showman." Before the movie, families enjoyed lawn games with Southpaw and the Tri-City ValleyCats Street Team. The Healthy Future, Healthy Troy committee provided popcorn and other snacks and Stewart's Shops donated ice cream.

Farmers' Markets

In some communities, fresh fruits and vegetables can be hard to find and costly. St. Peter's Health Partners (SPHP), and the Regional Foodbank of Northeastern New York teamed up to provide access to affordable fresh produce. They hosted farmers' markets across SPHP from August through October. Each market offered fresh produce, grown organically at the Patroon Land Farm in Voorheesville. In addition, the markets had maple and honey from local farms, food demonstrations, and health screenings.

These markets were held bi-weekly at St. Peter's and Samaritan hospitals. Albany Memorial Hospital hosted the last market of the season. As part of the SPHP mission and our commitment to those who are poor, $10 food vouchers were available to people with food insecurities.

Trunk or Treat

Every year, Halloween safety is a concern for parents and families. To provide a safe Halloween option, the Healthy Future, Healthy Troy committee hosts an annual "Trunk or Treat." On October 25, they held the fifth annual Trunk or Treat at the Samaritan Hospital parking garage in Troy.

During the event, children trick-or-treated from the decorated trunks of cars. Samaritan Hospital, other St. Peter's Health Partners staff, and local community groups decorated their vehicles and dressed in costume to hand out candy. This year, over 3,500 children and families enjoyed the event!

Charitable IRA Distributions – A Wonderful Opportunity to Support the Northeast Health Foundation

If you are age 70 ½ or older, you might consider an easy way to benefit the Northeast Health Foundation while receiving tax benefits in return. A charitable IRA rollover can be used to satisfy required minimum distributions (RMD's). By making a contribution directly to us by December 31, up to $100,000 annually from your IRA, you will not have to pay income taxes on the gift as the transfer generates neither taxable income nor a tax deduction, so you benefit even if you do not itemize deductions. If you and your spouse both have IRA accounts and you both meet the age threshold, you may both give up to $100,000 to us. Your IRA custodian can help you facilitate this gift. If you have check writing privileges on your IRA account, please mail your gift by December 20 in order for us to process your gift by year-end.

For more information, please contact Kathie Ziobrowski, Director of Legacy Giving at (518) 525-1529, or Kathleen.Ziobrowski@sphp.com.

Scholarship Recognizes Academic Excellence

The Dr. Marcus L. Shoobe and Maureen A. Mouso RN, '67 Endowed Nursing Scholarship provides an annual $2,000 award for students pursuing their RN from the Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing. The selected recipients will be second semester, first year or second year RN program students who have consistently exhibited academic excellence and have need.

Maureen made the donation in memory of her late husband Dr. Marcus L. Shoobe, an Albany urologist, to honor his love of teaching and medicine.

Rensselaer County Charity Golf Classic

The 24th Annual Rensselaer County Charity Golf Classic was held Monday, August 26, 2019 at the Country Club of Troy. The tournament was a joint venture of the Northeast Health Foundation and The Community Hospice. More than 120 golfers came out on a beautiful sunny day and more than $54,000 was raised to benefit The Community Hospice programs and services in Rensselaer County.

Save the Dates

Swinging on a Star Gala

To benefit The Community Hospice and Eddy Visiting Nurse & Rehab Association

Saturday, March 28, 2020

Rivers Casino & Resort, Schenectady

Walk A Mile in her Shoes®

To benefit the Sexual Assault & Crime Victims Assistance Program

Saturday, April 25, 2020

Riverfront Park, Troy

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A Tradition of Excellence in Nursing Education

Memorial College of Nursing has been educating and preparing students for fulfilling careers in nursing for more than a century. In August, the college relocated from the Albany Memorial Hospital campus to Marian Hall on the Maria College campus located at 714 New Scotland Avenue in Albany.

The close proximity of Marian Hall to St. Peter's Hospital offers nursing students the ability to complete their clinical education experiences at St. Peter's Hospital – one of the Capital Region's largest and highest-volume hospitals.

In November, the New York State Board of Regents granted a charter to create the St. Peter's Hospital College of Nursing and approved the merger of Memorial College of Nursing into the new St. Peter's College of Nursing.

"St. Peter's Health Partners is proud of its long tradition of educating caring and competent nurses," says Mary Ellen Giambona, Dean of the St. Peter's Hospital College of Nursing. "We look forward to continuing that tradition. We are so very grateful to the college's alumni association for its continued support and dedication through the years and look forward to continuing that strong partnership." For the past 15 years, Mary Ellen has held various faculty positions at the college.

L to r: Alumni Geraldine Renna, RN, Karen Reith, RN, Kathleen Santarcangelo, RN, Ester Rappold, RN, and Mary Ellen Giambona, MS, RN, Dean, St. Peter's College of Nursing.

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