



MATHER *Matters*

A quarterly newsletter for the staff, volunteers and benefactors of John T. Mather Memorial Hospital

Volume XII

SPRING 2009

Number 2

Mather's Vascular Physicians Help Out-of-Town Patients Regain Their Quality Of Life



The summer issue of Community News will feature the stories of two vascular surgery patients who did not let excessive numbers of miles get in their way of receiving high quality Mather care.

"My father was having problems with his foot," explains Fran Abbott, a registered nurse at Mather. "In March, he had a little black spot on his toe. I knew it was from poor circulation. So I made an appointment for him to see one of our vascular surgeons. It's a long way to Mather from East Meadow, but I know firsthand that Mather has an exceptional vascular team and that our hospital provides very special care. There was no question about making the trips."

John Miller, 54, of Oxford, Maine, needed bypass surgery in his leg. "My leg was numb," he says. "I had a blockage. The doctor in Maine was going to repair it. I said, 'No, no. I'm going to Mather Hospital.'" Miller was treated at Mather in 2003 when he lived on Long Island.

Learn more about their stories and the high quality, comprehensive care that Mather's vascular team provides in the next issue of Community News (late June).

Mather's vascular surgeons, from left: Sandip Maru, MD; Ahmad Bhatti, MD; Michael Petersen, MD; Kara Kvilekval, MD; Robert Pollina, MD; Thomas Arnold, MD; and Section Chief of Vascular Surgery Richard Dranitzke, MD.

Free Valet Patient Parking Begins This Summer

In an ongoing effort to provide high-quality care and exceptional service, Mather Hospital will provide free curbside valet parking for patients at its main and emergency department entrances beginning this summer. A team of professional parking hosts will be waiting to greet patients and visitors to ensure that their experience at Mather begins with a courteous smile and friendly assurance. The valets will also extend the same careful attention to their vehicles. You will be hearing more about this patient service soon.



2009 Nurse Of Excellence Award

Congratulations to Denise Driscoll, RNC CARN CS NPP, director of Mather's adult partial hospitalization program, for being selected as Mather Hospital's 2009 Nurse of Excellence. Denise has worked at Mather for the past 21 years. Her accomplished background and credentials include ANCC board certified as a clinical nurse

specialist in adult psychiatric mental health nursing. She is also a psychiatric nurse practitioner, and maintains certifications as a certified addiction registered nurse. She was the first psychiatric nurse practitioner to be credentialed by the medical board here at Mather to practice independently. Denise was also inducted into the National Nursing Honor Society, Sigma Theta Tau in 1988.

The adult partial hospitalization program provides individual, group and family therapy and medication management to patients and support for their families. Denise provides leadership for this interdisciplinary team of psychiatric social workers, psychiatric nurse practitioners, mental health counselors and psychiatrists. She epitomizes the best in both clinical knowledge and commitment to provide compassionate, quality care to patients and families, and is always seen as an excellent leader and role model.



Presenting Denise (center) with flowers during Nurses Recognition Week are (from left): Mather President Kenneth Roberts, VP of Nursing Marie Mulligan, Assistant VP of Behavioral Health Jean McCarrick, Mather Board Chairman Kenneth A. Jacoppi

A message from the President: An Economy in Turmoil: Our Strategy – Keep Moving Forward



Kenneth D. Roberts
President

One cannot turn on the TV, open a newspaper or magazine, or go online without hearing about the dramatic and unprecedented economic meltdown. This has had an immediate and deep effect in the financial, banking, automotive and real estate industries. This recession is also severely impacting the healthcare industry.

People who have lost their jobs, or those who are fearful of losing their jobs, have delayed or forgone elective procedures. It is predicted that as more people lose their jobs, and thereby their health insurance, emergency rooms will experience an increase in uninsured patients, which will increase the hospitals' bad debt and charity-care expense. Hospitals, and all not-for-profits, are experiencing a decrease in charitable giving and philanthropy, as well as a sharp reduction in grants as corporations and governments deal with their own deficits.

The New York State deficit was estimated at more than \$17 billion. The resulting new State budget is unfavorable to the healthcare industry in general and specifically unfavorable to Mather in the amount of more than one million dollars as reported in Newsday. While the State budget impacts us negatively in 2009, the full annual impact on Mather in 2010 will be considerably worse. More worrisome, however, is the destruction of the asset value of the Hospital's defined benefit pension plan caused by the severe turmoil in the financial markets – resulting in a 94% increase of pension expense in 2009 of about \$5 million.

While many hospitals are cutting staff, reducing services, and delaying or eliminating needed capital purchases, we would like to avoid all of these actions and focus instead on increasing revenue through select new or expanded services.

However, we do find it necessary and prudent to take some immediate expense reductions at this time. The management staff has been instructed to work to reduce premium-overtime and to identify and eliminate wasteful spending and inappropriate use of sick time or medical leave extensions.

In addition, a pay freeze has been instituted for myself, all vice presidents, assistant vice presidents, management staff and salaried exempt employees in 2009.

If the economy rebounds and the stock market returns to 2007 levels, the majority of the temporary actions we have taken may be lifted. Otherwise these temporary actions may extend beyond 2010. Obviously, if the economy does not improve, other actions may be required.

I realize these actions are difficult, but they are meant to improve our finances and avoid layoffs, pay cuts, and service reductions that are occurring in other hospitals.

As part of our forward action, we will focus on increasing revenue through select new or expanded services. We are not cutting staff or supplies and will continue to purchase needed clinical capital equipment, as we wish to grow new programs and expand existing ones. We have hired a salesperson to visit physicians in their offices, educate them on our services, and ask them to use Mather's outpatient imaging, lab, physical therapy and other outpatient services. We will soon start a valet parking service to aid in our outpatient lab, imaging services and physical therapy growth.

We are working with a number of our physicians to expand or start new clinical services. We are recruiting specialists to provide better pain relief for inpatients and to expand our outpatient pain services. We are purchasing new capital equipment to launch a premier retinal surgery center in Suffolk County. We have recruited new intensivists to expand our coverage in the ICU, CCU, ED and surgical step down unit and started a new outpatient lung nodule program. We plan to expand our Bariatric Center of Excellence, and we will work continuously to market and improve our orthopedic joint surgery program.

As always, I wish to express my appreciation to all of you for your caring and commitment to our patients and to each other. I have no doubt that, together, we will succeed in meeting and overcoming the challenges we face and will ultimately realize our vision of becoming the best community hospital in New York State.

**As part of our forward action,
we will ... grow new programs
and expand existing ones.
...We will soon start a valet
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MATHER
John T. Mather Memorial
HOSPITAL

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Published quarterly by the
Public Affairs Department
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HEALTH Matters

Cardiowise Puts Heart Health on the Menu

Health education and nutritional fare were on the menu at Mather's 14th annual Cardiowise Café, held March 26. The emphasis was that simple lifestyle changes and strategies to make new habits can improve your health and quality of life. The combination of heart-healthy food prepared and provided by local eateries, up-to-date information on cardiovascular disease, stroke prevention, and practical ways to improve diets were presented by Mather staff members, (top left to right): Nutritionist Kenneth Massie, RD; Cardiologist Owen Yen, MD; Cardiologist George Carayannopoulos, MD; Chief of Cardiology Peter Bruno, MD; Neurologist Michael Sauter, MD.



Extended Hours for Outpatient Physical Therapy

Responding to patients' requests for extended treatment hours, Mather Hospital's Outpatient Physical Therapy Program is now open until 7:30 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

"We do our best to accommodate our patients," said Brian Davis, director. "We've also added staff and provided additional training for our therapists to ensure that the care we provide is exceptional."

James Peterman of Selden is receiving treatment three days a week following very recent knee replacement surgery and says the extended hours will be very welcome when he gets back to work full-time as a civil engineer.

"I chose Mather for my therapy because I did a little research and they had a good reputation," said Peterman. "The therapists here are great and they treat me very well."

For outpatient therapy information, contact the Physical Therapy Department at (631) 476-2737. Most insurance plans are accepted.

Physical Therapist Melissa Hafner (right) provides outpatient therapy to James Peterson of Selden recently at Mather Hospital.

Are you ready to quit, but need a plan?

"Get Quit" Program using Chantix, a new smoking cessation medication

"I smoked a pack a day for more than 40 years. I tried to quit numerous times. I finally came to the realization how bad it actually is... you look ashen... feel bad... you're socially frowned upon and it's EXPENSIVE. This program worked. I encourage anyone who wants to quit to try it. It's the most painless way to get rid of that friend that will kill you in the end."

—Joseph Gaeta, Radiology

Plan: Unlike patches or gums that deliver nicotine, Chantix is designed to block nicotine addiction receptors in the brain.

Where: Employee Health Service – by appointment

Cost: Employee Prescription Plan - Prescribed by the nurse practitioner in the Employee Health Service, Chantix can be obtained at a cost of \$30. Also, if you remain smoke free for a full year, you will be reimbursed for the cost of the Chantix and receive a \$100 bonus.

For program eligibility requirements and details, please call the Employee Health Service at 476-2725. If in-house, call extension 5903.

Mather Goes Smoke-Free 12/31/09

Mather Hospital is a vital and integral member of our community; acting as both role model and educator on healthy lifestyles. Since smoking and exposure to second-hand smoke are known to be leading causes of numerous life-threatening illnesses, it is our obligation as a healthcare institution to address and take action on this issue.

Therefore, effective December 31, 2009, Mather Hospital will become a completely smoke-free campus. Though the hospital itself has been smoke-free for many years, we have permitted smoking in designated areas outside the buildings. These smoking areas will be eliminated on December 31 and smoking will no longer be permitted anywhere on campus.

In regard to Mather's patients under psychiatric care, we will honor the attending physician's orders as they relate to giving a psychiatric patient "permission" to smoke, by establishing an authorized smoking area ONLY in the psychiatric unit.

Please note, we are not asking employees to quit smoking, but are requiring employees to refrain from smoking while on the hospital campus. For those of you who may want to take this opportunity to quit, we are offering free smoking cessation programs to aid you in your success. For information about smoking cessation programs, please call Employee Health at 476-2725.



MEDICAL STAFF *Matters*

Welcome New Doctors

Ernest Kelling, MD

Imaging Services

Specializing in radiology, Ernest Collyer Kelling, MD received his medical degree from the University of Kansas Medical School, after finishing undergraduate studies at Harvard University.

Dr. Kelling completed a rotating surgical internship and a diagnostic radiology residency at St. Luke's Hospital in Kansas City, MO. Dr. Kelling has extensive experience in the field, including 12 years with the radiology department at St. John's Hospital in Springfield, MO, and served for a period as radiology department chairman.



Trichy Arumugam, MD

Surgery

Dr. Arumugam received his medical degree from Sri Ramachandra College and Research Institute, Chennai, India.

Dr. Arumugam completed his residency in general surgery at Sound Shore Medical Center of Westchester, Mount Vernon Hospital, and Danbury Hospital. He also completed a minimally invasive surgery fellowship at Westchester Medical Center.

Prior to joining Mather Hospital, Dr. Arumugam was an attending surgeon at Brookhaven Memorial Medical Center and St. Catherine of Sienna Hospital, specializing in general, trauma and advanced laparoscopic surgery.



Sachin Jamdar, DDS

Dentistry/Oral Surgery

Specializing in oral and maxillofacial surgery, Sachin Jamdar, DDS received his undergraduate degree from Rutgers University. He completed his dental training at Columbia University, School of Dental Medicine.

Dr. Jamdar subsequently completed his oral and maxillofacial training at Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center/Cornell Medical School. Dr. Jamdar is a diplomat of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and is an assistant clinical professor at Stony Brook Dental School.



Daniel Baram, MD

Intensivist

Specializing in pulmonary and critical care, Dr. Baram has joined the intensivist staff and will focus on the care of patients in the intensive care units at Mather Hospital.

Dr. Baram earned his medical degree at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, PA. He completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at New York Hospital/Cornell Medical Center in New York. He subsequently completed a critical care fellowship at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD and a pulmonary fellowship at New York University/Bellevue Chest Service in New York, NY.

Prior to joining Mather Hospital, Dr. Baram was most recently an attending physician at Veterans Hospital in Northport, NY and co-director of the Lung Cancer Evaluation Center at Stony Brook University. He was also medical director of the Medical ICU at Stony Brook University Hospital from 1998-2006.



Adam Vos, MD

Emergency Medicine

Specializing in emergency medicine, Dr. Vos received his medical degree from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Dr. Vos was an emergency medicine resident physician at University of California at San Diego Medical Center. He interned at Scripps Mercy Hospital in California.

Prior to joining Mather, Dr. Vos worked as an assistant attending with North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System.



Sunil Dhuper, MD

Intensivist

Specializing in pulmonary and critical care. Dr. Dhuper has joined the intensivist staff and will focus on the care of patients in the intensive care units at Mather Hospital.

Dr. Dhuper earned his medical degree at Delhi University in Delhi, India and completed residencies in surgery and internal medicine at LNJP & GB PANT Hospitals in India. He completed an internship in internal medicine at St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital, Columbia University, New York. His pulmonary and critical care fellowships were at Montefiore Hospital and Medical Center, Albert Einstein College of Medicine in Bronx, NY.

Prior to joining Mather, Dr. Dhuper was most recently attending physician, department of critical care/pulmonary at St. John's Mercy Medical Center, St. Louis, MO.



Thomas F. Gerold, MD

Surgery

Dr. Gerold received his medical degree from New York Medical College. He completed his residency in general surgery at Long Island Jewish Medical Center and a fellowship in head and neck oncologic surgery at SUNY at Buffalo.

Prior to joining Mather Hospital, Dr. Gerold was director of head and neck surgery and director of general surgery at Nassau County Medical Center. Most recently, he was with the Pocono Medical Center in East Stroudsburg, PA. Dr. Gerold is a member of the American College of Surgeons and his work has been published in medical journals.



Suffolk Medical Society Welcomes New President

Congratulations to Stephen Cocco, MD, on his installation as President of Suffolk County Medical Society. Dr. Cocco specializes in reconstructive surgery, and is at the forefront of innovative surgical techniques. In addition to his commitment to quality healthcare in our communities, Dr. Cocco volunteers his time and talents with the international nonprofit organization, Healing the Children, for the purpose of performing free plastic surgery on children in underdeveloped/impooverished countries. Dr. Cocco practices privately at Suffolk Plastic Surgeons in East Setauket.



Mather Hospital Marks National Doctors Day

Mather Hospital celebrated "National Doctors Day" March 30, which marks the anniversary of the first day that general anesthetic in surgery was administered in 1933.

"Doctors Day recognizes the dedication of physicians to their profession, to their patients and to the community," said Mather Hospital President Kenneth Roberts. "We welcome it as a fitting opportunity to thank our medical staff for being a part of the Mather Hospital Family."



Marking Doctors Day at Mather Hospital are (from left) Family Medicine Physician Henry J. Best, IV, DO; Chief of Cardiology Peter Bruno, MD; Director of Sleep Disorders Center Mohamed Sameen, MD; Assistant Director of Imaging Services Louis Amblard, MD; Hospitalist Salah Masry, MD; Medical Board Chairman Lloyd Lense, MD; Surgeon Maria Basile, MD; Nuclear Medicine Radiologist Edward Glenn, MD; Hospitalists Fariha Sarif, MD and Muhammed Basir, MD; and Mather Hospital President Kenneth Roberts.

Farewell to Friends



Vice President of Public Affairs Marlene Israel is retiring after 16 years of service at Mather Hospital. Marlene began her career at Mather in 1993 after serving as Director of Development for the American Heart Association in Suffolk. During the past 16 years, Marlene has played an integral role in enhancing Mather's reputation as a cornerstone of the community and has

played an integral role in the Hospital's growth.

Among Marlene's benchmark achievements are the creation of annual Victory Day and Families Walk for Hope. These two flagship events have become popular community traditions and have raised the profile and outreach of Mather Hospital — particularly the Fortunato Breast Health Center.

Under Marlene's leadership, the Public Affairs department has not only grown into a highly productive fundraising team, but has also become a powerful marketing and public relations operation. Through the department's efforts, Mather Hospital's healthcare services, community programs and fundraising events maintain a high visibility

Continued on page 9



Administrative Director of Imaging Services Joseph Cline is retiring from an accomplished 35-year career at Mather Hospital, which saw his department grow from 15 employees to more than 170.

During his tenure, there have been many Imaging Services firsts at Mather, including: ultrasound system in 1978; CT scanner, early 1980s; nuclear medicine camera, 1979; MRI system, late 1990s; special procedures and interventional equipment, 1989. Joe also initiated the mammography program which developed into Fortunato Breast Center; a prostate screening program, which is now a regular community service; and the brachytherapy seed program. Under his leadership, the department became totally digital and assumed responsibility for EKG/EEG operations in 1980.

In 1988, Joe established a relationship with Peconic Bay Radiology Tech School that allows Mather to serve as a clinical site for students. He has been a clinical instructor with the school since then and developed clinical relationships for ultrasound and nuclear medicine students.

Continued on page 9

Carolyn Williams

Vice President Revenue Cycle Management

Carolyn Williams has been promoted to Vice President Revenue Cycle Management. In the new position, Williams assumes responsibility for overall hospital-wide professional billing in addition to negotiations and optimization of the hospital's managed care contracts. Williams is also responsible for several of Mather's key service programs including the Bariatric Surgery Center of Excellence and the hospital's Voyage to Excellence. Williams joined the staff of Mather in 2001 and was most recently vice president of managed care.



Tom Heiman

Chief Information Officer

Tom Heiman has been promoted to

Vice President for Information Services/Chief Information Officer. He first joined the staff at Mather in 1980 and was most recently assistant vice president of information services. In his new position, Heiman manages and provides overall direction for the hospital's information/communication networking needs.



Michael Burghardt Joins Mather Hospital Staff

Michael Burghardt of Manorville has joined Mather Hospital as the Administrative Director of Imaging Services. Prior to joining Mather's management team, Burghardt was associate administrative director of imaging at Brookhaven Hospital and spent more than seven years at South Nassau Communities Hospital where he was manager of radiology.

Burghardt earned his bachelor's in health administration at St. Joseph's College and his master's in business administration from St. John's University.



GIVING Matters



Salon Owner Raises \$425 for Fortunate Breast Health Center

After MaryBeth Mastando lost her too-young sister, Kathryn Gruber, to cancer, she was determined to help others struggling with the dreaded disease.

Recently, Mastando sold pink (to commemorate the fight against breast cancer) hair extensions at her shop, Blondie's in Centereach. She then decided to donate all of the proceeds — \$425 — to the Fortunate Breast Health Center at Mather Hospital, because her family members have been patients at the center and shared very positive experiences.

"They've told me how wonderful the staff is," said Mastando. "Anytime you are welcomed with open arms is a blessing, especially when it has to do with your health. I wanted to support the work they do."

MaryBeth Mastando presents Fortunate Breast Health Center at Mather Hospital with a check for \$425, representing proceeds from a fundraiser she held at her shop, Blondie's in Centereach. Accepting the donation are the center's directors, Joseph Carrucci, MD, Michelle Price, MD and Eileen Swieczkowski, RN.

Port Jeff Station Fifth Grader Raises \$260 for Fortunate Center

When Jenna Lynch was asked to set a goal as part of a fifth grade class project, the Clinton Avenue Elementary student set her sights on raising money for the Fortunate Breast Health Center at Mather Hospital.

Ten-year-old Jenna knew about the Fortunate Center because, like many Long Island children, she knew women who had experienced breast health issues and wanted to help. She put together a football-themed fundraiser and exceeded her goal by raising a total of \$260.

The Fortunate Breast Health Center provides state-of-the-art breast healthcare while offering a sense of comfort, privacy and assurance. For information about the center or to make a mammogram appointment, call 476-2771 ext. 1.



Port Jefferson Station's Jenna Lynch presents the Fortunate Breast Health Center at Mather Hospital with a check for \$260. Accepting the donation is one of the center's directors, Eileen Swieczkowski, RN.

Long Island Community Federal Credit Union

ATM MACHINE

to be located in the waiting area of the Emergency Room at Mather Hospital.



You asked... We listened!

COMING EARLY JUNE 2009

NO FEE FOR CREDIT UNION MEMBERS.
99 CENTS FOR NON-MEMBERS.



Step Down Unit Receives Photo Donation

Patients in Mather Hospital's Step-Down Unit now have new artwork to enjoy, thanks to a donation from Art Rice of Coram. Rice, a graphic designer and photographer, said he was happy to donate the photographs of Greenport storefront window displays to the unit, where his daughter-in-law Nicole Rice, RN works. The Step-Down Unit serves as a step between the intensive care unit and the traditional medical/surgical unit, with the goal to decrease a patient's length of stay and improve patient flow within the hospital while preserving high quality of care. Flanked by the nursing staff of the Step-Down Unit are (between photos, from left) Mather Hospital President Kenneth Roberts, Vice President of Nursing

6 Marie Mulligan and Art Rice, photographer.

VOLUNTEER & AUXILIARY *Matters*

Volunteer Service



Barbara Bremer
1,000 Hours



Carol Eginton
1,000 Hours



Fran Gangemi
1,000 Hours



Helen Samuels
2,000 Hours



Mary Petrucelli
1,000 Hours



Al Breitenbach
7,000 Hours

Thank you for your service

Rosanne Rangel
1,000 Hours

Doreen Aribas
3,000 Hours

Virginia Bojanowski
4,000 Hours

Don Cook
4,000 Hours



Laura Jean Glover
14,000 Hours



Beautiful Blooms at Auxiliary Flower Sale

Members of Mather Hospital Auxiliary brightened the main entrance of the hospital recently with their recent flower sale. Proceeds from the sale of seasonal blossoms benefit Mather programs. Lending a hand at the Mather Hospital spring flower sale are (from left) Dot Duggan of Coram, Audrey Freudenberg of Wading River, Susanne Klenk of Port Jefferson and Ida Forstel of Farmingville.



Mather Auxiliary Donates \$241,000

Record Donation Will Help Fund Emergency Department Expansion

Mather Hospital's Auxiliary set yet another record when it presented hospital representatives with a check for \$241,000 at the annual Volunteer Appreciation Party. The money will be used toward the purchase of a patient registration kiosk system in Mather's emergency department.

The \$241,000 came from the Thrift Shop's record donation of \$140,000; Gift Shop's \$66,000; and an additional \$35,000 from flower and lobby sales.

Standing: Mather President Kenneth Roberts, Gift Shop Manager Kathleen DeBenedetto, Auxilian Corresponding Secretary Nancy Hutchinson, Mather Board Chairman Kenneth A Jacoppi, Board Vice Chair Betsy Noyes Britton, Board Secretary Gene Gerrard, Board Member Richard Lusak. **Seated:** Auxilian past President Ida Forstel, Auxilian President Helen Rodowicz, Auxilian and Thrift Shop Treasurer Dorothy Milau, Auxilian Recording Secretary Marge Fifield.



Bikers Roll July 12 to Support Fortunato Center

Motorcycle enthusiasts from throughout Long Island will hit the highway Sunday, July 12 for the 3rd annual Sticky Fingers Motorcycle Run, which benefits the Fortunato Breast Health Center at Mather Hospital.

The 30-mile ride begins at Dave & Buster's Grand Sports Café, 261 Airport Plaza, Farmingdale and finishes at the Great South Bay Music Festival site in Patchogue. Registration begins at 3 p.m., with kickstands up at 5 p.m. Supporters of the event are Allstate, Jagermeister, WBAB-FM radio, the Music Festival, Full Throttle Magazine, Hess, Cavalier & Assoc., and Bank of Smithtown.

Each \$20 entry fee (each passenger is an additional \$20) includes a commemorative patch; admission for the rider/passenger and one family member into the festival; and five raffle chances for pre-registrants (one for those who register the day of the event).

To register on line, go to www.matherhospital.org/bike or call Mather Hospital Public Affairs at 631-476-2723. For more information about the concerts and activities at the festival, go to www.greatsouthbaymusicfestival.com.



Relaxing before taking the stage at Comedy Night were the featured funnymen: (from left) Tim Gage, Mather Hospital Vice President for Information/Chief Information Officer Tom Heiman, Joe Bronzi, Vince Dantona and Stevie GB.

Comedy Fundraiser Brings Lots of Laughs and \$16,000 for Behavioral Health Services

Nearly 300 people shared countless laughs for a good cause March 30 as they enjoyed Mather Hospital's annual comedy show and collectively raised approximately \$16,000 for Behavioral Health Services at Mather.

Taking the stage at East Wind Caterers in Wading River were Stevie GB, Tim Gage, Joe Bronzi and headliners Vince Dantona & George, a terrific ventriloquist comedy team. Tom Heiman, Mather's vice president for information services/chief information officer and hospital funny man, served as the evening's MC.

In addition to the hilarious show, attendees were treated to a delicious dinner and tasty dessert.

Maria Basile, MD and Jean McCarrick, RNC, CSW Honored with Brookhaven Town Women's Recognition Awards

General Surgeon Maria Basile, MD, and Mather Hospital Assistant Vice President of Behavioral Health Jean McCarrick, RNC, CSW, were selected as recipients of Brookhaven Township 2009 Women's Recognition Awards, which honor outstanding professional and volunteer contributions to the community.

Specializing in colon and rectal surgery, Dr. Basile was the first to perform a laparoscopic abdomino-perineal resection (removal of colon cancer) at Mather Hospital. The procedure is considerably less invasive than the traditional surgical approach, requires a much smaller incision and is less traumatic to the patient.

Dr. Basile is active in the Medical Society State of New York (MSSNY) and is a strong advocate for affordable and accessible healthcare in the county and state. She was the keynote speaker last year at a physicians rally in Albany. She also played an integral role in the Mather Hospital's Colorectal Cancer Symposium in November 2008.

Jean McCarrick, registered nurse and licensed clinical social worker, is Assistant Vice President of Behavioral Health, a department that includes inpatient adult and adolescent psychiatric units; psychiatric partial hospitalization; recreation therapy department; and the psychiatric social workers. Under her leadership, Mather Hospital maintains a noted standard of excellence as the only hospital in Suffolk County that provides inpatient adult and adolescent psychiatric care.

A champion for the needs of the mentally ill, McCarrick actively advocates for meaningful and compassionate behavioral health legislation.



HOSPITAL *Matters*

Service Excellence Awards

JANUARY 2009



Deborah Aureliano	Dr. Keith Harris	Deborah Burke
Dr. Muhammad Bashir	Patricia Kopejzna	Kelli-Ann Daly
Amy Colleran	Diane Shouten-LaLima	Coleen Delvalle
Debra Costello	Paul M. Theiss	Lisa Eggers
Alethea Cunningham	Lee Viggiano	Joann Hughes
Christina Felix	Maryanne Wisniewski	Katherine Montefusco
Carolyn Germaine	Joan Adams	Erik Olsen
Kerry Jackson	Deborah Battelli	Dr. Syed Samar Raza
Ken Massie	John DeBellis	Orvilla Shore
Jessica Mojica	Katelin Elenterio	Jill Snelders
Lisa O'Hara	Niki Haan	Jane Foley
Mary Allison O'Leary	Audrey Krutys	Donna Hughes
Kerry O'Sullivan	Vivien Langford	Jo-Ann Jelley
Lorraine Pomarejos	Mel Lastella	Diane Gully
Tracy Royer	Allison Lombardi	Donna Borrelli
Dr. Fariha Sarij	Full Name	Joan DiPiazza
Carol Tillman	Stacy Ricca	Valerie Konon
Norwood White	Michael Schmit	Nancy Robb
Amy Wooten	Joan Grant	Eva Seidler
Deborah Amato	Christina Lauria	Pat Rivers
Corinne Barsch	Chanel Loganzo	Eileen Jepson-Giambrone
Vicki Bendjy	Luisa Machado	Chris Brons
Ditas Burgos	Wayne Miller	Lorraine Fitzgerald
Rose Cummings	Dr. Jacob Sokol	Laura Grosse
Christine Denimarck	Chacko Mariamma	Jean Grosskopf
Linda Folken	Jane Fulton	Ruth Ann Sanfilippo
Thomas Fornsel	Carolyn Mosley	
Philip Green	Gerri Quinn	

MARCH 2009



Patricia Aiello-Gazura	Bini John	Karen Starin
Caroline DeNapole	Suzanne Marmo-Roman	Christina Lauria
Michael Deng	Kenneth Massie	Chanel Loganzo
Douglas Donohue	Christine Mulvey	Louisa Machado
Mary Friel	Melissa Musgrove	Linda Scaduto
Elizabeth Giordano	Cheryl Myers	Marguerite Dabbs
Donna Glayzer	Kevin Pryor	Denise Driscoll
Katrina Hensley	Penny Stock	Esther Grant
Dawn Jonke	Jocelin Vargas	Stephanie Crispino
Katie Mardosa	Donna Woodward	Kelli-Ann Daly
Christine Piazza	Susan DeTurris	Karen Pagano
Vincent Pizzolo	Thomas Fornsel	Donna Hughes
Ria Ramdeen	Dr. Keith Harris	JoAnn Jelley
Mark Rogers	Margaret Hassett	Valerie Konon
Linda Romano	Christine Koester	Patricia Slokovitz
Deborah Shull	Shirlee McKenna	Diane Gully
Denise Spetko	Louise Reichel	Patricia Rivers
Denise Stoddard	Irma Rivera	Patricia Zarb
Brandon Swenson	Michelle Russell	Kim Buncke
Candice Whaley	Maria Wescott	Teresa Carter
Lauren Andriani	Daniel Epstein	Laura Grosse
Imelda Bagonoc	Mel Lastella	Armando Lastra
Dr. Tommy Chau	Tim Malone	Andrea Lauckhardt
Rose Dionisio	Dr. Paul Monthie	Margaret Massaro
Dan Faulk	Kelly Mullane	Dr. Mitchell Pollack
Joe Gaeta	Bill Roach	Dr. Stephen Ralph
Kristin Giannetto	Michael Schmit	Ruthanne Sanfilippo
Patricia Griffin		Tina Stoebe



Farewell to Friends

ISRAEL continued from page 5

and respected profile in our surrounding communities. Her ability to establish and maintain strong relationships with key members of the community and local legislators has helped make it possible for Mather to repeatedly secure grant funding for key projects and programs.

Congratulations to Marlene on an illustrious career and best wishes from everyone in the Mather Hospital Family.

CLINE continued from page 5

Joe's leadership and foresight have played an integral role in Mather's growth and success in meeting the needs of our communities. Congratulations to Joe on a successful and memorable career. Best wishes to him from everyone in the Mather Hospital Family.

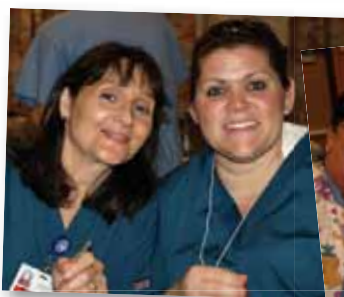
NURSING *Matters*

Nurses Week: Celebrating the Unwavering Commitment of Mather's Nurses

Employees and patients are very proud and fortunate to have such a dedicated and talented team of health care professionals as part of our Mather Hospital Family. Special congratulations to Phyllis Parker, RN (top left photo with flowers) for receiving the Anita Dorr Award, which is presented by the Emergency Nurses Association.

The peer recognition award is given to the emergency nurses for consistently being knowledgeable in emergency care and for presenting themselves as compassionate professionals. With her are Maureen Chernosky, RN (center) and Liz Devine, RN.

Though the celebration lasts only one week, we are grateful to all of Mather's nurses each and every day of the year. We salute you all!



FAMILY Matters

Birthdays

Public Affairs: Birthday wishes to Marybeth Esposito 3/4. **Professional & Regulatory Services:** A very happy birthday to Jill Veglia 1/27 and Dana Swenson 3/29. **Wound Care Melville:** Happy birthday to Karen Petrosino 3/15 and Donna Randone 3/22. **TCU:** Many birthdays celebrated by Katherine Montefusco 1/15, Diane Shouten-Lalima 2/18, Kathleen Herrera 3/12, Audrey Krutys 3/11, Samantha Silipo 3/20, Kim Landon 3/16, Jack Baitz 1/8. **Wound Care PJ:** Birthday candles were blown out by Christa Malone 2/1, Lydia Malvagno 2/15, Jan Doscher 1/5, Annette Dale 1/22. **Business Office:** Janet Pearsall 1/24, Diane Malloy 2/7, Stefani Cleary 4/2, Helen McNeill 3/28, Nick Scalone, Patty Marksberry, Dori Devitt, Dorothy Morabito, Linda Taylor, Marilyn Arthur. **Purchasing:** Happy birthday to our Storeroom Guys: Matt Duddy, Ralph Pelella, Nickolas Perollo, Glen Garvey, and our Purchasing girl, Susan Rivera. **Ambulatory Surgery:** Shirlee McKenna 1/4, Margaret Hassett 2/24, Chris Brons 2/27, Stacey Jolley 3/1, Peggy Suave 3/4, Donna Hughes 3/10, and 'Diva' Laura Grosse celebrated the Big One! **Admitting & ER Registration:** Happy wishes to January birthdays: Kathy Caruso, Michele Clark, Loir Wood, Shelly Rosenfeld; February: Jennifer Thebner, Nicki Daniels, Jackie Lee, Myrna Morris; March: Annette Rivers, Nicole Genovese, Ginamarie Libretti, Lynn Zigrosser, Helen Finke, Kim Shapiro, Linda Pittu, Melissa Metcalf, Kelly Hanson. **Volunteers:** Double happy birthday wishes to Fred & Ann Behr, who celebrated their birthdays on 3/24. **Environmental Services:** Birthday wishes to Maria Fernandez 1/29, Stephen Owens 2/21, Ron Gallo 3/10, Andrew Sunyar 3/16, Tania Gonzales 3/21, Jarrod Boulton 3/26. **Laboratory:** Many birthday candles blown out by Temi Hoffman, Judy Landon, Tracy Sicilian, Carol Milano, Steven Vassallo, Gina Vernola, Nikki Kenny, Alyson Puccio. **2 East:** Happy birthday Alice Aug, Heather Marletti, Tulin Sayin, Jeanne Brennan, Anna May Drewes. **Care Management:** Birthday wishes to Maria Enriquez 2/18, Jean Clark 3/8, Jennifer Colucci 3/21. **Food & Nutritional Services:** Many warm birthday wishes to Kerri Dornicik 1/2, Teresa Bosch 1/8, Nil Narbay 1/8, Benjamin Stern 1/13, Concetta O'Berry 1/21, Theresa Overton 1/31, Marie Viola 2/5, Lindsay Ventura 2/27, Peter Levine 2/28, Megan Lang 3/1, Alexandria Thomas 3/1, Agostina Reese 3/7 (Coffee Shop), Jessica Spiegel 3/7 (Coffee Shop), Tammy Reynolds 3/9, Jessica Campo 3/10, Maryanne Jackle 3/13, Florence Evers 3/15, Laura Adcock 3/18 (Coffee Shop), Matt Stanko (3/20), Robin Thornton 3/21, Janet Sturm, 3/22 (Coffee Shop), Zehra Kaynak 3/24, Paul Palacios 3/24, Tracey Kozikowski 3/26, Leanne Snelders 3/30. **Physical Therapy:** Birthday celebrations by Brian Davis 1/6, Jen Callahan 2/2, Dawn Robson, Patti Aiello-Guzura 3/9, Mike Gregory 3/24, Melissa Hafner 3/25. **Social Work:** Happy birthday to Danielle Duryea 1/07, Jeanne Lane 1/26, Patricia Sidoo 2/16, Minna Buiser 2/23,

Melissa Kornbluth 3/04, Suzanne Marmo 3/22, Terry Carter 3/27, Joan Samborski 3/31. **Recreational Therapy:** Mel LaStella celebrated his birthday on 3/6.

Birth Announcements

Public Affairs: Congratulations to Marlene Israel and her daughter, Stacey, who gave birth to beautiful Natalie Alexandra on 12/23. **Wound Care Melville:** Congrats to Karen Petrosino's daughter, Stephanie, who gave birth to Mackenzie Faith on 2/23. **Ambulatory Surgery:** Congratulations to Chris Brons, a grandma again since her son, Rich, had a bouncing baby boy. Reenie (Maureen) Buonaguro became a grandma for the first time, when her daughter, Beth, had a beautiful baby boy. **Admitting & ER Registration:** Congratulations to Debra Stergakos' son, Rick and wife Erika, who had a beautiful baby boy, Sedrick, on 1/8. **Laboratory:** Congratulations to Grandma Joanne Rutigliano on the birth of her new grandson, Matthew James. **2 East:** Congrats to Debbie Hinson who gave birth to her handsome son, Andrew, and they're both doing great. **Care Management:** Nanette Lindstrom's daughter, Jeannette, and her husband welcomed their handsome baby boy, Jacob William, 5 lbs. 2 oz., 19" long on 1/9. Mommy and baby are doing well and thank everyone for their good wishes. **Food & Nutritional Services:** Kathy Marshall welcomed her first grandchild on 3/26, Layla Maria Hand, daughter of Jason and Erika, tipping the scale at 6 lbs. 3 oz., 20" long. Congratulations to the whole family!

Wedding Anniversaries

Admitting & ER Registration: Debbie Faller and husband, Tom, celebrated their 32nd wedding anniversary. **Environmental Services:** Jan and Bob Pasowski celebrated their 27th anniversary on 1/16, Fred and Laurie Johansen celebrated their 21st anniversary on 1/23. **2 East:** Lynn & Doug Weiss spent a glorious week in Cancun, celebrating their 21st anniversary.

Engagements/Weddings

Business Office: Diane Malloy's daughter, Kerry Malloy, married Danny Mustice on 2/28 – Congratulations! **Environmental Services:** Congratulations to Frank and Lorraine Armenti as their son, Benjamin, married Cindy on 3/21 at Miller Place Inn. The couple will reside in Texas. **2 East:** Paige Marie Deale celebrated her engagement on 3/2. **Care Management:** Best wishes to Barbara Cove, RN, and Chris DeMaio, who wed on Valentine's Day. Congratulations to Madeline Pieloch's daughter, Stacy, who married Thomas McManus on 3/14 at the Mt. Sinai Yacht Club. **Food & Nutritional Services:** Peter Levine became engaged to Laura Wooten on Valentine's Day. Congratulations and best wishes to the happy couple!

Vacations

Public Affairs: Marybeth Esposito went on an arts and culture tour to Ghana, West Africa. **TCU:** Kate Herrera vacationed in Florida with her family. **Business Office:** Carol Penalver and husband, Philip, had a wonderful 10-day vacation in Trinidad and Tobago. **Admitting & ER Registration:** Jennifer Thebner and family enjoyed vacationing in Boca Raton, FL during February break. **Laboratory:** Cathy Frevola and Stacey Keane enjoyed a trip to Ireland. They spent eight days exploring the countryside, spending time with family and attending a wedding. **Physical Therapy:** Ashley Varughese vacationed in India while visiting family in January. Carol DeGregorio and family vacationed in Disney in March and had a magical time.

Educational Achievements

Admitting & ER Registration: Debra Stergakos' daughter passed her boards and is a certified Massage Therapist. **Social Work:** Joan Samborski's daughter, Kristina, graduated from high school in 1/09. Ron Albanesi from Engineering and Joan celebrated by taking Kristina and her best friend to Jamaica for a week of fun in the sun!

New Employees/ New Appointments

TCU: A warm welcome to Arianna Catanzaro, CNA and Maria Jackalone, RN. **Admitting & ER Registration:** Welcome Suzanne Bryant, ER Registration Coder. **2 East:** The staff welcomes Paige Deale, NA, who works the night shift. **Information Services:** Information Services welcomes Maria Farrell-D'Amato, Applications Analyst, and Miriam Hacken, Secretary. Prior to their new positions, Maria worked in the Managed Care and Miriam worked in Human Resources and Materials Management. Diane Seno was promoted to Data/Applications Analyst, and Wayne Seppala is now DBA & Senior Programmer. **Recreational Therapy:** Erin Daniels has joined the Recreational Therapy Dept. as a per diem Art Therapist. She is a welcome addition and brings a wealth of knowledge in her field of expertise.

Retirements/Farewells

Human Resources: We will miss Miriam Hacken, as she was a wonderful asset to the department. Congratulations on her new position working for Tom Heiman. **Purchasing:** Goodbye to Miriam Hacken, our "loved" per diem. We miss her already! Best wishes from all of us in your new position in Information Services. **Admitting & ER Registration:** Joanne Navas is leaving ER Registration to join the Business Office. Best of luck—will miss you. Lisa Noulis has left ER Registration to go to the ER as Unit Secretary. Best of luck!

Family Matters is continued on the next page



Russell Thomas, RN, in Iraq



Robert Nataloni, MD

Saluting Those Who Serve

The Mather Hospital Family recently heralded the safe return of anesthesiologist Robert Nataloni, MD and Russell Thomas, RN from tours of duty in Iraq.

Dr. Nataloni, a reservist since 1992, worked at the 345th Combat Support Hospital in Iraq. This was his second trip to the war zone; he spent three months at the 344th Combat Hospital Abu Ghraib in 2005. Dr. Nataloni's wife, Roberta is also a reservist.

"It is very rewarding taking care of American soldiers and making sure they get back home," Col. Nataloni said.

Thomas, who is in the Army National Guard, was attached to the Al Asad Airbase in Western Iraq for a year prior to returning to Mather. The Staff Sergeant and Convoy Commander had been in the Army from 1985-1989 and enlisted in the Guard following the attacks of September 11, 2001. This tour was his first since joining the National Guard.

"I loved being overseas and loved doing my job," said Thomas. "I served with outstanding, dedicated soldiers who are there because they know they have a job to do."



Mather Celebrates "Take Our Children to Work Day"

Employees from throughout Mather Hospital brought their sons and daughters to work April 23 as part of the national observance of "Take Our Children to Work Day." The youngsters were treated to breakfast or lunch, depending on the session they participated in, and given a tour of some of the hospital's facilities. Those who took part were Matthew Accardi, Elisa Alban, Bailey Arnold, Jesse Arnold, Christina Basile, Kevin Beacon, Christina Craig, Katelyn Craig, Mackenzie Dearborn, Matthew Debolt, Stephanie Debolt, Lea Demoore, Jared Ducker, Aliquia Foster, Makenzie Gazura, Chloe Hansen, Gabriela Hansen, Nicole Harris, Amanda Hill, Jessica Hill, Abigail Labarca, Giovanni Labarca, Collin Letterio, Daniel Letterio, Ryan Letterio, Alyssa Mantione, Anthony Martello, Sara Mulligan, Karissa Natale, Elizabeth Palyssek, David Perricone, Austin Schmidt, Maxwell Schmidt, Rachel Sturgis, Sammie Visco, Gabriella Wolmart, Jacob Wolmart and Samantha Wolmart. Serving as chaperones were Pat Alban, Kathy Beacon, Valerie Craig, Christina Ducker, Janine Martello, Diana Natale, Barbara Swenson, Kathleen Terry, Karen Walsh and Denise Wolmart.

FAMILY Matters

Family Matters continued from preceding page

Miscellaneous items of interest

Wound Care Melville: Melville WCC celebrated its 11th year anniversary in February. **Wound Care PJ:** Port Jefferson WCC celebrated its 18th year anniversary in March. **Human Resources:** Special congratulations to Kathleen Terry as March 7 marks one year tobacco free! We are so proud of her. **TCU:** TCU celebrated its 2nd anniversary in operations on 3/8. **Laboratory:** Gina Vernola's son, Nick, earned his badge as an Eagle Scout due to his idea of putting a boat ramp on the west side of Bayles Boat Shop at Harborfront Park to make the shop handicapped-accessible. Nick organized a fundraiser, then designed and built the ramp. Congratulations on a job well done! **2 East:** Lynn Weiss is proud

to announce that her son, Shawn, has been accepted to New Paltz and will start in the fall, and her son, Douglas, was accepted to Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society at SCCC.

In Memoriam

Harriet Brown
Harriet Brown, a 25-year Thrift Shop volunteer, passed away recently. Harriet celebrated her 95th birthday with her shop friends last July. Her dedication to this community will be long remembered.

Riccardo Hanley
The staff of 2 East is deeply saddened by the loss of their coworker, nursing assistant Riccardo Hanley. They appreciate the support and care that Riccardo received throughout his hospital stay.