



Mather matters

A newsletter for the staff, volunteers and benefactors of John T. Mather Memorial Hospital
WINTER 2017

Congratulations 2016 Voyage to Excellence Champions

Voyage to Excellence teams selected their 2016 Champions. Pictured with President Kenneth Roberts (far right) are Olga Larios, Pharmacy (Leadership); Diane Muller RN, Nurse Educator for Informatics (Standards); Carol Cruz, Revenue Cycle (Bright Ideas); Dan Kass, MD, Mather Primary Care (Physician Leadership); Lisa Moore, Environmental Services (Communication); Gospel Ofuyah, RN Telemetry (Patient Experience); and Lisa Doumas, RN 3 North (Employee Engagement).



Community Docs and Mather to Open Ambulatory Surgery Center



Some of the 19 community surgeons and Mather Administration attended the recent groundbreaking for the Port Jefferson Ambulatory Surgery Center.

A group of 19 community surgeons in partnership with Mather Hospital and Pinnacle III, a company that has developed ambulatory surgery centers nationwide, will open the freestanding Port Jefferson Ambulatory Surgery Center in Port Jefferson Station. A groundbreaking ceremony

for the center was held on November 22 at Washington Professional Office Park in Port Jefferson Station.

The project, estimated to cost \$12 million, will have six operating rooms equipped to handle procedures in orthopedics, ophthalmology, pain management, general surgery,

neurosurgery and otolaryngology. The Center is expected to open in 12-16 months.

"There is a growing need for this type of facility, which is less expensive to run than a hospital. This translates to cost savings for patients and the healthcare system," said Michael Fracchia, MD, Director of Orthopedics at Mather and one of the physician partners in the venture. The new center will also free up operating rooms at Mather Hospital for more complex procedures that require a hospital stay.

"The new ambulatory surgery center will provide a comfortable setting that will be convenient for patients," said orthopedic surgeon Brian McGinley, MD, president of the project.

Colorado-based Pinnacle III has successfully facilitated the opening of ambulatory surgery centers nationwide. The Port Jefferson Ambulatory Surgery Center would be its first in New York State.



Kenneth D. Roberts

President's Column

As 2016 comes to a close we can look back on the many changes at Mather and in the healthcare industry, with more to come in the New Year.

This year we welcomed new residency programs in Psychiatry and Radiology. Together with our existing Internal Medicine and Transitional Year residency programs, we now have 70 residents at Mather. We recently broke ground for a new freestanding ambulatory surgery center in which Mather is a partner along with 19 community surgeons and Pinnacle III, the developer/manager of the facility. The center will have six operating rooms equipped to handle procedures in orthopedics, ophthalmology, pain management, general surgery, neurosurgery and otolaryngology. We are continuing our affiliation discussions with four healthcare organizations- Catholic Health System, Mount Sinai, Northwell Health, and Stony Brook Medicine as we continue to be active participants as a member of the 10-hospital Long Island Healthcare Network (LIHN).

Among our 2016 accomplishments was being named the only Long Island hospital to receive a four-star rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for patient experience, safety and timely and effective care based on publicly reported data. We were also rated among the best hospitals in New York State in *U.S. News & World Report's* annual Best Hospitals rankings. Mather was ranked 19th out of almost 250 hospitals in New York State and was rated as "high performing" for four procedures/conditions – abdominal aortic aneurism repair, COPD, colon cancer surgery and heart failure. *Long Island Business News* named us Hospital of the Year for 2016. Our Transitional Care Unit again received the top five-star rating from *U.S. News' Best Nursing Homes* ratings. But our streak of 9 consecutive A's for hospital safety ended when we were given a C rating from The Leapfrog Group. This is partly due to changes in the Leapfrog survey, and highlights opportunities to improve patient safety and the delivery of care. You will see an even greater emphasis on becoming a high reliability organization (HRO) next year.

People

Michael Fishkin, DO and **Jacob Sokol, MD** were named Physician Advisors for the Clinical Documentation Improvement (CDI) program.

Michael Tofano, MD was named Program Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program. **Imtiaz Khokhar, MD** was named Director of Hospital Medicine at Mather.

We also congratulate **Tracey Merritt**, who is now working as our full-time in-house Legal Counsel. It is with great sadness and shock that we lost **Maryanne Gordon**, Administrative Director of the Professional & Regulatory Department. Maryanne had been a Mather employee for more than 38 years - almost her entire career. She was responsible for guiding us through numerous Joint Commission and Department of Health surveys. Her husband Dennis and son Adam are both Mather employees. We extend our deepest sympathies to them and the entire Gordon family and we will miss her tremendously.

Service

Congratulations to all our 2016 Voyage to Excellence champions: **Olga Larios (Leadership); Diane Muller, RN (Standards); Carol Cruz (Bright Ideas); Dan Kass, MD (Physician Leadership); Lisa Moore (Communication); Gospel Ofuyah, RN (Patient Experience); and Lisa Dumas, RN (Employee Engagement)**. We greatly appreciate your service and dedication to our patients and our hospital family.

Quality & Safety

We will continue our major focus on High Reliability in 2017. A high reliability organization (HRO) is an organization that has succeeded in avoiding catastrophes in an environment such as ours where normal accidents can be expected due to risk factors and complexity. An HRO culture stresses vigilance about potential failures and a willingness to report near misses or failures. In this culture, every person is aware and engaged in creating a culture of safety, and makes use of experts to get it right. We will look at various processes we use to provide healthcare and examine ways to reduce the possibility of an error occurring in each step of those processes. This involves all of us, so if you see something, say something.

Innovation and Growth

In 2017, the Sleep Center will relocate to the first floor of the Medical Arts Building and increase the number of sleep beds from 6 to 8. Thank you all for your continuing efforts at Mather. Plans are underway to begin a Family Medicine Residency Program as we continue to grow our Graduate Medical Education teaching programs.

I wish everyone happy holidays and all the best in the New Year.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Chairman of the Board
Kenneth A. Jacoppi, Esq.

President
Kenneth D. Roberts

Vice Chairmen
Betsy Noyes Britton
Konrad J. Kuhn
John R. Sini
Harold Tranchon, Jr.

Treasurer
Leo Sternlicht

Secretary
Wayne Rampone

President Medical Staff & Chairman Medical Board
David Shenouda, DO

Vice President Medical Staff & Vice Chairman Medical Staff
Nicholas Craig, MD

Board Members
Mohammad Bilal, MD • Kenneth R. Bossert, Ed.D.
James Danowski • John K. Diviney
Patricia Eckardt, PhD, RN • Debra L. Engelhardt
Kathryn B. Frey • Timothy B. Glynn, Esq.
Richard Lusak • William J. "Duffy" Mich
Edward J. Weiss

Emeritus Board Members
Alan D. Beck • Gene Gerrard
James F. Maiella • David P. Sipperly

JTM Foundation Board of Directors
James Danowski, Chairman
Donald E. Lippencott, Vice Chairman
Kathryn B. Frey, Secretary
Mark Snyder, Treasurer
Ginny Bove-Grier • Eric D. Cherches, Esq.
Kenneth A. Jacoppi, Esq. • Ted Lucki
Kenneth D. Roberts

Mather matters
Published by the Public Affairs Department

Vice President, Public Affairs
Nancy Uzo

Director, Public Relations
Stuart Vincent

Director, Marketing Communications
Christine Santini

Public Affairs Associate
Jessica Lemire-Nicolich

Public Affairs Intern
Angela Fracassa

Visit www.matherhospital.org

Find us on:





welcome new doctors

**Jennifer Agnew, MD**

Specialty: Colon & Rectal Surgery
Medical School: New York Medical College, Valhalla, NY
Residency: Mount Sinai Beth Israel/Icahn School of Medicine, New York
Practice: Colon & Rectal Surgical Associates of NY, Garden City

Mikhail Elfond, DO

Specialty: Emergency Medicine
Medical School: New York College of Osteopathic Medicine
Residency: Albert Einstein College of Medicine/LIJ Medical Center, New Hyde Park, NY
Practice: Mather Hospital Emergency Department

Triantafillos Fillos, MD

Specialty: Hematology Oncology(Dept-Internal Medicine)
Medical School: St. George’s University School of Medicine. Grenada
Residency: SUNY Stony Brook
Practice: North Shore Hematology Oncology Associates, E. Setauket

Jagdeep Singh, MD

Specialty: Cardiology (Dept – Internal Medicine)
Medical School: Mysore Medical College, India
Residency: Beth Israel Medical Center
Practice: Three Village Cardiology

Anthony Zizzamia, DPM

Specialty: Podiatry (Dept-Orthopedics)
Medical School: New York College of Podiatric Medicine
Residency: St. Barnabas Hospital
Practice: Ultimate Foot Care, Smithtown

CDI Physician Advisors Named

Michael Fishkin, DO and Jacob Sokol, MD were named Physician Advisors for the Clinical Documentation Improvement (CDI) program. The Physician Advisors will function as a member of the CDI Program team to ensure that clinical documentation and data capture practices are compliant, efficient, accurate and consistent. Drs. Fishkin and Sokol are

responsible for facilitating and communicating to the medical staff the goals and initiatives of the program, as well as processes related to training and implementation. They will be working elbow to elbow with the medical staff providing documentation improvement resources at the front line level of care.



New Physician Luncheon

Attending the luncheon organized by the Physician Engagement Team were (seated, l to r) Tamir Aldad, MD; Michael deStefano, MD; Hammad Moshin, MD; Jenna Taglienti, MD; Noam Fast, MD. (Standing, l to r) Jill Snelders; Maria Basile, MD (team co-leader); Maria Toscanini (team co-leader); Victoria Cook, NP; Robert Benny, NP.

Doctors Tofano and Khokhar Named to New Posts

Michael Tofano, MD was named Program Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program. He joined Mather in 2012 as Director of Hospital Medicine, and joined the Residency Program in 2013. He had previously been Associate Chief of Hospital Medicine for UMASS Memorial Health Care System and Director of Hospital Medicine at Marlboro and Clinton Hospitals, members of the UMASS system.

Imtiaz Khokhar, MD was named Director of Hospital Medicine. He joined Mather as a hospitalist in January 2016. Prior to that he was a hospitalist at Erie County Medical Center, Buffalo, NY, and earlier, at St. John’s Episcopal Hospital, Far Rockaway, NY.

Jolie POWELL
REALTY, INC.

‘The Pride of the North Shore’

jprealtor.com • 631.774.2528



NURSING matters



Adelphi Student Nurses

Student nurses from Adelphi University completed their Nursing Fundamentals Clinical at Mather this fall. Both 2 South (top) and 3 South (above) are Dedicated Education Units where student nurses train side by side with nurses. The students will return in January 2017 for their next clinical.



Nursing Research Day

Nursing Research Day was held in October to share information on nursing research to improve patient care at Mather Hospital.

Top photo – Nursing Research Day speakers Dr. Karen Asher Beckwitt, RN; Sarah Eckardt, Statistician; Dr. Patricia Eckardt, RN.

Bottom photo: Dr. Judith Moran-Peters, RN; Theresa Grimes, NP; Sandra Brown, RN; Shirlee McKenna, RN.

Nursing Quality Showcase

Nursing Quality Showcase in October displayed the results of nursing research projects to improve patient care.



Denise Driscoll, NP, AVP Behavioral Health, Nathalie Mathias, RN.



Infusion Center Patient Appreciation Day

Mather's Infusion Center staff gathered for a group photo during the November Nov. 20 Patient Appreciation Day. About 80 patients and their family members attended.

Mather Nurses to Present at Nursing Conferences



Marie Mulligan PhDc, RN, CNOR, NEA-BC, CNO/ Vice President for Nursing (left), and Brandy Feliu MSN, RN, Assistant Vice President Nursing Professional Development (right), have been selected for a

podium presentation at the Association for Nursing Professional Development (ANPD) Annual Convention July 18-21, 2017 at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans in New Orleans, LA. Their 60-minute presentation is "Static to Dynamic: Transforming the Competency Management Process."

Joanne Lauten RN, BSN, SCRNP, Director of Nursing Quality/ Stroke Coordinator, will be a podium presenter on Stroke Care in Our Community at the New York Organization of Nurse Executives & Leaders conference in March 2017. Emily Emma, MSN, RN-BC, ONC, 3 South Nurse Manager, and Anne Lasota, BSN, RN-BC, ONC, 3 South Assistant Nurse Manager, will present the Stay Ahead, Know Your Meds medication education board as a poster presentation for the American Nurses Association Conference in March 2017 and as a poster presentation at the National Association of Orthopedic Nurses in May 2017.

HOSPITAL matters

TCU Achieves Top Five-Star Rating from U.S. News & World Report

The Transitional Care Unit (TCU) was again ranked among the nation's best nursing homes by *U.S. News & World Report's* annual Best Nursing Homes rankings.

The 16-bed TCU at Mather is a short-term healthcare facility where Mather patients receive the focused care they require before being discharged home or to another facility for those requiring extended therapies. Mather's TCU, which fosters independence among patients, was one of the first such units in New York State.



Easy to Give!

Mather Dip Jars are located in the Coffee Shop and Ambulatory Surgical Pavilion. Donors simply dip their credit or debit card into the device to donate \$5 to the Emergency Department (Coffee Shop Dip Jar) or Ambulatory Surgical Pavilion. Card numbers are not kept in the device.



New Home for Finance and Accounts Payable

The Finance and Accounts Payable Departments have moved offsite to 251 Oakland Avenue, Suite 2A, Port Jefferson, the same building that Health Information Management moved to earlier this fall

The hours of operation at the new office remain the same - 8 am to 4 pm weekdays - as does the phone number - (631) 476-2753 or ext. 4227. The fax number has changed to (631) 686-1459. The Payroll Department remains at the same location in the Medical Arts Building and will be open during regular business hours 8 am to 4 pm.



**LAW OFFICE OF
EDWARD R. SCHEINE**

Practice Areas

**NY Workers' Compensation
Social Security Disability
Construction Accidents
Personal Injury**

**Contact Us For A Free
Claim Evaluation
631-951-4300**

ScheineDisabilityLaw.com

SERVICE EXCEL

Service Excellence Awards are given monthly to employees whose professionalism



August 2016



September 2016

- | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Frances Abbott | Siobhan Bissonette | Christine Cirolli | Cynthia Dunn | Jessica Harris-Iannuzzi |
| Imelda Abejar | Deidre Boehme | Frank Clarke | Kathleen Egner | Stacey Hartcorn |
| Junielon Adame | Michele Bonafede | Jennifer Condlin | Noel Eloriaga | William Haynes |
| Ryan Agaton | Donna Borrelli | Kellianne Contri-McCann | Emily Emma | Patsy Hayward |
| Johanna Agudelo | Larissa Borruso | Katlyn Conville | Lori Ann Emmel | Gary Heckman |
| Deanna Alban | Carole Boyd | Alexis Cordle | Daniel Epstein | Gina Hernandez |
| Daniela Alessi | Kimberly Brady | Daniel Corrigan | Moira Farrell | Kathleen Herrera |
| Darlene Alicastro | Donna Bragg | James Crawford | Jean Fascella | Linda Hill |
| Tashia Allen | Anna Marie Braslow | Stephanie Crispino | Joseph Ferreri | Dr. Yuval Hiltzik |
| Angela Allen-Loften | Catherine Breitenbach | Heather Cromer | Keith Field | Maria Hofbauer |
| Larry Alvarez | Jessica Brett | Caryn Cruz | Megan Fillard | Rosemarie Hofmann |
| Cindy Alzate | Cassandra Brown | Maria Anton Cuison | Danielle Flaherty | Lyla Hongthong |
| Catherine Andolena | Susanne Bruun | Noreen Cullen | Jennifer Flanagan | Linda Howlett |
| Jillian Anuskiewicz | Brianne Burton | Christine Cullon | Linda Folken | Megumi Ito |
| Maria Araujo | John Butera | Michael Daley | Divina Fordham | Donna Jablonski |
| Dawn Archila | Patricia Byrne | Jean Damm | Gloria Fortune | Robyn Jackson |
| Penny Arpen | Pamela Byrnes | Marianna David | Florence Fox | Tanyaneka Jefferson |
| Alice Aug | Celeste Cabrera | Christine Debernardo | Ralph Fracassa | Robert Jeudy |
| Victorino Aurigue | Alisa Caliendo | Dr. Miguel Delgado | Aimee Fratepietro | Kathleen Jochen |
| Imelda Bagonoc | Elise Carbonette | Danielle Delio | Lori Fusco | Marc Jordan |
| Franco Baingan | Claudia Carolan | Barbara DeMaio | Annette Garace | Fotini Kacinski |
| Hatty Baldwin | Stephanie Carr | Natalie Demauro | Nicole Geiss | Christine Kadien |
| Daphne Baldwin Kornrich | Dr. Joseph Carrucciu | Bernadette DeTrinis | Steven Gerlach | Michael Kelledy |
| Melissa Baranowski | Maria Cassara | James Deutchsh | Jeanette Gibbs | Colleen Kiernan |
| Michael Barletta | Irene Cassata | Virginia Diccico | Kimberly Gioia | Marianne Kiernan |
| Dawn Bartoszewicz | Alan Castellana | Christine DiPrima | Michelle Giuffrida | Kimberly Koch |
| Margaret Bartsch | Catherine Catalano | Rosemarie Dockery | Joan Godbold | Nancy Kollmeier |
| Radmila Batinovic | Maureen Cataldo | Daria Dodds | Mary Ann Goodman | Guy Koutouvidis |
| Ivelisse Batista | Linda Cazaurang | Leanne Doherty | Keresia Gordon | Krystie Kramer |
| John Becherer | Dr. Bo Chao | Paul Dold | Nancy Gorgone | Logan Krauss |
| Elizabeth Becker | Edna Jean Chapman | Melissa Dooley | Meaghan Griffin | Dr. Alain Kruh |
| Kristin Bello | Marie Charlot | Kyle Dougherty | Susan Grover | Melanie Kuffner |
| Gertha Benoit-Hollis | Dina Chavarria | Nicole Drepaniotis | Jessica Guzman | Lisa Kullack |
| Jacquelyn Berkman | Christina Chiarelli | Anella Droskoski | Donna Gwak | Joan Landers |
| Dr. Mohammad Bilal | Ketlie Chrispin | Hennith Dulnuan | Jessica Haينه | Anne Lasota |

matters

LENCE AWARDS

and consideration have been singled out by patients and/or their families.



October 2016



November 2016

Paige Lassen
Christina Lauria
Janette Lavery
Tina Lawrence
Crystal Lebron
Timothy Lee
Antoinette Leocadi
Gina Leone
Rosanna Leone
Samantha Lessa
Irene Letterio
Bryan Lettieri
Celine L'Hommedieu
Dr. Kenny Lien
Linda Folken
Mary Lindner
Danielle Lipari
Marguerite Liquori
Robin Lisanti
Michael Liu
Anthony Ljucovic
Danielle Locurto
Chanel Loganzo
Elizabeth Looney
Alyssa Lopez
Jaclyn Lotito
Gerard Lunetta
Jaime Lupo
Melissa Lynn
Jennifer Macauley
Phyllis Macchio
Luisa Machado
Jennifer Maier
Nita Malik
Katelyn Martin

Robin Martinez
Joshua Martino
Kathleen Martoscia
Sarah Mascaro
Rosemary Mason
Natalie Mathias
Maria Matos
Cynthia Mattson
Stephanie Matura
Michelle Maurina
Leon Maxwell
Anita Mayer
Cynthia McCabe
Deanna McCartin
Colleen McDermott
Jessica Melnik
Christopher Menekou
JoAnn Mercieca
Susanne Meyers
Janet Miller
Kristian Moeller
Bridget Moley
Paul Monthie
Bonnie Moore
Breanna Moore
Marissa Morgan
Cristina Movsesyan
Tracey Mulderig
Kurt Muller
Felicia Murphy
Dr. Javeria Nasim
Emily Nelson
Jean Nesbitt
Dr. Juliet Nichols
Kimberly Nofi

Patricia O'Brien
Janice O'Connor
Jean O'Donnell
Marguerite O'Dwyer
Gospel Ofuyah
Loni Ofuyah
Joseph O'Hara
Joseph Ohm
Michael Oliveri
Courtney O'Mahoney
Kerilyn O'Toole
Dr. Peter Ottavio
Martene Overton
David Padilla
Salvatore Pennetti
Lauren Persaud
Christine Ploetz
Loraine Pomarejos
Mary Pope
Ginger Postiglione
Kyla Powers
Susan PrechtL-Loper
Dr. Michelle Price
Mark Proffit
Melissa Ptak
Lisamarie Puglisi
Geri Quinn
Gabrielle Quinones
Ismail Radi
Lisa Ragozzino
Maria Rastelli
Luis Rayos
Colleen Reale
Elizabeth Regina
Wolfgang Renois

Craig Reuter
Stacy Ricca
Laura Ricciardi
Heather Richards
Meredith Rickenbacker
Karen Rivera
Annette Rivers
Donny Rodriguez
Mirian Rodriguez
Rachel Roger
Lori Roggemann
Eileen Romano
Josefyne Romero
Maria Rubino
Kathryn Rush
Christine Ryan
Adina Santana
Nicole Santora
Katherine Saporito
Lillian Scalogna
Veronica Scauri
Heather Scharf
Kristin Scher
Amanda Schwartz
Genine Schwinge
Lynne Sciortino
Joseph Scott
Charles Seales
Denise Sears
Vanessa Sejour
Shannon Shah
Chanel Shinn
Caitlin Short
Deborah Shull
Bernice Small-Chura

Catherine Smith
Dr. Jacob Sokol
Tara Sottile
Stefanie Stamatiades
Sara Steele
Darlene Steigman
Jean Stiles
Dana Strittmatter
Andrea Szarek
Sharon Tambasco
Elizabeth Taylor
Paul Theiss
Cher Thewlis
Dr. Nataliya Titarenko
Leanne Tobin
Casey Travis
Karen Tuzzolo
Dawn Valenti
Tamika Vaz
Janet Vazquez
Laina Vazquez
Brittany Ventura
Joseph Veselak
Julia Vetere
Patrick Vosper
Elizabeth Walker
Andreu Wichard
Anthony Wiley
Karen Winokur
Maryanne Wisniewski
Halina Wiszowaty
Loren Wolf
Patricia Wolman
Mary Yakutsk
Debra Youngs

VOYAGE matters

Holiday Decorating

Voyage to Excellence team members decorated the main lobby for the holidays. They also set up a collection bin for donations of mittens, hats and socks for Mather's annual Warm Wishes Drive. Donated items were distributed to local families through Infant Jesus R.C. Church, Long Island Cares and General Needs, an organization that provides new items to LI veterans and their families.



Mather is First LI Hospital to Use Thermal Storage for Cooling

Mather is the first Long Island hospital to install a thermal (ice) storage system to help with cooling the hospital during warmer months. The new system, which is expected to be operational this summer, will shift a portion of the hospital's peak electrical load from daytime to nighttime when electricity is more plentiful, less expensive and generated more efficiently, and will reduce consumption and peak demand.

"By incorporating an ice thermal storage system into Mather Hospital's chiller plant operations, we are expected to reduce our peak energy demand us-

age by 20 percent," said Kevin Koubek, Mather's Director of Engineering, Design and Construction. "By shifting our higher electrical demand to the overnight hours (when we would be generating ice), we are able to take advantage of the lower off-peak electric rates."

Ice storage technology, similar to the system being installed at Mather, is a form of energy storage where the consumption of a customer's electricity is shifted into the nighttime hours where energy is stored each night by using specialized air conditioning units to freeze

large tanks of water into ice. During the day, the stored energy (in the form of ice) is then discharged (melted) in coordination with the traditional air conditioning systems to provide cooling without having to use large amounts of power when the grid is the most stressed. As a result, air conditioning is provided during the day to a building's occupants with energy that was consumed the night before.

PSEG Long Island preapproved a rebate of approximately \$1 million to Mather to help fund the system's installation under the Commercial Efficiency Program.

Study Compares Laparoscopic and Robotic-Assisted Hernia Surgery

Arif Ahmad, MD, Director of the Center of Excellence in Metabolic & Bariatric and Robotic Surgery TM, conducted a study comparing the outcomes of robotic-assisted inguinal (groin) hernia repair surgery versus laparoscopic surgery. The study was presented at the Second Annual Global Symposium on Robotic-Assisted and Minimally Invasive Hernia Repair.

A retrospective review was conducted of 103 inguinal hernia repairs in 84 consecutive patients. Of those, 52 were robotic assisted and 51 were laparoscopic. All were performed by a single surgical group at Mather Hospital between January 2015 and July 2016. No significant differences in the outcomes of the two groups were found with estimated blood loss, recovery room

stay duration, postoperative pain scores or procedure cost. The operative time as longer with the robotic assisted hernia repair, but only found to be statistically significant with bilateral hernia repair.

Dr. Ahmad and his team concluded that robotic-assisted inguinal hernia repair is a feasible and cost effective treatment option for inguinal hernias. However, long term follow up may reveal other differences in outcomes that may be of importance. The study was approved by Mather Hospital's Institutional Review Board (IRB) in October 2016.

Center of Excellence in Metabolic & Bariatric and Robotic Surgery™, COEMBS™, COERS™ and the COEMBS and COERS seals are trademarks of Surgical Review Corporation. All rights reserved.

COMMUNITY matters

Paint Port Pink



Astoria Bank



Port Jefferson Middle School Students



Christina's



The Frigate

Mather's month-long Paint Port Pink breast cancer community awareness outreach involved more than 100 sponsors and community partners

LEWIS JOHS

Lewis Johs Avallone Aviles, LLP

Counsellors at Law

**"AN INDIVIDUAL APPROACH,
A FIRM COMMITMENT"**

From its inception in 1993, Lewis Johs has steadily gained a reputation as a skilled and dynamic law firm that vigorously represents our clients' interests and acts as counsel on a wide range of matters.

- Commercial Litigation
- Corporate Transactions
- Real Estate
- Professional Liability Defense
- Wills, Trusts and Estates
- Elder Law
- Medicaid Planning
- Special Education

LONG ISLAND • NEW YORK CITY
(631) 755-0101 • www.lewisjohs.com



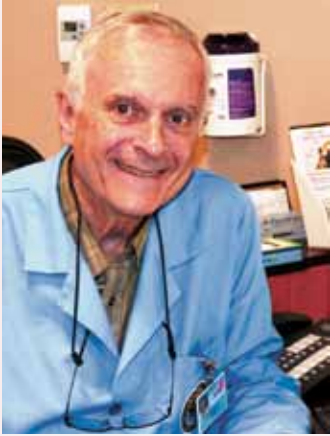
Mather Wear Pink Day



Port Jefferson Free Library

VOLUNTEER matters

Volunteers of the Month



Steve Elmaleh
October



Rosemary Schulenberg
November



Julianne Martin
December



Milestones

8,000 hrs. Richard Buchanan
(above)

7,000 hrs. Steve Elmaleh
(far left)

1,000 hrs. Gloria Cassidy

WITH APPRECIATION



Poinsettia Sale

Mather Auxiliaries Ida Forstel, Ann Bayard, Dot Duggan, Barbara Zinna and Nancy Hutchinson at the annual fundraising sale which raised \$960 in support of Mather Hospital.

**TIRELESS PREPARATION
FIERCE REPRESENTATION**

G&M
GABRIELE • MARANO

516-542-1000
www.gabrielemarano.com

NEW YORK • GARDEN CITY • PORT JEFFERSON • SOUTHAMPTON

Family Matters *(continued from page 12)*

will retire from Mather Hospital after 37 years of full-time service. Her last day is January 6.

Milestone Life Events:

2 East: Congratulations to Elizabeth Taylor, RN, on the birth of her 3rd grandson. Congratulations to Luisa Machado, NA, she became a grandmother to a baby boy. Congratulations to Maria Cassara on the birth of her granddaughter. Congratulations to Divina Fordham, RN, who got engaged while in the Philippines visiting her family. Congratulations to Alice Aug, secretary, on her marriage on September 24 to Tim.

Behavioral Health-Outpatient Chemical Dependency: Multiple congratulations to Megan Fetta of Mather Chemical Dependency on achieving her LMSW license, moving into her new home, and awaiting the birth of her firstborn son in January.

Case Management: Congratulations to Erin Trionfo and her husband Anthony on the birth of their beautiful new baby girl, Alanna Lynn, born on September 22 at 6 lbs, 8 oz.

Food & Nutrition Services: Zehra Rizvi is happy to announce the birth of her first grandson. Reza Ashraf Rizvi was born on November 17, 2016 to Akber and Jephennie Rizvi.

Infusion Center: Renée Castelli's son, Paul Castelli, just got engaged to Lauren Bellissimo, his high school sweetheart of Miller Place. The wedding is set for Friday, September 1, 2017 at the United States Merchant Marine Academy. Paul is a 2015 graduate from the USMMA.

Laboratory: Mimi Chen, a Laboratory Supervisor, and Al Cadavid are expecting the birth of their daughter in February 2017. Jillian Calderone, a member of our Phlebotomy Team, and her husband Michael are expecting the birth of their son in December 2016.

Nursing Administration: Congratulations to Marie Mulligan, CNO, and her daughter Amanda Tommasiello, Assistant Director of Pharmacy, as they get ready to welcome a sweet baby boy.

Patient Accounts: Christine Mazzapelle, her husband Michael, and their beautiful new baby Stella Marie moved into their new house in November. Now they

truly are one big happy family. Erin Kitz moved into her beautiful, new, fabulously decorated apartment in November. She is excited and enjoying her new home. Patti Marksberry, her husband Ron and their entire family, celebrated her son Adam and her new daughter-in-law Amanda's wedding on October 29, 2016, at the Jersey Shore. Debi Giordano, her husband Robert and their family celebrated their daughter Nina and new son-in-law Nick's marriage on October 8, 2016, at the Miller Place Surf Club. Dori Devitt, and her family celebrated her daughter Jessica and her new son-in-law Duncan's wedding on October 21, 2016, at the Miller Place Inn. A joyous and great time was had by all these special families. Congratulations to all.

Radiology: Laura and Greg O'Brien celebrated their 25th Anniversary with a cruise to Bermuda. Congratulations to Liz Devine on her newest grandson, Graham, an angel.

Volunteers: Kimberly Campo (Wound Treatment Center volunteer) was recently engaged.



Long Island Physician Associates

A Multi-Specialty Group
With the Community at Heart

Pain Institute of Long Island

Brian Durkin, D.O.

Samuel Brown, D.O.

635 Belle Terre Road – Suite 209, Port Jefferson

General Surgery Division

Evan Geller, M.D.

70 North Country Road – Suite 203, Port Jefferson

~~~~~  
**(631) 474-0707**

**Accepting Most Insurance**



**KING 'ROURKE**  
Automotive Group  
*Smithtown*  
**DRIVE AMERICAN**

**MATHER HOSPITAL  
EMPLOYEES AND FAMILIES  
RECEIVE EXCLUSIVE GM  
SUPPLIER DISCOUNTS.**

(plus additional offers!)



**756 Route 347 Smithtown**

One Mile West of Smithhaven Mall / [kingourke.com](http://kingourke.com) / 631-724-4700

**LONG ISLAND'S LARGEST CADILLAC, BUICK & GMC DEALER!**

Save Thousands on a new vehicle! Contact Barbara (ext. 125) or [Barbara@kingourke.com](mailto:Barbara@kingourke.com).



**MATHER**  
John T. Mather Memorial  
**HOSPITAL**

75 N. Country Road  
Port Jefferson, NY 11777



Four stars for patient  
experience, safety and  
timely and effective care  
- CMMS

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT # 14  
HUNTINGTON, NY

# FAMILY matters

## Educational and/or Professional:

**2 East:** Congratulations to Desiree Atkinson for graduating nursing school and passing nursing RN boards. Welcome 2 East new employees- Heather Scharf, RN, Danielle Falese, RN, Jillian VanEssendelft, NA, and McKenzie Luberd, NA. Jeanne Brennan, RN-BC, BSN, NM, Christine Zay, RN, BSN, Kerilyn O'Toole, RN, BSN, Stephanie Stamatias, RN, BSN, and Denise Bonneville, RN-BC, BSN, ANM attended AONE, Center for Care Innovation and Transformation, attended two meetings, 1st meeting in Chicago in May and 2nd meeting in Denver in November. This is an 18-month journey with other hospitals across the country to share ideas, obtain knowledge and tools to make change, become leaders and help redesign health care delivery. 2 East created the "skin care bundle" to reduce hospital acquired pressure ulcers.

**Case Management:** Congratulations to

Suzanne Marmo-Roman on earning her Ph.D. in Social Work. Suzanne has been a Medical Social Worker at Mather for 15 years and is an adjunct professor at Fordham University and an adjunct and Student Affairs Coordinator at Adelphi University.

**Infusion Center:** Nancy Robb, RN, Assistant Nurse Manager obtained her certification in oncology administered by the Oncology Nursing Society.

**Laboratory:** Christine Matedero, our Blood Bank Supervisor, attended the annual AABB meeting and participated in their first Patient Blood Management Workshop.

**Radiology:** Kristen Clifford and Cheryl Viggers passed their Certification in Radiology. Congratulations to Shala Naz, a nuclear technologist on accomplishing a second certification as an MRI technologist.

**Wound Treatment Center, Port Jefferson:** Janice O'Connor, RN and Vilma

Rosario, RN both achieved their WCC (Wound Care Certified) credential. Congratulations!

## Promotions:

**Information Services:** Welcome Sherri Guthrie, SQL/Analyst, Michelle Russell, Radiology Info Systems Manager, and Michael Giardinello, Report Writer, to our department.

**Laboratory:** Sherry Mooney has been promoted to laboratory QA/PI Coordinator. Patricia Bigotti has been promoted to Accessioning Supervisor.

**Wound Treatment Center, Port Jefferson:** Welcome Vandana Malhotra, RN and Mary Chawner, RN to the WTC per diem nursing staff.

## Retirements:

**Wound Treatment Center, Port Jefferson:** Deborah Lamendola, Clinical Manager of the Wound Treatment Centers

(continued on page 11)