

Mather matters

A newsletter for the staff, volunteers and benefactors of Mather Hospital
SPRING 2019

New Clinical Decision Unit for medical observation opens on 3 East

A new medical observation unit has opened at Mather with the goal of moving patients out of the Emergency Department (ED) more quickly and into a more comfortable setting where decisions can be made as to whether they are admitted to the hospital or discharged. The Clinical Decision Unit (CDU) consists of six beds in three rooms on 3 East. Patients are managed by 3 East nurses and nursing assistants and by the ED physician assistants.

“The goal of the unit is to place patients who are awaiting to see if they are going to be admitted or discharged in this special unit and not in the ED. The goal is to have all testing completed and make a determination in less than 20 hours,” said AVP for Nursing Emergency Services & Critical Care Phillip Messina, BSN, MPH, RN, who added that Mather has been doing observation in the ED for a few years, but that consisted of beds scattered throughout the department.

ED Nurse Manager Julie Tegay, RN, said data from other

hospitals has shown that CDUs result in fewer patient readmissions, decreased length of stay, better patient satisfaction scores and decreased crowding in Emergency Departments.

“It’s also about the patient experience,” said Senior Director of Patient Access Kelly Mullane. “Instead of a patient being placed in the Emergency Room for an extended period of time, patients that meet the criteria are now placed in the CDU, which is a more appropriate setting. The CDU was also structured to maintain the community hospital ‘feel’, which our patients expect when they’re treated at Mather.”

Mullane said that patient education about this new unit is extremely important. “You’re leaving the Emergency Room and being placed on an inpatient unit, but you’re telling the patient they’re an outpatient,” she said. “The outpatient concept is extremely confusing to our CDU patients, so the Patient Access staff makes sure that each patient understands where they are and why.”

Mather earns 12 A’s for patient safety from the Leapfrog Group

Mather Hospital earned its 12th top “A” rating from The Leapfrog Group for its efforts in protecting patients from harm and meeting the highest patient safety standards in the country. No other hospital in New York State has earned more top safety awards from Leapfrog, a national independent watchdog that sets the highest standards for patient safety in the U.S.

“Patient safety, nursing excellence and quality care are top priorities at Mather Hospital,” said Mather President Kenneth Roberts, “Everyone at Mather – physicians, staff and volunteers – is encouraged to speak up when they see something that could potentially be an issue.”



To see Mather Hospital’s full grade details, visit www.hospitalsafetygrade.org. The next grade announcement is expected in May, 2019.



Kenneth D. Roberts

President's column

In our quest for more exceptional patient safety and quality of care, Mather Hospital has recently adopted various initiatives. They include: **MAST-B** (Mather Administrative Safety Team Brief) - Each morning, Mather leaders gather at 8:30 am for what is known as the MAST-B. This daily, safety oriented meeting increases awareness and communication among frontline staff and discusses current safety challenges and issues, their solutions, and the priorities for the day.

TeamSTEPPS® (Team Strategies and Tools to Enhance Performance and Patient Safety) is an evidence-based set of tools aimed at improving patient outcomes by enhancing communication and teamwork skills among healthcare professionals. The core of TeamSTEPPS® is leadership, situation monitoring, mutual support, and communication. Approximately 130 Mather staff members were trained as master TeamSTEPPS trainers. By the end of 2019, every Mather staff member will take one of two classes – a Fundamentals Class for direct care staff or an Essentials Class for support departments.

These organization-wide efforts will aid us in providing even higher levels of patient safety and quality of care. We are striving for an even higher star rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

People

Welcome **Christine Amoroso, RN** our new Vice President of Quality Management to our senior administrative leadership team.

Our Nursing Department has had several promotions. **Justin Stroker, BSN, RN, PCCN** has been named Director for Patient and Customer Experience. Justin will help enhance the customer service culture at Mather and continue to educate our staff on our organizational values and behaviors of customer care. In addition, **Nicole Amendola, RN**, was named Nurse Manager of 3 North; **Tracy Kuhn, RN**, was promoted to Nurse Manager for 3 East; and **Margaret Pendl, RN**, was promoted to Assistant Nurse Manager of Critical Care.

Congratulations all.

Service

Our 2 South renovation is nearing completion and we will have the unit reopened this summer. Cancer patients will have new single-bedded rooms with full bathrooms and showers. There will also be a bedside computer charting stations, a new family lounge, and expanded nurses' station.

Congratulations to **Cindy Court** of Public Affairs, our grand prize winner in the Top of the Wave Contest which recognizes employees who go above and beyond. Cindy recently helped a man in distress who stopped in to Public Affairs looking for his doctor's office. She made sure he got to his doctor by having him follow her car there. Congratulations also to our Top of the Wave Runners-Up. **Gospel Ofuyah, RN**, of 3 East, was cited for volunteering to provide music at our annual Veterans Day celebration. Donna Benante of Patient Access calmly handled a phone call from a patient who suffers from major depression/suicidal behavior. By working with her teammates, Donna helped the patient receive the immediate help that was needed, helping save a life.

(continued on page 15)



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Mather matters

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Top of the Wave Grand Prize: Cindy Court, Public Affairs

Cindy Court of Public Affairs (third from right), was the grand prize winner in the Top of the Wave Contest. Cindy helped a patient who stopped in to Public Affairs looking for his doctor's office. Seeing that he was having trouble breathing, Cindy had him relax and drink water while she searched for directions to his doctor's office. She then had the man follow her to make sure he arrived safely. Cindy was awarded a Samsung 50" HD Flat Screen TV. With her are (l to r) President Kenneth Roberts, Miriam Hacken of the Employee Engagement Team, Cindy, Mary Steinmuller of Public Affairs, who nominated Cindy, and Cathy Mendelsohn, Employee Engagement Team.



Top of the Wave runner-up: Gospel Ofuyah, RN, Telemetry

Congratulations to Gospel Ofuyah, RN, runner-up in Mather's Top of the Wave Contest. Ofuyah was cited for volunteering "his time and his voice for two years in a row to bring the joy of music to veterans at our annual Veteran's Ceremony." He received an Xbox One S with Fortnite game. Pictured: Ofuyah (center) with President Kenneth Roberts (third from right), Cathy Mendelsohn (far left), Employee Engagement Team, and the staff of 3 East/Telemetry.



Top of the Wave runner-up: Donna Benante

Donna Benante of Patient Access received a phone call from a patient who suffers from major depression / suicidal behavior. The patient stated that they had flushed all of their medication and that they were tired of living. Donna rallied her teammates to help her handle the situation. She kept the patient on the phone until another staff member took over the call. Donna worked with her coworkers to notify police of the patient's name and location and helped get the patient the immediate help needed. Donna received an Amazon Echo Speaker with Alexa. Pictured: Donna with President Kenneth Roberts and members of the Employee Engagement Team and Patient Access staff.

Bright ideas

2019 Bright Ideas Champion

Cathy Roster of Case Management, our 2019 Bright Ideas Champion, submitted 31 implemented Bright Ideas throughout 2018. The program empowers employees and encourages them to personally contribute to Mather's success through suggestions on how to improve such things as processes, patient care, communication, quality, and safety. Pictured: Cathy Roster (left, front row), Melissa Bantz, Voyage to Excellence Program (second from left, front row), VP for Administration Wayne Shattes, (center, back row) and Case Management/Social Work staff. Keep the ideas coming!



medical staff matters

Welcome new doctors!

Ami Abraham, DO

Specialty: Internal Medicine, Critical Care, Pulmonary Medicine, Sleep Medicine
Medical School: New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, Old Westbury
Residency: University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey
Practice: New York Pulmonary Consultants, Port Jefferson

Sean Adwar, MD

Specialty: Radiology, Interventional Radiology
Medical School: New York University School of Medicine
Residency: Staten Island University Hospital, Mt Sinai Beth Israel Hospital
Practice: Stony Brook Radiology Department

Shaheer Ali MD

Specialty: Internal Medicine, Hospital Medicine
Medical School: St. George's Medical School, Grenada
Residency: New York Hospital- Presbyterian Hospital, Queens
Practice: Mather Hospital Medicine

Gad Avshalomov, MD

Specialty: Allergy/Immunology
Medical School: Sackler School of Medicine, Israel
Residency: Long Island Jewish Medical Center, Queens
Practice: NY Allergy Asthma & Immunology P.C., Port Jefferson

Jessica Beyda, MD

Specialty: Pathology
Medical School: Sackler School of Medicine (Israel)
Residency: Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University, Bronx
Practice: Pathology & Laboratory Consultants of Long Island, PLLC, West Islip

Binu Chacko, MD

Specialty: Psychiatry
Medical School: Saba University School of Medicine, Saba, Dutch Caribbean
Residency: Jamaica Hospital, Queens
Practice: Mather Behavioral Health

Shahzad Chaudhary, MD

Specialty: Hospital Medicine
Medical School: St Georges School of Medicine, Grenada
Residency: Flushing Hospital, Queens
Practice: Mather Hospital Medicine

Halyna Chykyda, MD

Specialty: Hospital Medicine
Medical School: Ternopil State Medical University, Ukraine
Residency: Stony Brook University Hospital/ Mather Hospital
Practice: Mather Hospital Medicine

Philip Claire, DO

Specialty: Radiology
Medical School: New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, Old Westbury
Residency: Stony Brook University Hospital
Practice: Mather Radiology

George Cyriac, MD

Specialty: Hematology/Oncology
Medical School: Georgetown University School of Medicine, Washington, DC
Residency: Georgetown University Hospital, Washington, DC
Practice: New York Cancer & Blood Specialists, East Setauket

Borimir Darakchiev, MD

Specialty: Neurosurgery
Medical School: Higher Medical Institute Varna, Bulgaria
Residency: Medical Academy Sofia, Bulgaria; University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
Practice: Long Island Neurosurgical & Pain Specialists, West Islip

Carolina de Elia, MD

Specialty: Internal Medicine, Palliative Care
Medical School: St. George's Medical School, Grenada
Residency: Marshall University School of Medicine, West Virginia
Practice: Mather Palliative Care

Umer Farooq, MD

Specialty: Psychiatry
Medical School: Nishtar Medical College, Pakistan
Residency: Creighton University Medical Center, NE
Practice: Mather Behavioral Health

Ana Franceschi, MD

Specialty: Radiology
Medical School: University of Zagreb Medical School, Croatia
Residency: State University of New York at Buffalo; New York University School of Medicine
Practice: Stony Brook Radiology Department

Robert Galler, DO

Specialty: Neurological Surgery
Medical School: New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, Old Westbury
Residency: Long Island Jewish Medical Center, Queens
Practice: New York Spine & Brain Surgery, PC, East Setauket

Juan Jose Gilbert-Fernandez, MD

Specialty: Plastic Surgery
Medical School: Universidad Catolica de Cordoba, Argentina
Residency: Nassau University Medical Center, East Meadow
Practice: Precision Medical Arts, Smithtown

James Groff, DO

Specialty: General Surgery
Medical School: Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, PA
Residency: Southampton Hospital/Stony Brook University Hospital
Practice: Hesham M. Atwa, MD, East Setauket

Daichi Hayashi, MD

Specialty: Radiology
Medical School: Kings College School of Medicine, Great Britain
Residency: Bridgeport Hospital, CT
Practice: Stony Brook Radiology Department

George Kakoulides, MD

Specialty: Neurological Surgery
Medical School: Tufts University School of Medicine, MA
Residency: Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, NH
Practice: Long Island Neurosurgical & Pain Specialists, West Islip

Erica Katz, MD

Specialty: Emergency Medicine
Medical School: Stony Brook University - School of Dental Medicine
Residency: Stony Brook University Hospital
Practice: Mather Emergency Department

Lien Lam, MD

Specialty: Emergency Medicine
Medical School: Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science, IL
Residency: Long Island Jewish Medical Center, Queens
Practice: Mather Emergency Department

Ateaya Lima, MD

Specialty: Psychiatry
Medical School: American University of Antigua College of Medicine, Antigua and Barbuda
Residency: Nassau University Medical Center, East Meadow
Practice: Mather Behavioral Health

Ross Lipton, MD

Specialty: Anesthesiology, Pain Management
Medical School: Drexel University College of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA
Residency: Stony Brook University Hospital
Practice: Long Island Physician Associates, Port Jefferson

Zulfiqar Malik, MD

Specialty: Hematology/Oncology, Internal Medicine
Medical School: Iowa Lutheran Hospital, Des Moines
Residency: University of Texas Health Sciences Center
Practice: New York Cancer and Blood Specialists, East Setauket

Nitin Mariwalla, MD

Specialty: Neurosurgery
Medical School: Tulane University School of Medicine, LA
Residency: Emory University School of Medicine, GA
Practice: Mariwalla Neurosurgery, West Islip

Michael Miller, MD

Specialty: Internal Medicine
Medical School: Upstate Medical University, Syracuse
Residency: North Shore University Hospital/Long Island Jewish Medical Center
Practice: Mather Hospital Medicine

Salvatore Palumbo, MD

Specialty: Neurosurgery
Medical School: Temple University School of Medicine, PA
Residency: Strong Memorial Hospital of The University of Rochester
Practice: Long Island Neurosurgical & Pain Specialists, West Islip

Michael Parrott, DO

Specialty: Emergency Medicine
Medical School: Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, PA
Residency: St. Barnabas Hospital, Bronx
Practice: Mather Hospital Emergency Department

Mohammad Perwaiz, MD

Specialty: Internal Medicine, Critical Care, Pulmonary Medicine
Medical School: Allama Iqbal Medical College, Pakistan
Residency: Interfaith Medical Center, Brooklyn
Practice: Suffolk Pulmonary Associates, LLP, Port Jefferson

Adesh Ramdass, MD

Specialty: Hospital Medicine
Medical School: Medical University at Pecs, Hungary
Residency: Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, NY
Practice: Mather Hospital Medicine

Christina Ramgoolam, DO

Specialty: Family Medicine
Medical School: Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine, NY
Residency: Brookhaven Medical Center
Practice: Mather Primary Care

Omer Richman, DO

Specialty: Emergency Medicine
Medical School: New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, Old Westbury
Residency: Good Samaritan Medical Center, West Islip
Practice: Mather Emergency Department

Kimberly Song, MD

Specialty: Thoracic Surgery, General Surgery
Medical School: University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey
Residency: Rutgers Medical School, NJ
Practice: Interboro Surgical Associates, PC, Brooklyn



New Physicians Luncheon



Physician Assistants

Service excellence awards are given monthly to employees whose professional



June 2018



July 2018



August 2018

Kelly Abbe
 Frances Abbott
 Imelda Abejar
 Michael Aboagye
 Lauren Acierno
 Kathleen Adams
 Brenda Lei Agaton
 Lindsay Albanese
 Merline Alexis
 Kristin Allen
 Marret Anderson
 Jacqueline Angelini
 Dawn Archila
 Sofia Arroyo
 Deborah Aureliano
 Imelda Bagonoc
 Franco Baingan
 Daphne Baldwin Kornrich
 Mary Ballato
 Boguslawa Baran
 Rosemaire Barbato-Schor
 Jill Barile
 Carol Bartholomew
 Margaret Bartsch
 John Becherer
 Keri Becker
 Julie Belizaire
 Dina Benitez
 Robert Benney
 Deirdre Benson
 Winnifer Bigger
 Vanessa Bishop
 Kimberly Bishop
 Brianna Blansfield
 Kelly Blydenburgh
 Grace Blydenburgh
 Michele Bonafede
 Carla Bond
 Denise Bonneville
 Donna Borrelli
 Larissa Borruso
 Stephen Bove
 Samantha Bowen

Carole Boyd
 Kimberly Brady
 Elizabeth Breslin
 Jessica Brett
 Barbara Broggelwirth
 Carrie Bruno
 Susanne Bruun
 Patricia Burghardt
 Brandon Burke
 Maureen Burke
 Melanie Burns
 Patricia Byrne
 Celeste Cabrera
 Kerry Caldrony
 Brittany Caprisecca
 Emily Carmel
 Claudia Carolan
 Samantha Carr
 Joseph Carrucci, MD
 Maria Cassara
 Diana Castagna
 Maureen Cataldo
 Vanessa Charles
 Dina Chavarria
 Jennifer Christofer
 Kelly Cirimello
 Christine Cirolli
 Frank Clarke
 Craig Clavin
 Anthony Cobb
 Christopher Colletti
 Robert Collins
 Sara Connelly
 Katlyn Conville
 Lauren Coppola
 Patricia Cordle
 Victoria Coto
 James Crawford
 Stephanie Crispino
 Heather Cromer
 Caryn Cruz
 Tina Cuccia
 Rafael Cueto

Thomas Culkin
 Monet Dalpiaz
 Richard Daly
 Lesley D'Amato
 Alexandra Damm
 Jessica Danowski
 Mackenson David
 Miguel Delgado, MD
 Scott DeMartinis
 Heather Dempsey
 Christine Denimarck
 Corrine DeSimone
 James Deutchsh
 Katherine Diamandis
 Lesley Diamond
 Kristin Dillon
 Christine DiPrima
 Amy Dittler
 Rosemarie Dockery
 Daria Dodds
 Leanne Doherty
 Melissa Dooley
 Afroditi Doumanis
 Nicole Drepaniotis
 Anella Droskoski
 Barbara Dugan
 Hennith Dulnuan
 Cynthia Dunn
 Heather Egan
 Kathleen Egner
 Noel Eloriaga
 Stephanie Faggione
 Sabrina Falco
 Danielle Falese
 Sarah Farnworth
 Jennifer Faulkner
 Joseph Ferreri
 Megan Fetta
 Diane Filetto
 Jennifer Flanagan
 Nicole Flatley
 Gerson Flores
 Divina Fordham

Thomas Fornsel
 Gloria Fortune
 Florence Fox
 Marion Fracassa
 Ralph Fracassa
 Carolyn Franson
 Kaitlyn Friel
 Dr. Paul Fritz
 Sandra Galantino
 Annette Garace
 Gail Garcia
 Aleksey Gegin
 Nicole Geiss
 Steven Gerlach
 Kathleen Giacobbe
 Laura Giallanza
 Danielle Giordani
 Cameron Gittens
 Michelle Giuffrida
 Michael Glinka
 Joan Godbold
 Pauleena Gonzalez
 Mary Ann Goodman
 Dennis Gordon
 Grace Gorgone
 Nancy Gorgone
 Kaitlin Graeb
 Jeanne Greenfield
 Catrina Grefe
 Dawn Marie Grisafi
 Susan Grover
 Maria Gruner
 Ariana Guillen
 Jessica Guzman
 Melissa Ann Hafner
 Lori Hamilton
 Sherry Hansen
 Samantha Hanson
 Alyssa Harper
 Elise Haussel
 Allison Hawkins
 Patrick Healy
 Katrina Hensley

Ashley Herrera
 Kathleen Herrera
 Angela Higgins
 Linda Hill
 Rosemaire Hofmann
 Maria Hogan
 Jason Holshoe
 Audrey Homis
 Lyla Hongthong
 Kevin Hood
 Nancy Hughes
 Dr. Syed Hussaini
 Donna Jablonski
 Robyn Jackson
 Barbara Jacome
 Brian Jamison
 Deborah Jardine
 Kathleen Jochen
 Rachel Kealey
 Elieen Keary
 Stephanie Kelly
 Carinne Kennedy
 Shannon Kennedy
 John Kennedy
 Caitlin Kennedy
 Marianne Kiernan
 Maureen Kingren
 Erin Kitz
 Christine Klimar
 Guy Koutouvidis
 Austin Kraft
 Logan Krauss
 Caryn Kruger
 Melanie Kuffner
 Tracy Kuhn
 Joan Landers
 Debra Lang
 Jonna Larned
 Anne Lasota
 Nicholas Lavorna
 Tina Lawrence
 Timothy Lee
 Karen Leibowitz

Excellence awards

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



September 2018



October 2018



November 2018

Antoinette Leocadi
Denise Leombruno
Gina Leone
Samantha Lessa
Lauren Lester
Celine L'Hommedieu
Kenny Lien, MD
Danielle Lipari
Robin Lisanti
Anthony Ljucovic
Marigrace Lomonaco
Kathleen Long
Janetta Lowry
Gerard Lunetta
Jennifer Macauley
Phyllis Macchio
Donna Magill
Andrew Magnano
Susan Mallardi
Victoria Maloney
Despina Manolakis
America Marcos-Gonzalez
Tammy Marrero
Joshua Martino
Geraldine Massimino
Nicole Matthews
Alicea Mattler
Leon Maxwell
Anita Mayer
Darlene McDay
Erin McKenna
Shannon McQueeney
Chelsea Melendez
Stefanie Melling
Noelle Menchini
Christopher Menekou
JoAnn Mercieca
Susanne Meyers
Pamela Michaels
Bernadette Mileto
Angelo Mocerino
Kristian Moeller
Jacqueline Moerler

Bridget Moley
Ruth Moloney
Melissa Monaghan
Patricia Monroe
Breanna Moore
Marissa Morgan
Carolyn Mosley
Kristina Moylan
Tracey Mulderig
Kurt Muller
Chelsea Murray
Amanda Myers
Nicole Nagel
Jovan Nelson
Jean Nesbitt
Dinah Nesterov
Jared Nichi
Sarah Nolan
Jenna Nostramo
Joanna Nunez
Patricia O'Brien
Alice O'Connell
Loni Ofuyah
Kristi O'Hagan
Patricia Olsen
Ashley Orquera
April Overholser
David Padilla
Ashley Pagano
Christopher Paini
Suzanna Paiva
Deborah Pardo
Satvik Patel
Salvatore Pennetti
Ann Marie Penney
Matthew Peraza
Lauren Persaud
Michael Petersen, MD
Karen Petrosino
Matthew Pierre
Elizabethann Pistone
Marilyn Pizza
Suzette Plunkett

Cynthia Polistina
Mary Pope
Ginger Postiglione
Susan Prechtl-Loper
Cynthia Price
Michelle Price, MD
Dena Promutico
Jill Pryor
Lisamarie Puglisi
Geri Quinn
Donna Randone
Colleen Reale
Elizabeth Regina
Samantha Reyes
Tammy Reynolds
Stacy Ricca
Heather Richards
Meredith Rickenbacker
Alyssa Rico
Zachary Riggio
Allison Ritz
Karen Rivera
Nancy Robb
Rebecca Rode
Donny Rodriguez
Kevin Rogers
Kayla Romanek
Julio Romero
Josefyne Romero
Vilma Rosario
Barbara Ross
Angela Ruggiero
Kathryn Rush
Frank Russ
Jane Ryan
Jessica Santamaria
Adina Santana
Georgiana Santomauro
Nicholle Santulli
Katherine Saporito
Lillian Scalogna
Margaret Scharback
Amanda Schoelles

Sarah Schoolden
Crystal Schroeder
Ronald Schuster
Lee Schwartz
Amanda Schwartz
Carissa Sciallo
Brittani Scourby
Charles Seales
Denise Sears
Amanda Sears
Vanessa Sejour
Gabriella Selini
Caitlin Sessa
Sallyann Sharkey
Kieran Shaughnessy
Kaitlyn Sherman
Alicia Sheron
Jacqueline Shields-Figueroa
Grace Shin
Caitlin Short
Jacquelyn Signorelli
Jill Snelders
Agnieszka Sobolewska
Andrew Soldano
Melissa Solivan
Jae Song
Tara Sottile
Stefanie Stamatiades
Darlene Stiegman
Brittany Stokes
Susanna Stone
Meghan Strebel
Maria Karyll Suico
Mary Ann Sundquist
Diana Survilla
Darlene Sutherland
Katherine Swartz
Kimberly Swezey
Sharon Tambasco
Najmi Tanwir
Elizabeth Taylor
Linda Taylor

Michelle Tempelman
Margaret Tepedino
Jennifer Thebner
Casey Travis
Rashan Umari-Stacker
Erin Vaccariello
Marbeli Valdez
Victoria Vallance
Krista VanHove
Tamika Vaz
Janet Vazquez
Joseph Veselak
Julia Vetere
Denise Vicari
Rosa Villatoro
William Voight III
Patrick Vosper
Kristy Vutrano
Kaitlyn Wagner
Matthew Wagner
Minna Waldeck
Deyanira Webb
Kathy Weisman
Jamie Werthner
Shamaine White
Andreu Wichard
Kathleen Wilson
Kimberly Wilson
Timothy Wintz
Maryanne Wisniewski
Halina Wiszowaty
Loren Wolf
Emily Wolff
Debra Youngs
Mary Ann Yutig
Sharon Zariello
Jennifer Zeman

Donald E. Lippencott appointed to Mather Hospital board

Donald E. Lippencott, MSFS, of East Setauket has been named to Mather's Board of Directors. He also serves as vice chairman of the JTM Foundation board, which works to foster relationships with those individuals and organizations that have a like-minded vision and the desire to support exceptional health care at Mather for the benefit of our community. Lippencott also was honored as Mather's 2016 Community Honoree at the annual One Enchanted Evening Gala.

A principal of Lippencott Financial Group, a financial consulting firm, he has more than three decades of

experience in the insurance, estate planning and financial services business. Since 1997, he has been a member agent of The Nautilus Group® and has served on its board. Lippencott is a member and past president of New York Life Agents Reinsurance Company, an agent-owned reinsurance company.



He attended both Gordon College in Wenham, MA and Stony Brook University for undergraduate studies, and holds a Master of Science degree in Financial Services from the American College, Bryn Mawr, PA.

Linda Oak named to JTM Foundation board



Linda Oak of Port Jefferson Station was named to the board of the JTM Foundation, which works to foster relationships with those individuals and organizations that have a like-minded vision and the desire to support exceptional health care at Mather Hospital for the benefit of our community.

Oak grew up in Port Jefferson Station and attended Infant Jesus Elementary School in Port Jefferson, and The Academy of St. Joseph in Brentwood, NY.

A graduate of the University of Rochester with a BA in

Biology, early in her career Oak worked at a number of research and science companies, including as a laboratory technician for Cystic Fibrosis at Boston University School of Medicine and later at St. Elizabeth Hospital, Boston, MA in Malaria research. She was employed as a technical sales consultant for DNA, RNA testing systems at QIAGEN Inc., Chatsworth, CA; as a marketing specialist for forensic and paternity testing at Lifecodes, Inc., Stamford, CT; and as a product manager for nucleic acid purification at Promega Corp., Madison, WI.

Upon returning to Long Island to be near family, Oak took a position at Bank of America and later at Valley National Bank, Setauket managing customer accounts.

Christine Amoroso appointed vice president for quality

Christine Amoroso, RN, BS, MS, has been appointed as Mather Hospital's vice president for quality, a new position. She reports director to Mather President Kenneth Roberts and will work collaboratively with CMO/Senior Vice President Joan Faro, MD and CNO/Vice Present for Nursing Marie Mulligan PhD, RN to oversee, coordinate and implement quality management programs at Mather.



Amoroso previously was director of quality management for Southside Hospital in Bay Shore. Before joining Southside in 2013, she served as assistant director of

corporate quality for Northwell Health.

Amoroso received her master's degree in Health Care Policy and Management from Stony Brook University and completed a long term care fellowship at the Long Island State Veterans Home in Stony Brook. She received her bachelor of science degree in nursing from Molloy College, Rockville Centre and also received a New York State advanced certificate in health care policy and management.

Amoroso volunteers with Support the Kid for Cancer and the food pantry at St. Patrick's RC Church, Smithtown. She lives in Smithtown with her husband and daughter.

TeamSTEPPS® program aims to improve patient safety and outcomes

TeamSTEPPS® (Team Strategies and Tools to Enhance Performance and Patient Safety) is an evidence-based set of tools aimed at improving patient safety and outcomes by enhancing communication and teamwork skills among healthcare professionals. The core of TeamSTEPPS® is comprised of four skills: Leadership, Situation Monitoring, Mutual Support, and Communication.

Approximately 130 Mather staff members were trained as Master TeamSTEPPS trainers. All Mather staff will attend one of two classes. The first classes were held on January 3, 2019. Mather staff attend one of two types of classes – a Fundamentals Class for direct care staff and an Essentials Class for support departments.

Hospital-wide training will continue throughout 2019.

Giving and receiving with charitable gift annuities

People come to Mather Hospital for high quality, patient-centered and compassionate care. The hospital relies on the generosity of our community to help us maintain our exceptionally high standards.

Now, Mather is proud to introduce a new way to support the hospital – a gift that also provides the donor with an

Sample charitable gift annuity rates

One-life rates		Two-life rate	
Age	Rate	Ages	Rate
60	4.7%	60/60	4.1%
65	5.1%	65/65	4.5%
70	5.6%	70/70	5.0%
75	6.2%	75/75	5.5%
80	7.3%	80/80	6.2%
85	8.3%	85/85	7.3%
90+	9.5%	90/90	9.1%

income stream for life called a Charitable Gift Annuity. This gift option enables a lifetime of fixed income payments, a portion of which is tax-free. Ultimately, after the passing of the donor, the balance of the gift will go to support Mather Hospital.

Annuities can be created with a minimum gift of \$10,000 and can be for one or two lives, so a couple also can benefit from this type of gift. If you are age 60 or older, you may set up an annuity and begin to receive immediate payments. You may also create a deferred annuity if you are between the ages of 50-59. The tax deduction for both types of annuities is taken “now” in the year that you make the gift, which may reduce your current tax liabilities.

▼ Request our free guide, *Income for Life: Charitable Gift Annuity* or for more information contact **Carson Jean Nicklaus, Director of Charitable Giving at (631) 476-2723 or cnicklaus@matherhospital.org**

One Enchanted Evening honors three



One Enchanted Evening gala honorees Northwell Health President & CEO Michael J. Dowling, our Community Honoree (second from left); Hesham Atwa, MD, of Long Island Laparoscopic Doctors (third from left) and David T. Chu, MD, of New York Cancer & Blood Specialists (fourth from left), our 2018 Theodore Roosevelt Award winners for service to the Hospital and to the community. With them are Mather Chairman Leo Sternlicht (far left), Mather President Kenneth Roberts (second from right) and Mather Board Member Timothy Glynn. Also honored for his many years of service to Mather was Board Member and former Chairman Kenneth Jacoppi (second from left, second photo).

Wear Red Day 2019

Mather employees and volunteers got their red on to raise awareness about women's heart health as part of the American Red Cross Go Red for Women campaign.





Safe Patient Handling Olympics

Mather nurses, nursing assistants and physical therapists took part in Northwell Health’s annual Safe Patient Handling Olympics. Hosted by Northwell’s Center for Learning and Innovation and Patient Safety Institute, teams from throughout the health system took part to share best practices and raise awareness about safety when handling patients.

Pictured is Mather’s Team (left to right): Teresa DeGonzague, NA; Anthony Cobb, NA; Stephen Bove, PT; Ray Bonner, SPHM; Justin Stroker, RN; Josette Marchese, NA; Joe Hein, NA; CNO/VP for Nursing Marie Mulligan, PhD, RN; AVP for Nursing Professional Development Brandy Feliu, MSN, RN; Doug Bergman, NA.

Critical Care nurse receives DAISY Award

The care and compassion she showed one of her patients earned Mather critical care nurse Nicole Goldkranz, RN, a DAISY Award, which recognizes extraordinary nurses. She was nominated by the family of a cancer patient, who said, “Nicole was very attentive to his needs and details regarding his care. She tirelessly checked to make sure he was as comfortable as possible.” Goldkranz, center, was honored by Hospital and Nursing administration and ICU staff.



Frontline impact

Frontline Impact Results Summit is the culmination of a year-long program designed to improve quality of care and patient safety. Pictured with guest speaker Jim Kane, Advisory Board Senior Director of Talent Development Partnerships (third from left) at the September program were (left to right) AVP for Nursing emergency Services & Critical Care Nursing Philip Messina, BSN, MPH, RN; Nursing Research Coordinator Judith Moran, DNSc, RN; Director for Nursing Recruitment Annemarie Doodian, MSN, RN; CNO/VP for Nursing Mulligan, PhD, RN; Director of Service Excellence and Magnet Maureen Altieri, MS, RN; AVP for Nursing Professional Development Brandy Feliu, MSN, RN; Director of Nursing Quality and Stroke Coordinator Joanne Lauten, BSN, RN; and Statistician for Nursing Quality Sarah Eckardt, MS.

Authentic nurse leadership article by CNO vice president for nursing Marie Mulligan to be published

“Authentic Nurse Leadership Conceptual Framework: Nurses’ perception of authentic leader attributes,” by CNO/VP for Nursing Marie Mulligan, PhD, RN, CNOR, NEA-BC and Sarah Eckardt, MS, will be published in Nursing Administration Quarterly “Finding an Antidote to toxic Leadership” April /June Edition. This publication was a finding from Dr. Mulligan’s research and doctoral dissertation.

“My professional focus has been on healthcare and leadership,” Mulligan said. “Therefore, the focus of my PhD studies and research was in the development of a leadership framework for nursing and health care professionals. The research and completion of the dissertation was complex in

nature and took three years to complete. I am very pleased and honored to have my work recognized in a scholarly publication. The dissemination of my research findings has significant implications for nursing practice and leadership especially in health care today.”

“Today’s nurse leaders are challenged to successfully implement and sustain healthy work environments and promote staff engagement,” the article’s introduction states. “Authentic leaders possess inner core values that are consistent with the nursing profession. Authentic nurse leaders are able to create a healthy work environment that leads to engaged nurses.”

Daily leader brief promotes safety and quality of care at Mather

Each morning, Mather's leadership gathers for what is known as MAST (Mather Administrative Safety Team) Brief. This meeting is a way of keeping everyone aware of front-line operations, identifying problems, assigning people to resolve issues and ensuring that everyone knows the priorities for the day.

The huddle is a review of the past 24 hours, a look ahead at potential issues that could arise at the Hospital and an opportunity to report on safety issues previously identified and what is being done to resolve them.

"By meeting each morning we can share information on safety issues and react more quickly to resolve them," said Mather President Kenneth Roberts. "Patient safety is a top priority at Mather and this is another tool to help ensure we are providing the best care possible to our patients."

MAST Briefs occur daily including weekends and holidays.



Back by popular demand...

The Employee Engagement Team brings you the

2019 summer photo competition

Contest rules:

1. All photos must be submitted by April 30, 2019.
2. Photos must be submitted via email in the form of a digital jpg (no prints, please) to Cathy Mendelsohn's attention at cmendelsohn@matherhospital.org.
3. The theme of the Summer Photo Competition is animals and pets. Please do not include people in any submissions to avoid any release consents.
4. Multiple entries may be submitted; however, individuals may only win once.

Winning photos will be displayed as a screensavers for June, July and August 2019!

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25 years of walking the walk

Get ready to celebrate the Families Walk for Hope's 25th anniversary on Saturday, May 4. The 5-mile Walk from the Hospital through the scenic villages of Port Jefferson and Belle Terre is a community fundraiser to benefit the Fortunato Breast Health Center and breast cancer treatment at Mather.

Last year, the walk raised more than \$104,000. Two new 3D mammography units were purchased in 2018 for the Fortunato Breast Health Center and were 100 percent paid for through donations raised through initiatives like the Families Walk for Hope.



Approximately 600 participants each year enjoy a day of camaraderie, entertainment and snacks while demonstrating their support in the fight against breast cancer. Festivities also include a health fair, family activities, music, the popular Pink Your Pooch Costume Contest and raffles.

One in eight women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime, and a mammogram can save your life by finding breast cancer early, when it's most treatable.

▼ To register yourself or form a team with co-workers, friends or family, or to support an individual walker or a team, go to familieswalkforhope.org/walk.





Promoting nursing professional development

Mather's Nursing Department launched a new mentoring program consisting of two tracks, one for entry to practice graduate nurses and the other for new nursing leaders. The program's goal is to promote professional development and to continue the retention of nursing staff. CNO/VP for Nursing Marie Mulligan, PhD, and AVP of Nursing Professional Development Brandy Feliu, MSN, RN, support the program. Clinical Instructor Marsha Deckman, MSN, RN, NE-BC, ONC, is the site coordinator. Currently, 64 employees participate in the program, which will continue over the next year. A second group will begin in the fall of 2019.

Veterans Field of Honor ceremony



Mather honored employees, physicians, volunteers, patients and community members who have served our country with a Veterans Field of Honor Ceremony. CNO/VP of Nursing Marie Mulligan (far right in group photo) presented each veteran with a special pin, including 103-year-old patient James Tarzian (front of group photo) of Port Jefferson, who served in World War II.

Lisa Doumas, RN, who emceed the ceremony, later presented a pin to patient Antonio Fusco of Selden, a Korean War veteran.





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Employee giving campaign emphasizes we are *Better Together*

Kelly Mullane from Patient Access gave in memory of her sister, who died of colorectal cancer. Debbie Przybylinski from Compliance said “I give because I love that I can designate 2 South. I worked there for three years and my grandmother died of cancer. So my heart is always with 2 South.” Mike Weisinger from Revenue Integrity and Compliance gave “on behalf of all the amazing people I work with!”

Everyone who donated to the annual Employee & Volunteer Giving Campaign had a different reason, but they shared a common goal – to support Mather in a way that is meaningful to them.

“Through the Giving Campaign we encouraged employees to find their passion and make a difference,” said Laura Juliano, Director of Annual Giving. “As a result the number of employees who participated in the campaign increased by 60% in 2018 and more than \$51,000 was raised to date for the programs and services our employees care deeply about.” The “Better Together” campaign enabled donors to direct their gifts to specific areas of the hospital.

“Most employees give through payroll deduction because just a few dollars from their paycheck is an easy way to give and results in a significant gift over time,” Juliano said.

▼ **To read about what our employees are passionate about at Mather, go to matherbettertogether.org**

Improving patient care:

New privacy curtains help reduce hospital acquired infections

Anti-microbial privacy curtains that can be easily cleaned have been installed at Mather Hospital as part of an effort to reduce hospital-acquired illnesses.

“According to the Centers for Disease Control, 205 people die each day due to hospital acquired infections. There is mounting recognition that hospital environments play a pivotal role in the spread of healthcare associated infections,” said Joanne Lauten, MSN, SCRN, CPHQ, Director of Quality and Stroke Coordinator.

Privacy curtains in hospital rooms can collect dangerous antibiotic-resistant bacteria. VRE (Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococcus) can survive on polyester for up to 80 days and MRSA (Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus) up to 40 days. Privacy curtains are difficult to disinfect, clean and can be difficult to change. In a recent study it was determined that because pathogens can stay on hospital surfaces for



“I give each year to the Employee Giving Campaign on behalf of all of the *amazing people* I work with that help make this such a great hospital and to help improve the health and well-being of our patients and their families. I’m proud to work at Mather!”

-Mike, Revenue Integrity and Compliance

“I give because I love that I can designate 2 South. I worked there for 3 years and my grandmother died of cancer. So, *my heart is always with 2 South.*”

-Debbie, Compliance



weeks, curtains are a vehicle for transmission.

Hand shield anti-microbial curtains were developed by healthcare professionals to aide in preventing the spread of infection. Having a permanently affixed shield, allows for the curtain to be wiped frequently, decreasing the spread of multi-drug resistant organisms.

The curtains, which were installed in late November, were funded in part by a \$225,000 donation from the Mather Auxiliary. “Mather is continually striving to improve patient care by decreasing the risk of infection to our patients. These new anti-microbial curtains will promote a cleaner, safer patient environment and will add to the ongoing initiatives taken by the hospital to prevent the spread of infection,” Lauten said. “Other hospitals in the Northwell system that have introduced these new curtains have seen a tremendous decrease in hospital acquired C- difficile, MRSA and VRE.

President's message (continued from page 2)

Congratulations to **Cathy Roster** of Case Management, our 2019 Bright Ideas Champion. Last year, Cathy submitted 31 implemented ideas.

Quality & Safety

To cut down on hospital-acquired infections, we have replaced all our patient privacy curtains with new anti-microbial curtains. These curtains have a permanently affixed shield that allows them to be wiped and disinfected frequently, decreasing the spread of multi-drug resistant organisms. A big Thank You to our Auxiliary for funding these curtains with their 2018 donation to Mather Hospital.

Congratulations to the MRI Center for once again being awarded ACR accreditation for Breast MRI.

Innovation & Growth

This year we will be adding two new CT scanners, a 128-slice CT and a 64-slice CT. We will be retiring the 16 slice CT scanner that has served us for more than a decade.

This will help with providing better patient experience and quality care by reducing the waiting time for CT scans.

In addition, we will be adding **intraoperative CT** technology for neurosurgery in our Operating Suite. Called Airo, this technology provides CT images of the patient's anatomy while they are in the operating room, allowing our surgeons to make more accurate intraoperative decisions rapidly. This helps to save time and, when combined with our image guided surgery system, enables greater surgical accuracy.

Every second counts in an emergency. That's why, prior to receiving our Cardiac Catheterization approval, we are planning to recommission our heliport so that we can accommodate SkyHealth, Northwell Health's state-of-the-art emergency helicopter service that greatly reduces the time to transport a critically ill or injured patient. Flying over traffic at 135 miles an hour, the SkyHealth helicopter offers the fastest and safest route to advanced care. Thank you again to the Mather Auxiliary for helping to fund this project.

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family matters

Educational and/or Professional - Imaging Services: Kim Wilson received her certification from The National Board for Certification for Training Administrators for Graduate Medical Education Programs. **Infection Prevention & Control:** Mary Jane Fisher recertified for 2019-2020 as a Certified Professional in Healthcare Quality. Debra Tuttle obtained her Medical-Surgical Certification (RN-BC). Christine MacEntee, MS, CLT, RN-BC, CRNI, CNE obtained her Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) Certification. **Physical Therapy:** Congratulations to Lynsey Jarett, PT, daughter of Kim (Wound Treatment Center) and Dennis Jarett on her completion of Doctor of Physical Therapy from Quinnipiac University in May and most recently passing her boards in October. **Wound Treatment Center, Melville:** Welcome new employee Dalma Daniel, RN. **Wound Treatment Center, Port Jefferson:** Welcome new employee Andrea Wohlenberg, RN, NOCN, MSN.

Promotions/Appointments - Emergency Department: Anna Cardon was hired as secretary for ED Administration. **Information Services:** Marc Rosenboom has been promoted to IS Manager. Diane Seno has been promoted to Applications Manager. Tom Neithercut has been promoted to Infrastructure & Support Supervisor. **Medical Staff Credentialing:** Regina Grandelli was named Medical Staff Credentialing Coordinator.

Retirements - Emergency Department: Ellen Dwyer, BSN, RN, CEN. We wish her health and happiness in the future. **Respiratory Care Services:** Nancy Corso, day shift respiratory therapist, retired on January 9, 2019. **Telecommunications:** Ginger Adamic retired on March 29 after more than 40 years as a telephone operator at Mather. Ginger began as a part-time operator in 1978 and became a full-time employee in 1992. Her voice and her colorful personality will be missed!

Milestone Life Events - Bariatric and Robotic Center of Excellence: Lucia Bush, Assistant Director to the Bariatric & Robotic Center of Excellence, gave birth to her second child, a healthy baby boy named Lorenzo on November 8, 2018. **Emergency Department:** Congratulations to Jamie Kotler, BSN, RN, CEN on the birth of twin boys. **Food & Nutritional Services:** Kelsey Macaluso and Billy Dunlop recently became engaged, congratulations to the happy couple. John Moscarelli and Angelica Escobar recently became engaged, congratulations to the happy couple. **Laboratory:** Pat Callaghan, welcomed her beautiful first granddaughter, Margo Jane French, on Sept. 26, 2018. **Nursing Administration:** Congratulations to CNO VP for Nursing Marie Mulligan, PhD, RN, CNOR, NEA-BC on the birth of her grandson, Dominic on January 19. **Surgical Services:** Congratulations to Director for Surgical Services Karen Tuzzolo, BSN, RN, on her new granddaughter, Ariella Grace, born on March 30.