

Richmond University Medical Center

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New Emergency Department Construction Begins! Work Crews Begin Preparing Site of New 35,000 Sq. Ft. ED



Work crews arrived on site in late April to begin installing the first phase of fencing around the construction site that will eventually become Richmond University Medical Center's new 35,000 square foot emergency department. The new ED is the latest project the hospital is undertaking to expand its health care services to the Staten Island community.

Crews constructed the fence from the existing Garner Mansion, down Kissel Avenue and then back toward the hospital building to enclose the site. Additional construction equipment has also arrived on site. Additional site prep work including temporary walkways and curb cuts are being installed to allow additional access to existing parking areas throughout the early phase of construction.

Once the fencing and walkways are complete, construction will commence inside the site and planned alteration work within the existing hospital will also begin. Throughout construction, disruption to emergency department services, patients, and the surrounding community will be managed carefully.

The new emergency department will cover 35,000 square feet and feature increased private treatment rooms, state-of-the-art trauma bays, additional support space, and specialty areas for pediatrics and urgent care.



"I think I can speak for everyone when I say how exciting it is to see the next evolution of Richmond University Medical Center underway and how each and every staff member makes these wonderful projects possible," president and CEO Daniel J. Messina, Ph.D., FACHE said.

From the President & CEO
Daniel J. Messina, PhD, FACHE, LNHA



Recent weeks have seen advancements at Richmond University Medical Center that will benefit Staten Island for years to come. The first is the start of construction on our new emergency department. Behind the hospital building, construction fencing and equipment are in place as the initial phases of construction get underway. In the coming weeks construction will intensify that will ultimately result in a new, 21st century emergency department in approximately 18 to 24 months from now. Throughout construction, updates will be shared as we reach milestones in the project. The very image of our hospital, which has stood for over 100 years, is changing

right before our eyes and I am excited to be sharing this experience with you.

The second advancement that recently occurred is the beginning of our new thrombectomy program. In early April, Richmond University Medical Center entered into a partnership with Interventional Neuro Associates to perform life-saving procedures to remove blood clots from within the brain. Prior to this partnership, our hospital was only a transfer site for stroke victims in need of thrombectomies. No longer! Within days of finalizing this partnership with Interventional Neuro Associates, two successful thombectomies were performed within our hospital. Both patients are doing well and undergoing rehabilitation. This new service line breathes new life into both our stroke program and neurology department. It's another example of the highest level of quality health care being provided here on Staten Island, in our hospital!

Lastly, May is mental health awareness month. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, one in five adults in the United States lives with a mental health condition. A total of 43.8 million people

in our country are living with a mental illness, and sadly, 90 percent of people that commit suicide have an underlying mental illness. Mental health awareness month was established to raise awareness of the millions suffering from mental health illnesses and the stigma they face, including bullying and discrimination. Thanks to the inpatient, outpatient psychiatric and substance abuse services provided by our behavioral health department that now includes Staten Island Mental Health Society, thousands of children and adults in our community are receiving the treatment and support they need. Tremendous thanks goes to the entire behavioral health team, including everyone at the Center for Integrative Behavioral Medicine for making Richmond University Medical Center the region's leading provider of behavioral health services.

In closing, National Nurse Recognition Week was May 6 through 12. Thank you to our entire nursing staff for what you do every day for our patients and their families! You are all heroes!

Remember the Power of One - You Make A Difference!

Patient Satisfaction: A Note of Thanks

To Jean Gordon, assistant vice president, emergency department,

This afternoon while conducting patient rounds I received great patient feedback for Nurse Extern Peter Genau from one of our patients. The patient presented to the ED with complaint of chest pain and was so happy with the attention he received from Peter that he asked I please let his supervisor know about the excellent care he received from him. He stated Peter, among other things, kept him informed of delays which helped put him at ease and lessened the stress he was feeling. I bring this to your attention at the

patient's request and because this is exactly the nurse extern outcomes and patient experience objectives you speak of at our leadership meetings. Peter's dedication to our patients reflect well upon the institution and the ED and I request he be recognized for it.

— Sincerely, Rich Ortiz

Dear Jean Gordon,

I was seen in the ED this morning for knee pain in my left knee. I want to acknowledge the activity that was taking place around me. There was one particular patient who continually

yelled out for help. I saw her be attended to each time she yelled out. However she continued to do that. It made me realize exactly what your staff deals with every day. As we sit in our offices all day, we really have no idea what an average day in the emergency department is like. I, for one, want to acknowledge the dedication, knowledge and empathy your staff exhibits every day. Thank you for being an advocate for anyone who visits our emergency department. I am grateful to know the wonderful staff there.

— Christine DeAngelis

First Successful Surgery Using New Bone Void Filler Performed at RUMC



Mark Brandon, MD, FAAOS

In a first for Richmond University Medical Center, last week successful hip replacement surgery was performed using a new calcium sulfate bone void

filler called InterSep. Board certified orthopedic surgeon, Mark L. Brandon, MD, FAAOS performed the surgery. Dr. Brandon and an orthopedic surgeon in Florida are the first two surgeons in the country to complete procedures using the new material.

According to Pacific Bioceramics, the product's manufacturer, InterSep is a 100 percent synthetic calcium sulfate bone void filler that fully resorbs and replaces bone during the healing process. According to Dr. Brandon, Intersep consists of calcium sulfate beads that slowly dissolve over the course of six weeks. As the beads

dissolve antibiotics are released, reducing the possibility of infection which can cause further complications and hinder the patient's healing process.

"This new product can help minimize the risk of infection associated with joint replacement surgery such as total knee, total hip, total shoulder and reverse shoulder replacements," Dr. Brandon said. "The risk of infection with these surgeries is increased in Staten Island because we have higher rates of obesity and diabetes compared to New York City and national averages."

Richmond University Medical Center Holds Human Trafficking Conference

On April 17th, Richmond University Medical Center brought together experts on a subject that many are unaware happens even here on Staten Island: human trafficking. Over 100 people attended the conference held at the hospital. Presentations focused on how people fall prey to human and organ trafficking, signs of potential victims that medical staff should be aware of, and resources available to connect victims to organizations that can help.

Organized by the hospital's forensic nurse coordinator Richard Ortiz, the conference shed light on the fact that trafficking happens more frequently than many people believe. According to Stephanie Clemente, training and outreach manager for Safe Horizon's anti-trafficking program, the most

common victims are the poor and small, often orphaned, children. Safe Horizon is the largest victim services non-profit organization in the United States. While the conference was open to the public, the focus was on

educating medical staff, especially in the emergency department, so that possible victims could be identified easily and connected with support services and law enforcement as quickly as possible.



Safe Horizon's Stephanie Clemente discusses the physical signs to look for in possible human trafficking victims.

Emergency Department, Elizabeth Traynor Honored by Local Church



On April 5th, Stapleton Union American Methodist Episcopal Church Honored Richmond University Medical Center’s Emergency Department for its continued service to the community. On hand to accept the award were members of the ED staff, including Harry Kopolovich, MD FAAEM FAEMS, chairman of the department of emergency medicine. Also honored was Elizabeth Traynor, LCSW, assistant vice president of child, adolescent, and family outpatient services. Like the ED staff, Traynor was honored for her continued commitment to the community. For the last 20 years she has served the community as part of Staten Island Mental Health Society, which merged with RUMC in January. Today, she continues her service to the community has part of the RUMC family.

Department Headlines:

Ambulatory: Congratulations to the following: Paula Caputo, MPA who has been promoted to Vice President of the Health Network. Sandra Conrad, RN, MSN who has been promoted to Assistant Vice President of Ambulatory Services. Jasmin Eversley-Danso, MS who has been promoted to Director of the Richmond Quality Accountable Care Organization & Ambulatory Population Health, and Brittany Langan, MSW, who has been promoted Director of Ambulatory Performance Improvement.

Cardiology: Congratulations to Eileen Duffy, RN who has been promoted to the position of Assistant Nurse Manager in the Cardiac Cath Laboratory / EPS Service Line. Eileen has been with the Medical Center since 1978 and has a solid cardiac background with excellent clinical skills.

Information Technology: IT now has extended onsite support hours: 8 AM to 11 PM, Monday through Thursday; 8 AM to 5 PM on Fridays; and 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM on Saturdays & Sundays.

Orthopedics: Congratulations to Dr. Mark Sherman who was inducted into the Staten Island Sports Hall of Fame on April 13th.

Pediatrics: Congratulations to Dr. Aishwarya “Aish” Palorath and Dr. Shailesh Mananadhar on their recent presentations. Dr. Palorath presented on “Integrating the Care of Immigrant and Refugee Children in a Patient Centered Medical Home: A Resident-Led Advocacy Project” at the NY Pediatric Advocacy Conference on March 13th at NY Presbyterian Columbia Hospital. Dr. Mananadhar presented on “Improving Care Transitions from Inpatient to Primary Care Pediatric Settings: A Resident-Led Quality Improvement Project” at the Medical Society State of NY Poster Symposium on April 12th in Tarrytown, NY.

Hospital Trustee Katherine Connors Named SI Advance Woman of Achievement



RUMC Trustee Kathrine Connors

Richmond University Medical Center Trustee Katherine Connors, MPH, PT, has been named one of six Women of Achievement by the Staten Island Advance. Kathy is the third-generation Connors woman to be named an Advance Woman of Achievement.

A physical therapist in private practice on Staten Island with a Master of Public Health from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Kathy is the past Assistant Coordinator of Rehabilitation at the former St. Vincent’s Medical Center, and is the former Rehabilitation Field Supervisor for the Sisters of Charity Home Health Care Corp. Kathy also serves on the boards of the Friends of Channel Thirteen and the Sisters of Charity Housing Development Corp. She is a Trustee of

the Staten Island Children’s Museum, and was President of the Notre Dame Academy Parent’s Guild for three years. On behalf of everyone at Richmond University Medical Center, congratulations Kathy!

Five Questions with 2019 Woman of Achievement Katherine Connors:

Q: What has been most rewarding about your involvement with RUMC?

A: It has been incredibly rewarding to see Richmond University Medical Center progress in spite of the challenges of being a stand-alone hospital in an era of mergers and acquisitions. Working alongside gifted, passionate, and determined administrators, physicians, board members, and staff toward the goal of creating an acute care medical center to service the needs of our expanding community, has made my involvement with RUMC a worthwhile and fulfilling experience.

Q: What would you like people to know most about the medical center?

A: I would most like people to know that the care and compassion given to patients and their families by the RUMC health care team is unparalleled. To be a patient at RUMC is to be part of a family.

Q: What does it mean to you to be named a “Woman of Achievement”?

A: To be named as a “Woman of Achievement” means that I have been given many opportunities to pursue my passion and to help contribute to my Staten Island community. It means that I have been blessed, and with that comes the responsibility of giving back to others.

Q: What or who is your biggest inspiration? Why?

A: As I mentioned in my Staten Island Advance interview, my biggest inspiration has been my maternal grandmother, Katherine Sheehan Barrett. She influenced me more than anyone else in my lifetime. As an early 20th century immigrant from Cork, Ireland to New York City, she personified the American Dream. It was her pride in becoming an American citizen that instilled in me a love of my community and it was her voracious love of reading and learning that fostered in me deep respect for education and the written word.

Q: Do you have a message you would like to share with the medical staff and employees of RUMC?

A: Keep up the good work! Keep striving because what you do really matters. It is God’s work.

Associate Chief of Cardiology Speaks to Local Veterans

On April 9th, president and CEO Daniel J. Messina, Ph.D., FACHE, and associate chief of cardiology, Francesco Rotatori, MD, were guest speakers at a meeting of the United Staten Island Veterans Organization.

Dr. Rotatori discussed maintaining a

healthy heart and the various cardiac procedures performed at the hospital including cardiac rehabilitation. Many of the procedures performed outside Staten Island are actually being performed at Richmond University Medical Center, so as Dr. Rotatori said “there is no need to leave the borough

to receive the best cardiac care.” Dr. Messina spoke about the services available to veterans at Richmond University Medical Center. On behalf of everyone at RUMC to veterans everywhere, thank you for your service and Welcome Home to our Vietnam veterans.

March New Hires — Welcome to RUMC!

- Faisal Abdelkarim, *Documentation Specialist*

Shahzad Alam, *Painter*

Ashlee Barbato, *Clerk*

Melinda Bardos, *Asst Director*

Theresa Burzo, *DRT*

Jennifer Cienki, *BH Therapist*

Kyle Crespo, *Building Service Worker*

Renee Dambakly, *Clinical Resource Manager*

Peter Decesare, *Respiratory Therapist*

Desaray Diaz, *Security Guard*

Bibian Ezeani, *Nursing Assistant*

Margaret Goolic, *Clerk*

Jessenia Gutierrez, *EMT*
- Kelli Harrer, *Lab Tech*

Michael Jennings, *EMT*

Paul Leon, *Painter*

Charlotte Lewis, *Nursing Assistant*

Carol Lucciola, *Quality Coordinator*

John Meskovic, *Carpenter*

Jennifer Minetti, *Mammography Tech*

Paula Morrison, *Nurse Manager*

Mirjeta Nikoviq, *Clerk*

Joseph Piermatteo, *Peer Advocate*

Tania Torres, *Nursing Assistant*

George Triantafillou, *Plumber*

Head of Neurology Honored by Richmond County Medical Society



At the Richmond County Medical Society’s recent Doctors’ Recognition Day, Allan B. Perel, MD, Richmond University Medical Center’s Director of Neurology, was honored for his years of service to the Staten Island medical community and for his dedication to the many patients who have benefitted from his care. Dr. Perel was also presented with a City Proclamation from Staten Island Borough President James Oddo. Present with Dr. Perel were Susan Perel; Linda Sabatino, Executive Director, RCMS; and past RCMS president Dr. Tony Sgarlato.

Resident Physicians Present at Medical Society Symposium, Take Home Awards

On April 12th, Pediatric, Internal Medicine, and Psychiatry resident physicians from Richmond University Medical Center presented their research and quality improvement projects at the annual Medical Student, Resident, and Fellow Poster Symposium hosted by the Medical Society of the State of New York. The team came home from Tarrytown, NY with two awards, including a second place finish.

Finishing in second place in Clinical Medicine was Khayala Balabayova, MD for “Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infections: Trends in a 400 bed teaching hospital from 2016 to 2018.” Receiving Honorable Mention was Anne-Marie Osibajo, MD, MPH who presented on “The Effectiveness of Computerized Provider Order Sets (CPOS) in Ensuring Compliance with Medication Prescribing and Reducing Preventable Adverse Drug Events in a Hospital Setting.”



“This is a tremendous accomplishment not only for the residents who authored the work but for everyone who participated in these projects,” chief of medicine, senior vice president/ medical officer Mitchell Fogel, MD said, “Improving our clinical outcomes is a team effort that requires input from Nursing, IT, Infection Prevention,

Pharmacy, leadership from our Residency faculty, and many others. We’ve all heard the phrase “it takes a village...” I’m so proud to part of the RUMC village that is working together to slowly improve our processes and outcomes, one project at a time.”



RUMC Nursing Education Dept. Hosts Expo

On April 17, Richmond University Medical Center hosted the Collaborative Nursing Research/ Evidenced Based Practice Expo. The effort was coordinated through the Nursing Education Department and

involves collaborative participation from Richmond University Medical Center, Northwell-Staten Island University Hospital, College of Staten Island, Wagner College, and nursing honor society Sigma Theta Tau. The

evening yielded a successful event that featured four podium presentations and sixteen posters with three posters and one presentation specifically focused on quality initiatives here at Richmond University Medical Center.

2019 Spring Review in Internal Medicine

May 20-24 Sipp Auditorium

Agenda

MONDAY, MAY 20, 2019

Course Monitor: Richard Grodman, M.D.

7:30 a.m. - Breakfast

8:15 a.m.

Welcome

Daniel J. Messina,
Ph.D., FACHE, LNHA
President & Chief Executive Officer

8:30 a.m.

Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

Mark Sherrod, M.D.

Professor, Department of Medicine
Director, Hypertrophic
Cardiomyopathy Program
NYU Langone

9:30 a.m.

Applying Evidence-based Guidelines to Reduce Hospitalizations and Readmission for Chronic Heart Failure

Alpesh Amin, MD, MBA

Professor and Chair, Department of
Medicine
Executive Director, Hospitalist
Program, University of California,
Irvine

10:30 a.m. Coffee Break

11:00 a.m.

"Hypertension"

C. R. Reddy, M.D.

12 noon

A-Fib

Nidal Isber, M.D., FACC, FHRS

Director, Electrophysiology &
Arrhythmia Services—RUMC
TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2019
Course Monitor: Jay Nfonoyim, M.D.

8:30 a.m.

Sepsis/Septic Shock Update

Jay M. Nfonoyim, M.D.,

F.A.C.P.

Vice Chairman, Department of
Medicine; Program Director,
Internal Medicine Residency
Program; Chief of Critical Care
Professor of Clinical Medicine

9:30 a.m.

Novel Targeted Agents in the Management of Recurrent Advanced Ovarian Cancer

Barbara S. Norquist, MD

Assistant Professor of Obstetrics
and Gynecology; University of
Washington School of Medicine;
Medical Director, Breast and
Ovarian Cancer Prevention
Program Seattle, Cancer Care
Alliance, Seattle, WA

10:30 a.m. Coffee Break

11:00 a.m.

Mesoamerican Nephropathy

Joseph Lieber, M.D.

Director of Medicine, Elmhurst
Hospital Center, New York City Health +
Hospitals Corporation; Chief of
medical consultation services; Site
Director for Internal medicine
Residency Program, Icahn School
of Medicine at Mount Sinai;
Associate professor of medicine
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount
Sinai, New York, New York City
Health + Hospitals Corporation

12 noon

Lymes Disease Update 2019

Brian Fallon, M.D.

Director, Lyme & Tick-borne
Diseases Research Center,
Columbia University Medical Center
Author, Conquering Lyme Disease -
Science Bridges the Great Divide
(Columbia University Press, 2018)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2019

Course Monitor: Jay Nfonoyim, M.D.

8:30 a.m.

"Understanding Pain Pathways and Opioid Vigilance"

Ferdinand Iannaccone, D.O.

Assistant Professor of
Anesthesiology & Pain
Management; The Comprehensive
Pain Center; Rutgers New Jersey
Medical School

9:30 a.m.

Rashes you should know!!

Rina Anvekar, MD

Assistant Professor
Mount Sinai Dermatology Faculty

10:30 a.m. Coffee Break

11:00 a.m.

Endocrinology-Year in Review

Philip Otterbeck, M.D.

Director, Endocrinology
Richmond University Medical Center

12 noon

Stroke Thrombectomy

J. Farkas, M.D.

Endovascular Neurosurgical
Radiologist

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2019

Course Monitor: Jay Nfonoyim, M.D.

8:30 a.m.

Building Bridges—Connecting

HCV Care and Addiction Medicine
Robert Brown, M.D., MPH
Vice Chair, Chief, Hepatology
Weill Cornell Medical College
Director, Center for Liver Disease &
Transplantation, New York-
Presbyterian Hospital

9:30 a.m.

Updates in Infectious Disease

Maurice Policar, MD

Chief, Infectious Diseases
H+H / Elmhurst

10:30 a.m. Coffee Break

11:00 a.m.

Decoding Interstitial Lung Disease: Identifying and Managing Progressive Phenotypes

Mary Beth Scholand, MD

Assistant Professor of Pulmonary
Medicine, Director of the Interstitial
Lung Disease Clinic, University of Utah
Salt Lake City, UT

12 noon

Perioperative Management of Antithrombotic Therapy

Edward Arsura, M.D.

Chairman Emeritus
Department of Medicine, RUMC

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2019

Course Monitor: Richard Grodman, M.D.

8:30 a.m.

Geriatric Focused Evaluations

Donna Seminara, M.D.

Director, Division of Geriatrics at
SIUH/Northwell Health
Medical Director, Eger Health Care
and Rehabilitation Center

9:30 a.m.

Surgery and Transplantation of the Pancreas

Rainer Gruessner, M.D., FACS,
FICS

Clarence and Mary Dennis

Professor Surgery

Chairman, Department of Surgery
SUNY Downstate Medical Center

10:30 a.m. Coffee Break

11:00 a.m.

Obesity, Metabolic Syndrome and Renal Disease: What we Know

Farhang Ebrahimi, M.D.

Director of Nephrology &
Fellowship—RUMC; Assistant
Professor of Medicine—RUMC

12 noon

Updates in Epilepsy

Salah Mesad, M.D.

Clinical Neurophysiologist
R U M C

1:00 p.m.

CLOSING COMMENTS