

Richmond University Medical Center

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Richmond University Medical Center Celebrates Doctors' Day 2019



President of the medical staff, Marianne La Barbera, MD, greeted members of the medical staff as they made their way to a special lunch provided by the hospital in celebration of National Doctors' Day.

At Richmond University Medical Center, the strength of our staff is our most valuable asset. We are fortunate to be served by gifted, physicians whose lifelong focus is the well-being, solace, and protection

of their patients and their families. With those thoughts in mind, Richmond University Medical Center celebrated Doctors' Day 2019. Held each year on March 30th, events were held throughout the hospital on Friday, March 29th since Doctors' Day was a Saturday this year.



As part of the celebration, a full buffet was provided in the MLB conference room. Hospital administration and non-medical members of the staff expressed their appreciation for the services, dedication, and commitment provided by the many physicians affiliated with Richmond University Medical Center.

"On behalf of the organization, we extend our gratitude to our entire medical staff for their empathy and commitment to delivering exceptional patient-focused care," president and CEO, Daniel J. Messina, Ph.D., FACHE said. "We take this opportunity to thank our physicians, who have received training at prestigious institutions, for helping us keep our focus where it should be: on providing exceptional care to patients and their families. Together, we are truly improving the health of our community."

From the President & CEO

Daniel J. Messina, PhD, FACHE, LNHA



As we continue to deliver on our promise to our community to provide exceptional patient care, I am excited to announce that Richmond University Medical Center has been selected by the American Hospital Association (AHA) as a nominee for its 2019 Quest for Quality Prize.

Each year the AHA awards the Quest for Quality Prize to one health care facility in the country that has demonstrated improved quality of care and advanced the well-being of its community through leadership and innovative practices. More than 800 health care facilities

across the country apply for the prize, of which, 40 are selected based on their application. Out of these 40 hospitals, six are then chosen for a site visit by the AHA. Richmond University Medical Center is one of these six finalists, and on March 11th a team of quality and safety experts from the AHA visited our hospital as part of the final step in selecting this year's winner. In addition to a tour of our facilities, several department made presentations, including behavioral health, maternity, trauma, and infection control.

While we will not know until late spring if we are the overall winner, to have advanced this far in a national award process solidifies our reputation as a leading provider of quality health care in New York City. In addition to the AHA, we also continue to be recognized for our quality of care by other national accrediting organizations including the Joint Commission, which recently awarded us the Gold Seal of Approval in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and recertified our hospital for its perinatal care services. We also saw

a marked improvement in our latest Leapfrog scores.

I will keep everyone updated on the AHA's decision. I would like to thank all of the departments who participated in the day long visit by the AHA, including Assistant Vice President of Clinical Informatics and Population Health, Boris Molchanskiy, who submitted the initial application and coordinated the AHA visit on March 11th.

Lastly, another shout out goes to our assistant vice president of information technology and chief information officer Nick Zsymanski who was selected by the Staten Island Economic Development Corporation as one of its 20 Under 40 honorees. This award is presented to individuals under 40 years of age who are making an impact in the business community of Staten Island. Nick will be honored at the SIEDC's annual business conference on April 16th at the Hilton, located at 1100 South Avenue, at 11:30 AM. Seating is free, so please join us.

***Remember the Power of One –
You Make a Difference!***

Patient Satisfaction: A Note of Thanks

Dear Dr. Daniel Messina, Joe Kelly, and Rosemarie Stazzone,

I am writing to you in gratitude. I am a nurse employee with RUMC since 1990, with a few sabbaticals. I recently was a patient treated in our hospital, and I'd like to share my experience with you. From the time I entered triage and then to the main ER, our staff treated me professionally and respectfully.

After a brief time in Endo holding, I was sent to SLB4 where they closed off the other bed so I could be alone. Thank you so much. While there I encountered nurse Dave and nurse Tammy who are both a credit to the hospital. Every nurse on duty stopped by to say hello and enquirer as to

my condition. Everyone I met was respectful, professional, and kind. I'm so proud to call these people my co-workers.

It would be remiss of me if I didn't mention the house staff who were also concerned about me and encouraging.

Sincerely, — Diane Kramer, RN

Hello,

On Feb.14th my daughter gave birth to our beautiful grandson. I would like to commend your Labor and Delivery Department for their expertise in taking care of my daughter.

They were always checking on her to see if she was comfortable & also checking on the baby. The nurses

and aides were so kind and attentive to all her needs. She had a C-section, and throughout her pregnancy, we were also in the Labor & Delivery ER. Dr. Santiago and his team were also exceptional with the care they gave her. Both departments were also so compassionate to her needs when she felt nervous and unsure.

I highly recommend Richmond University Medical Center to any maternity patient who wants expert care. Also I highly commend Dr. Giovinazzo, Dr. Poliseno and the entire nursing staff on duty from February 14th to 17th.

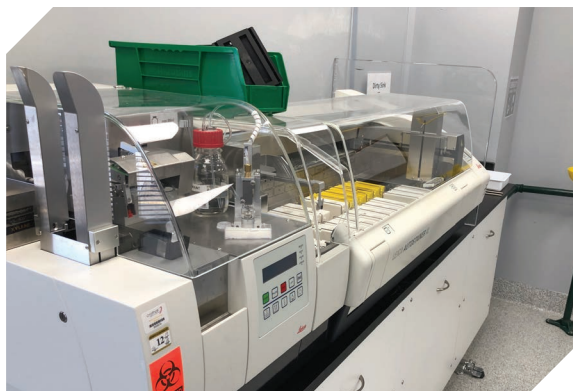
***Thank you so much, — Jean LoPresto and
the family of Jamie LoPresto***

Richmond University Medical Center Opens New Histology Lab

State of the Art Lab Now Enables Biopsy Specimens to be Processed, Analyzed on Site



Kevin Elkins from Rep. Max Rose's office (left) and Loretta Cauldwell from Community Board #1 (center) help RUMC administration and Dr. Svetoslav Bardarov (right) officially open the hospital's new histology lab.



New equipment in the histology lab now enables RUMC to process and analyze tissue samples in house, leading to faster diagnosis and better quality control.

On March 14th, Richmond University Medical Center officially unveiled its new comprehensive histology lab. The new lab features state-of-the-art equipment that enables the medical center to now process its own biopsy specimens from departments within the hospital including surgery, endoscopy, obstetrics/gynecology, and radiology.

To help officially open the new lab, hospital staff and administration were joined by Loretta Cauldwell from Staten Island Community Board #1 and

Kevin Elkins, district director for Rep. Max Rose. The lab expected to take several months to reach completion was actually finished and fully equipped in less than three months.

"The capabilities of the new lab will enable faster diagnoses, greater quality control, and increase direct interaction between physicians, pathologists and lab technicians," Rosemarie Stazzone, chief operating officer and chief nurse officer

said. "This lab is the latest achievement for Richmond University Medical Center as we continue to utilize the latest technology available to provide the highest level of quality care to our patients and their families."

The new lab features innovative new equipment including cassette printers, embedding stations, tissue processors, cryostat, and auto-stainers. Shortly after the ribbon cutting ceremony concluded, the lab began processing the first of many tissue samples from

patients undergoing treatment within the hospital.

"I'm very excited about what we will be able to accomplish here," Dr. Svetoslav Bardarov, chief of laboratory medicine said. The new lab and its team of technicians and pathologists will be under Dr. Bardarov's direction. Prior to joining Richmond University Medical Center's medical staff in December 2018, Dr. Bardarov worked at South Nassau Communities Hospital on Long Island for eight years, serving as the hospital's chief of surgical pathology.



Tissue samples processed in the new histology lab are ready for analyzing by RUMC's team of technicians and pathologists.

Medical Center Sponsors Senior Seminar

Richmond University Medical Center was a proud sponsor of the senior wellness and wealth seminar held at the Old Bermuda Inn on April 4th. Hundreds of seniors from across Staten Island attended. The public relations team was on hand to provide information on programs and services. Our pediatric trauma program manager Dan Scullin also provided a brief demonstration of the hospital's tai chi for seniors program and our Matter of Balance program. Matter of Balance is a falls prevention program designed to reduce the fear of falling among older adults.



Seniors from across Staten Island listen as Dan Scullin, pediatric trauma program manager, provides information to help alleviate the fear of falling for those with balance issues.

Providing information on the latest programs and services available at Richmond University Medical Center were Krista Desiderio, sr. public relations & marketing specialist (l) and Lorraine Scanni, outreach specialist, public relations and marketing.



Department Headlines:

Ambulatory Care: The department continues to be dedicated to the prevention and maintenance of diabetes. In March, we started another CDC-Recognized National Diabetes Prevention Program cohort, as well as Diabetes Self-Management Education Classes, offered in English and Spanish. Both programs are led by our very own Certified Diabetes Educator, Gail DeGannes-Hoyte, RN, MS, CDE.

Cardiology: Congratulations to nurse manager Mary Lyons, the recipient of Staten Island Heart Society's Excellence in Health Care award.

Information Technology: Congratulations to vice president of information technology and chief information officer Nicholas Szymanski who was named one of Staten Island's 20 Under 40 by the Staten Island Economic Development Corporation.

Oncology: Congratulations to Tihesha Wilson, MD, FACS, named as a Women's History Month honoree by NYC Council Member Debi Rose for her service to the community.

Patient Relations: Congratulations to Andrew Burt, patient experience director, Staten Island Heart Society's 2019 Volunteer of the Year.

Perioperative Division: The Perioperative Division would like to welcome Richard Mastropolo PACU RN; Catherine Climacosa PACU RN; Edward Letendre OR RN; Nicole McLean PACU RN; and Miguel Crespo OR Unit Clerk to the division. The Perioperative Division also presented the Surgical Site Infection Reduction poster for the AHA quality committee on March 11th.

Staten Island Mental Health Society: Congratulations to Fern Zagor, executive director for integrated behavioral healthcare, a Community Health Action of Staten Island (CHASI) 2019 honoree.

Chief of Breast Surgery Honored by Council Member Rose



Chief of breast surgery, Tihesha Wilson, MD, FACS was honored by City Council Member Deborah Rose on March 28th as part of the Council Member's annual Women's Month Celebration at Christ Church in New Brighton. Dr. Wilson was honored for her personal accomplishments and for improving the community's quality of health. Dr. Wilson leads the clinical services provided at RUMC's Breast and Women's Center, located at the corner of Clove Road and Victory Boulevard in Sunnyside. Dr. Wilson was one of several honorees at this year's event. To help celebrate Dr. Wilson's honor, she was joined by members of senior administration and her colleagues, including president and CEO, Daniel J. Messina, Ph.D., FACHE, executive vice president Pietro Carpenito, MD, COO and chief nurse officer Rosemarie Stazzone, RN, MSN, and director of oncology, Thomas Forlenza, MD.

Medical Staff Marks Colon Cancer Awareness Month

March was colon cancer awareness month. Over 51,000 people will die of the disease this year alone. Colon cancer is curable when detected early. Richmond University Medical Center's oncology department, along with its GI nurses, hosted an awareness event in the main lobby at 355 Bard Avenue.

Free at home colon cancer testing kits were distributed along with information on colon cancer prevention, symptoms and treatment. An inflatable colon was also on display to provide a 3-D visual of various conditions that can occur in the colon. As part of the day long activities, board certified

gastroenterologist Manuel Gonzalez, MD was the guest speaker at a lunch and learn in the Sipp Auditorium. Dr. Gonzalez discussed the symptoms and causes of colon cancer, the importance of screenings and treatments provided for patients diagnosed with colon cancer.



Dietary Director Bob Holzer Donates Wheelchair to Emergency Department



Dietary department director Bob Holzer (right, next to wheelchair), donated a new wheelchair to the emergency department. Recently, Bob found himself assisting a patient out of a car while he was entering the hospital. Bob went into the triage area, but a wheelchair was not immediately available. In order to assure that a wheelchair is always available for this purpose, Bob went out and purchased one. Thanks to his generosity, the security staff will always have a wheelchair handy to assist patients into the Emergency Department.

Board Profile: Rev. Dr. Tony Baker



The Rev. Dr. Tony Baker has been the Pastor of St. Philip's Baptist Church since 1996. He serves on the executive boards of Project Hospitality, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the Executive Board of the American Baptist Churches of Metropolitan New York. In addition, Rev. Baker is Vice President of the Community Health Center of Richmond, Executive Director

of the William A. Epps Community Center and a founding member of the Anti-Violence Task Force. Rev. Baker received a Master of Divinity and a doctorate from New York Theological Seminary. He taught at Port Richmond High School, and served 20 years in the United States Army. He and his wife have two children.

March New Hires — Welcome to RUMC!

Susan Abraham-Jacobs, *Navigator*
Michael Adewunmi, *NA*
Alexis Arfe, *RN*
Andrew Barone, *Security Guard*
Nico Baylosis, *RN*
Frances Bosch, *Unit Clerk*
Louise Bozza, *Nursing Assistant*
Nefertaria Brent, *Food Service Worker*
Diana Brud, *Nurse Manager*
Kristen Catalano, *RN*
Michael Catalano, *Electrician*
Alan DelVecchio, *Plumber*
Amanda Fores, *Nursing Assistant*
Jessica GiaRusso, *DRT*

Ramon Guzman, *Peer Counselor*
Alexa John, *Admitting Clerk*
Robert Johnson, *MHT*
Dean LaBarca, *Apprentice*
Keith Marchese, *Telecom Manager*
Hossam Mohamed, *Nursing Assistant*
Cassandra Montgomery, *Medical Assistant*
Zaniah Oquendo, *Admitting Clerk*
Lauren Reitano, *EMT*
Michelle Setaro, *Care Manager*
Nyiesha Thomas, *Food Service Worker*
Youg Wu, *Pharmacy Tech*
Allison Zuyeu, *Financial Analyst*

Save the Date...

**Monday,
May 13th, 2019**

**Jack Sipp
Golf, Tennis
and Bocce Outing**

Register at:
www.rumcsi.org/golf

**to benefit
Richmond University Medical Center
Honoring:
Dr. Chitoor Govindaraj and Joseph Torres
at
The Richmond County Country Club**

Charles Fall Visits Richmond University Medical Center

On March 22nd, newly elected state Assembly Member Charles Fall visited Richmond University Medical Center. President and CEO, Daniel J. Messina, Ph.D., FACHE, and executive vice president Pietro Carpenito, MD provided a tour of the hospital's surgical department and Adult

Trauma 1 emergency room. They also showed the Assembly Member the site of the hospital's new 35,000 sq ft emergency department. Thanks to Assembly Member Fall for taking the time to visit and we wish him well in his new position.



Richmond University Medical Center

SAVE THE DATE — CME ACTIVITY

(earn up to 20 credits)

SPRING 2019 UPDATE IN INTERNAL MEDICINE

UPDATES ON: Cardiology, Critical Care Medicine, Infectious Diseases, Nephrology, Hematology/Oncology, and much more



MAY 20 — 24, 2019 • 8:00AM — 1:00PM

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT JENNIFER DOMINGUEZ AT 718-818-3106