

Richmond University Medical Center Announces Merger with Staten Island Mental Health Society

Merger Strengthens, Expands Behavioral Health Programs and Services Provided to Staten Island

Richmond University Medical Center and Staten Island Mental Health Society, two non-profit health care providers who have each served Staten Island for over 100 years, announced their merger, effective January 1, 2019. Services and programs operated by Staten Island Mental Health Society will be fully integrated as a division of Richmond University Medical Center.

Staten Island Mental Health Society assisted nearly 6,000 children and their families annually. The Society provided services through more than 25 programs operated at over 18 locations throughout the borough. Outpatient therapeutic



Staten Island Mental Health Society Board Chair John Tapinis addresses the attendees as Richmond University Medical Center Board Chair Kathryn K. Rooney looks on.

services, individual and family counseling, school based clinic treatment services, and the largest Head Start Program on Staten Island were among the programs provided by the Staten Island Mental Health Society. These services will now continue through Richmond University Medical Center.

“Richmond University Medical Center is delighted to welcome Staten Island Mental Health Society into the RUMC family,” RUMC Board of Trustees Chair Kathryn K. Rooney said. “On behalf of our board, I want to thank Staten Island Mental Health Society Board Chair John Tapinis for his leadership throughout the process. I would also like to thank John and his entire board for their years of dedication and commitment to the families of Staten Island.”

Throughout the merger process, senior administration and the board of trustees for both the medical center and Staten Island Mental Health Society worked collaboratively to ensure no disruption in services to Staten Island Mental Health Society patients and their families.

“The merger insures that all the vital programs provided by Staten Island Mental Health Society will continue to benefit the many children and families on Staten Island who utilize these essential services,” John Tapinis said.

On January 16, over 50 people attended a reception in the Villa Building to celebrate the merger. Board members, faculty from both institutions, and community leaders including Council Member Joseph Borelli attended.



(l-r) SIMHS Executive Director Fern Zagor; RUMC Executive Vice President Dr. Pietro Carpenito; RUMC Board of Trustees Chair Kathryn K. Rooney; SIMHS Board Chair John Tapinis; RUMC President and CEO Dr. Daniel J. Messina.

From the President & CEO

Daniel J. Messina, PhD, FACHE, LNHA



In recent weeks, you may have been wondering about the construction going on behind our generator facility, located across from the emergency department. In past announcements I've made mention that the hospital is constructing a new staff parking lot. Soon construction crews will begin installing dry wells for drainage and utility lines that will run under the parking lot. They are also in the process of using most of the displaced soil to build ten to

fourteen foot high berms. Working with our neighbors around the hospital it was decided that berms will provide nearby homeowners with a buffer between our hospital grounds and their homes. Bushes, shrubs, and flowerbeds will be planted on these berms in the spring to provide a beautiful landscape around the new parking lot.

Once the dry wells, utility lines, and berms are complete, the ground will be leveled so that paving can begin. The final phase will be the erecting of light fixtures and the painting of lines. The anticipated completion of the parking lot should be in early spring, weather permitting.

To ensure security, the new lot will be illuminated 24/7 and will only be accessible by ID badge. When complete, the new parking lot will have over 200 new spaces, which means fewer cars on side streets. It also provides us with the opportunity to explore expanding our visitor parking lot to accommodate the growing number of families and patients who come to our hospital to receive

care. I view the new parking lot as the official kickoff to our ambitious plan of expansion and renovation, which includes our new emergency department, our cogeneration facility, and the first phase of the future expansion and renovation of our perioperative and critical care units.

Speaking of care, February is American Heart Month. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States. More than 600,000 people die of heart disease each year. That accounts for one in four deaths in our country. Heart disease can happen to anyone, so it is important that you go visit your doctor regularly. Your doctor can perform different tests such as chest x-rays, electrocardiograms, and exercise stress tests to diagnose heart disease. Use American Heart Month as a reminder to go for a check-up today!

Remember the Power of One — You Make a Difference!

Patient Satisfaction: A Note of Thanks

I was seen in the ED for knee pain in my left knee. I have a history of torn meniscus in that knee, but this was not that pain, this was side kneecap pain.

My nurse was Jennifer Lamarca and I saw Dr. Maximos. First of all I was seen quickly which I was grateful for. My diagnosis was tendonitis after an x-ray was taken. I was given an injection for pain and a script was sent to my local CVS pharmacy for 600 ibuprofen and a knee brace.

I want to acknowledge the activity that was taking place around me.

There was one particular patient who continually called out for help. I saw her being attended to each time she called out. She called out for some time. 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 advocates for anyone who visits your emergency department. I am grateful to know the wonderful staff there.

— Chris D.

The cancer awareness pins that Richmond University Medical Center is offering are a wonderful idea. Also, I am a patient of Dr. Serur and Richmond University Medical Center is very fortunate to have such an excellent surgeon who is not only an outstanding doctor, but also a most caring and compassionate person. His office staff, Doreen and Phyllis, are always there for me.

— Gabriella W.

Dr. James G. Reilly Honored by Medical Staff



On December 14, 2018, James G. Reilly, DO, OB/GYN, was presented with the Dr. William C. Frederick Award in recognition of his surgical skills and his ability to work together with colleagues. The award was presented during the medical staff's annual holiday reception. After completing his OB/GYN residency at St. Vincent's Hospital in June 1996, Dr. Reilly joined the medical staff in September 1996.

The award presented to Dr. Reilly bears the name of Dr. William C. Frederick. Dr. Frederick distinguished himself as a general surgeon, and was the first Staten Island surgeon with a subspecialty in vascular surgery. He joined the hospital's medical staff in 1961 and practiced until his retirement in 1997. Dr. Frederick was the chairman of surgery and a past president of the medical staff.

(left to right): President and CEO Daniel J. Messina, PhD, FACHE, LNHA; RUMC Board of Trustees Chair Kathryn K. Rooney; Medical Staff President Marianne LaBarbera, MD; Dr. Reilly; Executive Vice President Pietro Carpenito, MD; and Chairman of Pediatrics Dr. Brian McMahon.

Soup Cook-Off

**THANK YOU ALL FOR PARTICIPATING
AND CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS!**



**1st Place Soup
DR. RITA SHATS
OB/GYN DEPARTMENT**

***\$150 Gift Card for the
department plus 6 Tickets to a
Comedy Show in NYC***



**2nd Place Soup
DEBBIE RODRIGUEZ
ONCOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

***\$100 Gift Card for the
department plus 4 Tickets to a
Comedy Show in NYC***



**3rd Place Soup
JEREMY BASTIAN
IT DEPARTMENT**

***\$50 Gift Card for the
department plus 2 Tickets to a
Comedy Show in NYC***

Dr. Otterbeck Lunch and Learn

On January 24 we continued our "Lunch and Learn" series of educational lectures, featuring Dr. Philip Otterbeck. Dr. Otterbeck discussed general thyroid health, thyroid disorders, and thyroid diseases. Dr. Otterbeck is the hospital's chief of endocrinology.



Meet the Board of Trustees: Steven M. Klein



Steven M. Klein is the president and chief operating officer of Northfield Bancorp. He joined the financial institution as chief financial officer in March 2005, and was named chief operating officer in 2011. Prior to joining Northfield, Mr. Klein was an audit partner with KPMG LLP in their Short Hills, New Jersey, office, serving the community banking practices of New Jersey and Philadelphia. Mr. Klein earned a bachelor of science degree in business and accounting from Montclair State University. He is a certified public accountant and member of the American Institute of

Certified Public Accountants and the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants. He is a member and serves on various committees of the New Jersey Bankers Association and the American Bankers Association. Mr. Klein is a trustee of the Northfield Bank Foundation and is a director of the Middlesex Water Company where he chairs the Audit Committee and serves as a member of the Compensation and Pension committees. He previously served as a trustee of CentraState Healthcare System in Freehold, New Jersey. Mr. Klein resides with his family in Howell, New Jersey.

Congressman Max Rose visits Richmond University Medical Center

Rose discusses imminent projects and healthcare issues with senior administration



On January 8, newly elected Congressman Max Rose visited Richmond University Medical Center, touring the emergency department, operating department, and several additional service areas.

Rep. Rose also met with senior administration, including President and CEO Daniel J. Messina and Chief Nurse Officer and COO Rosemarie Stazzone. Also joining them was Board of Trustees Chair Kathryn K. Rooney.

Among the issues discussed were the upcoming construction of the hospital's new emergency department and health care issues that could directly impact services provided by the hospital.

January New Hires — Welcome to RUMC!

Jamelia Alleyne, *RN*
Patricia Amelio, *Clerk*
Lexis Amezcuita, *Building Service Worker*
Jeremy Bastian, *Sr System Analyst*
Niya Bolden, *MHT*
Jenny Botero, *Nurse Intern*
Tzu-Hui Chang, *Histology Manager*
Vincent DeSouza, *Nurse Intern*
Victoria Elperin, *Unit Clerk*
Angela Ferraro, *MHT*
Gina Ferreri, *Sr Development Specialist*
Elaina Gatto, *RN*
Amanda Gonzalez, *Building Service Worker*
Caitlin Griffin, *SR NP*
Aaron Hassell, *EMT Driver*
Marina Hennedy, *Nurse Intern*
Samantha Iervolino, *RN*

Jacob Iijomon, *Nursing Assistant*
Ester Isakov, *Pharmacy Tech*
Alejandra Lopez, *Nurse Intern*
Jessica Lucchesi, *Nurse Intern*
Linda Messo, *RN*
Christopher Nazzaro, *Nurse Intern*
Michael Nicosia, *Nursing Assistant*
Anthony Parisi, *Nurse Intern*
Michelle Petrowski, *RN*
Vadim Polishchuk, *RN*
German Pustov, *Nurse Intern*
Jacquelyn Sanders, *Registrar*
John Spivey, *Clinical Lab Tech*
Arlene Straughter, *Executive Assistant*
Kieran Willard, *Nursing Assistant*
Hua Zhang, *Chief of Clinical Pathology*

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH:

Elyse Harrell, *RN*

Brian Lewis, *PSO*

Raymond Rivera, *PSO*

John Farino, *PSO*

Michael Pearl, *PSO*

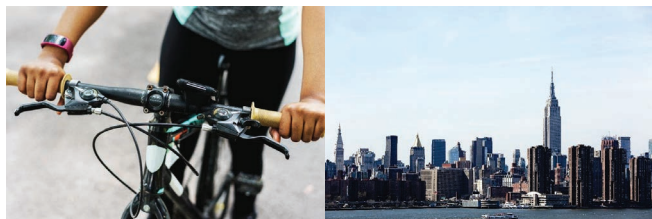
Michael Hendrick, *Security Supervisor*



Richmond University Medical Center

TD Five Boro Bike Tour: May 5, 2019

Join the Richmond University Medical Center Team!



All cyclists enjoy:

- 40 miles of car free biking through all five boroughs
- A commemorative medal and access to the post-race festival
- Fully stocked rest areas along the route

Registration is \$110 per cyclist

To register visit: www.bike.nyc. Select "RUMC Riders" as your team during registration.

For information contact Harry at ext. 2054 or hkoplovich@rumcsi.org

Richmond University Medical Center

Using Nicotine: Can We Talk?

Fact: Between 2017 and 2018, the number of high school students using nicotine products **increased 78%**. The number of middle school students **increased 48%.***

Richmond University Medical Center is offering **free 30-minute presentations** for students, parents, and adults about the dangers of tobacco products.

For Students:

- Learn how the lungs function and diseases that impact your ability to breathe.
- Understand the dangers of nicotine products, vaping, and Juul.
- Discuss alternate stress relievers.

For Adults:

- Learn the facts about young people and nicotine products.
- How to start the conversation with your child about not using nicotine products.
- How you can start your own path toward a healthier lifestyle.

Featuring Nancy Sayegh-Rooney, RN, CTTS:

- Lung Nurse Navigator for Richmond University Medical Center's lung screening program.
- Certified Tobacco Treatment Specialist (CTTS).
- Registered nurse for 40 years.



*US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

To schedule a presentation:

Contact Nancy at 718-818-2391 or at Nrooney@rumcsi.org.

thank you Richmond University Medical Center for helping others live on!

In December 2018, an 18-year-old patient from the PICU helped others live on through one final act of kindness and compassion. This patient's legacy will continue to live on in the lives of at least 2 individuals.

This patient's

- **right kidney** saved the life of a 40-year-old woman; and
- **left kidney** saved a 51-year-old man

Through the gift of their **corneas**, this patient may also help restore sight to others; and through the gift of **bone and heart valves**, this patient may heal several more people.

LiveOnNY commends you for your valiant efforts to compassionately care for your patients and their families. We are grateful for your unwavering commitment to saving lives through organ, eye, and tissue donation. Thank you for helping to achieve a world in which the power of donation is fully realized.

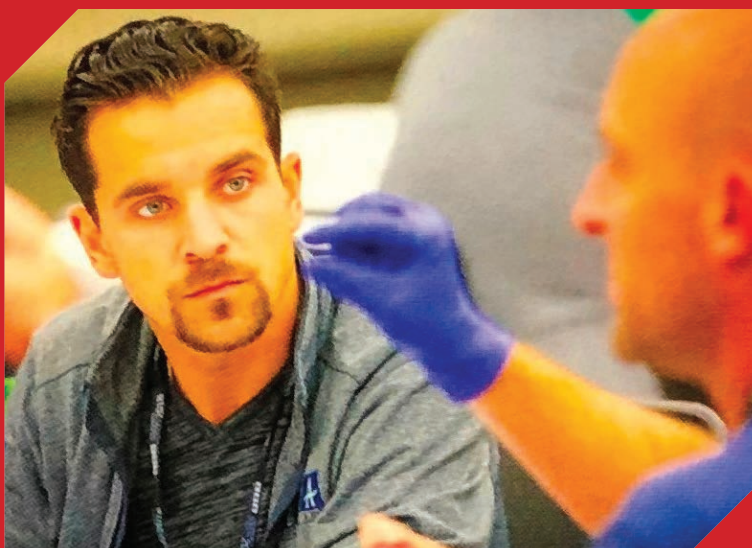
LiveOnNY

Caring for New Yorkers
through Organ Donation

Trauma Program Nursing Director Makes National Magazine Cover.

Congratulations to Trauma Program Nursing Director Christopher Ruiz who made the front cover of ENA Connection, the official magazine for the Emergency Nurses Association. Chris, who leads Richmond University Medical Center's Trauma Team, educating the community

on injury prevention through a variety of programs, is also a New York State delegate to ENA. Among his duties as a delegate is to weigh in on governance issues, policy changes, and bylaws of the Association.



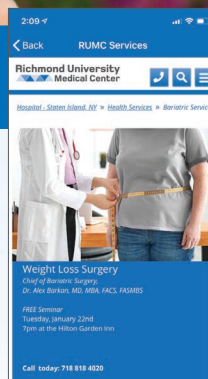
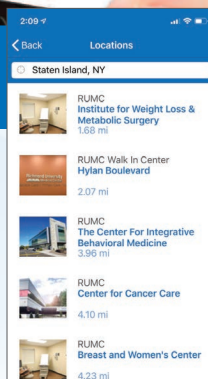
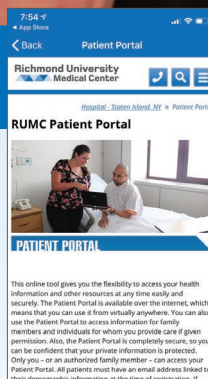
AN ENTIRE MEDICAL CENTER AT YOUR FINGERTIPS!

Available in
Apple App Store
and Google Play



INTRODUCING RICHMOND UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER'S NEW APP

- ✓ Quick access to all medical services
- ✓ Find a physician for your health care needs
- ✓ Review your medical records through our secure Patient Portal
- ✓ Pay your bill
- ✓ Locate the RUMC facility closest to you
- ✓ Receive news and updates



844-934-CARE

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Richmond University
Medical Center