

Richmond University Medical Center CHRONICLE



October 2018

Second Annual RUMC 5K Run/Walk A Success

More than 200 people stepped off on September 8th for Richmond University Medical Center's second annual 5K Run/Walk in Clove Lakes Park. Proceeds from the event will help to support the pediatric unit of the hospital's new Emergency Department. Construction is projected to begin in early 2019.

"On behalf of everyone at RUMC, we want to thank each and every person who ran or walked to benefit our new pediatric unit," President and CEO Daniel J. Messina, Ph.D., FACHE said. "Our smallest patients will be the true winners because of everyone who laced up their running and walking shoes for a great cause."

Sponsoring the run were local businesses and organizations including Island Auto Group, the JCC of Staten Island, the Jonathan J. Proce Foundation, 5 Boro Power Yoga, the RUMC NICU Staff, The Richmond Rockets, Golden Touch Hair Salon, The Manor Restaurant, ScoreYourRace.com, Take No Prisoners, COSTCO, The Bagel Bin, and Pepper Jack Grill.

The rain held off and cloudy skies in no way deterred runners from taking part in the challenging course that weaved its way around the park's lake, hills, and playing fields.



President's Update



Message from the President & CEO Daniel J. Messina, Ph.D., FACHE

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the fall and those crisp mornings and nights as well as the beautiful colors of the season. As you may know, October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Except for skin cancer, breast cancer is the most common cancer in women in the United States. Richmond University Medical Center joins the rest of the country this month in remembering those lost to breast cancer and celebrating breast cancer survivors who have overcome this disease.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death among women overall, and the leading cause of cancer death among Hispanic women. Every year in the United States about 237,000 cases of breast cancer are diagnosed in women and about 2,100 in men. About 41,000 women and 450 men in the country die each year from breast cancer. The risk of getting breast cancer goes up with age. In the United States, the average age when women are diagnosed with breast cancer is 61. Men who get breast cancer are diagnosed usually between 60 and 70 years old.

It is fitting that we are opening our new comprehensive Breast and Women's Center at 1161 Victory Boulevard. The center is led by our new Chief of Breast Surgery, Dr. Tihesha L. Wilson who is a fellowship-trained oncoplastic breast surgeon specializing in all aspects of breast care. Our new center provides the latest, most advanced services including genetic testing, lumpectomy or breast preserving surgery, nipple-sparing mastectomy, immediate reconstruction for mastectomy, oncoplastic lumpectomy and mastectomy for optimal cosmetic results, and access to research and clinical trials.

Dr. Wilson comes to our team with exceptional credentials which you can see for yourself on our website, www.rumcsi.org. I will share one fascinating fact about Dr. Wilson's training. To further her ability to provide the best possible cosmetic results for her patients, Dr. Wilson completed part of her training in oncoplastic surgery in Edinburgh, Scotland under the personal direction of Dr. J. Michael Dixon, a world renowned breast surgeon. In 2013 Dr. Dixon was voted the 36th greatest person in Edinburgh of all time, and has been named an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE) by Queen Elizabeth for his work improving the management of breast disease. Needless to say, we are excited to have Dr. Wilson join the RUMC family.

In closing, please make the time to have a mammography. Please urge family members, friends, and anyone you know about the importance of having a mammography and doing regular breast self-examinations. Early detection can save a life. Our new Breast and Women's Center can be reached at 718-818-1161. Please help us spread the word!

Remember the Power of One-You make a difference!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel J. Messina". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patient Satisfaction

A Note of Thanks

To Tiffany, Jonathan, Jen in the ER and Felicia in Phlebotomy—these people went above and beyond for my care and treated me extremely well. Thank you for your great spirit. ~ Mary D.

My mother is home!!! I was dreaming of the day to speak these words for 10 long weeks.

The very skilled ER doctors, nurses, and social workers took very good care of my mother and I could see the RUMC family machine at work. We were traveling for 7 weeks between life and death. I was told that due to her age and with her many illnesses, it would be a real miracle if she made a full recovery.

It is because of the amazing compassion, care, skills, and knowledge that my Mom is alive and a miracle truly happened. I cannot put into words the great appreciation that I have for everything the RUMC family did for her.

I would like to say thank you to all the doctors, nurses, nursing assistants, especially the laboratory team, respiratory, rehab, infection control staff, Dr. Nfonoyim and his ICU team, Dr. Gala, Dr. Swamy, Dr. Gottlieb, Dr. Oppenheimer, and many, many other RUMC specialists that played a role in the care of my mother. A special thank you to Dr. Alex Usorov and Alla Adler along with the Russian-speaking employees who made my life easier and literally explained everything that was going on.

I am so proud to be a part of the RUMC family, they truly exhibit the power of one!





Congratulations to our President and CEO Daniel J. Messina, Ph.D., FACHE, for being the Staten Island Power Women in Business Man of the Year for Healthcare.

Dan was one of five male community leaders selected by the organization for their commitment and dedication to making the Staten island community better. This was the first year that Staten Island Power Women in Business has had male award recipients.

The ceremony took place on September 13th at the Hilton Garden Inn.



Meals on Wheels

Congratulations to Richmond University Medical Center's Chief Nurse Officer & Chief Operating Officer Rosemarie Stazzone, RN, MS, CNE who has been appointed to the Board of Directors for Meals on Wheels of Staten Island. A private not-for-profit organization, the mission of Meals on Wheels of Staten Island is to provide two nutritious meals each day to those 60 years of age or older who can no longer shop for or prepare their own meals. As a member of their board, Rosemarie will help guide the organization and strengthen its role as an essential service provider for needy Staten Island residents. In her role at RUMC, Rosemarie is responsible for the daily and strategic clinical operations throughout the hospital. To learn more about Meals on Wheels of Staten Island, go to www.mealsonwheelsofstatenisland.com



RUMC

EMPLOYEE EVENTS

COME TOGETHER

FUN FOOD & FRIENDS

Join Us!



PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25 11am-1pm

From the goofiest to the ghouldest, find out which department has the most creative pumpkin carving skills! Sign up below and then bring in your carved pumpkins for judgement on October 25th. Event takes place in the RUMC Cafeteria.

REGISTER FOR THE FUN

www.rumcsi.org/PumpkinCarving

**Richmond University
Medical Center**

VITAL
Our Campaign to Transform Emergency Care

Lunch and Learn

Breast Health Seminar

Wed. October 17 11:30 am — 1:00 pm

Light lunch service at 11:30

Seminar at 12:00 noon in
Sipp Conference Room



**Featuring
Dr. Tihesha Wilson M.D. FACS**
Breast Surgeon

- Board Certified in Surgery
- Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, Piscataway, N.J.
- General Internship and Residency in Surgery, St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center
- Advance Laparoscopic Surgery Fellowship, Peachtree Surgical and Bariatric/Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta GA
- Breast Surgical Oncology Fellowship, Anne Arundel Medical Center, Annapolis MD
- Oncoplastic Surgery Preceptorship, Western General Hospital, Edinburgh, Scotland

Free Valet Parking

RSVP to kadeogun@rumcsi.org or 718-818-2040

Richmond University Medical Center

RUMC Hosts Lunch and Learn on Joint Replacement Surgery

On August 24th Richmond University Medical Center held a lunch and learn focusing on advances in total joint replacement. Dr. Mark Brandon, orthopedic surgeon (right), spoke to over 20 guests about the latest techniques and procedures available to people in need of knee, hip and additional joint replacement surgery. He also discussed other non-surgical options people should explore first before considering replacement surgery, including physical therapy, and both prescription and over the counter medication.

A graduate of Msgr. Farrell High School, and NYU undergrad, he graduated from Columbia University Medical School, and completed his residency at the Hospital for Special Surgery in Manhattan. He is Board Certified in orthopedic surgery, and is part of the orthopedic surgery team here at RUMC.





ALL HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS AND STUDENTS

JOIN US IN THE CELEBRATION OF

THE HOLY WHITE MASS

FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

(Named for the traditional white coats & uniforms worn in health care)

CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTION HEALTH CARE WORKERS OF ALL FAITHS

Recognizing ST. LUKE, Author of the Gospel and "Beloved physician..."

MASS WILL INCLUDE **"BLESSING OF THE HEALING HANDS"**



DATE: OCTOBER 24, 2018

TIME: 7 pm

Location: Blessed Sacrament Church
30 Manor Rd., Staten Island New York

Honorees: **Dr. Dorothy Wludyka Matthews, MD**
Stacy Bruno, LCSW
Martin Phillips, LCSW

REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW

"The true measure of humanity is determined in relationship to the suffering and sufferer."



Sponsored by: Catholic Mental Health Professionals

For further information, contact Dr. Constance Salhany or Laura at info@cognitivetherapys.com call (347) 273-1290

Congratulations to Richmond University Medical Center's Assistant Vice President-Ambulatory Care Services Paula Caputo. Paula was honored by the Visiting Nurse Association of Staten Island at their 35th annual Awards Luncheon held on September 19th. Paula was presented with the 2018 Smith/Stanley Award, celebrating her service to the community.

Among Paula's RUMC colleagues on hand to congratulate here were (l-r): Karen Sanicola, Sr. Physician Practice Manager-Ambulatory Care Services; Rosemarie Stazzone, Chief Nurse Officer & Chief Operating Officer; Dr. Pietro Carpenito, Executive Vice President; Richard Salhany, Senior Vice President for Strategic Planning & Medical Operations; and Brittany Langan, Manager-Ambulatory Care Services.



Jaime's LILAC Foundation Donates Cancer Care Packages

Jaime's LILAC Foundation is a non profit organization founded in 2014 in memory of Jaime Moltisanti Cucuzza, a young woman who succumbed to lung cancer at the age of 38. Her family are committed to honoring Jaime's memory by giving something back to the growing community of cancer patients, their loved ones, and anyone involved in their treatment. The foundation provides care packages to patients who are fighting cancer.

On August 22nd Jamie's father and husband delivered 30 cancer care packages which will be distributed to patients at Richmond University Medical Center. We thank Jamie's family for their heartfelt donation and we truly appreciated the opportunity to sit down with Jaime's family and learn all about her life and her spirit, which touched so many people.

The packages include hats, blankets, gloves, scarves, water bottles, lozenges to help with nausea, and additional items to help patients undergoing treatment. Some of the packages are intended specifically for children and in addition to the mentioned items, these packages also contain teddy bears and games.

Jamie's LILAC Foundation has distributed over 600 cancer care packages to local hospitals. Package are assembled by volunteers and the contents are developed based on conversations with patients undergoing treatment.



September New Hires

Charitha Panangala, Nursing Assistant
Yulia Ingram, RN
George Baldini, Building Service Worker
Megan Romano, Building Service Worker
Sadeta Velic, Building Service Worker
Oliver Ochlan, Transporter
Nicholas Dalonzo, PT
Sean Williams, Security Guard
Francisca Garratt, Care Coordination Clinical Analyst
Milla Ahmadullina, Coordinator -Diabetic Management
Mahlahla Moe, Hospitalist
Sean Hanlon, Security Guard

Christopher DePinto, Security Guard
Alexander Lopez, Security Guard
Al Velija, PT
Michael Columbia, Security Guard
Emmei Abdelsayed, Respiratory Therapist
Peter Cirelli, EMT
Jessie Dominique, Respiratory Therapist
Hariram Ganesh, Chief Of Pediatrics
Brian Ciurcina, EMT
Lisa Fasanella, RN
Robert Mazzearella, RN
Jacqueline Grasso, RN
Marie Celestin, RN



Employee of the Month:

Dawn Barry, RN Clinical Resource Coordinator

A RUMC employee since 1979, Ms. Barry demonstrates a deep commitment towards the multiple goals and initiatives of the Care Coordination Department. Dawn plays an active role in both the Appeals and Denials Department, and assists with the Care Coordination team on the inpatient medical floors. Ms. Barry's current role in Appeals and Denial's transcends into offering wonderful teachings and the nurturing of new staff through challenges thus ensuring high quality patient care.

Ms. Barry is a role model for healthy communication, prioritization, and proper execution of skills for the departmental staff. Ms. Barry puts her whole-hearted effort into her work, having established and maintained strong professional relationships with all disciplines within the hospital, and also with insurance companies, and the local community.

Ms. Barry was nominated by Robert Kenney, Assistant Director, Clinical Resources; Kimberly Lewis, Assistant Director, Clinical Resources; and Isian Owens, Administrative Assistant, Clinical Resources



On Saturday, September 29th, RUMC spent the day at the Staten Island Mall providing shoppers with information on HPV. Pictured is Gabrielle Tricorico and Dr. Nisha Lakhi.



outREACH

This year Tammy the Trauma Ambulance was a huge hit at the Richmond County Fair. Our Trauma Team got a chance to teach attendees about Helmet Safety and the ABC's of Stop the Bleed.

Pictured below are Trauma Team Members Dan Scullin and Marisa Easop.



Happenings-In Case You Missed It (ICYMI)

- ⇒ Richmond University Medical Center bid a fond farewell to Ana Paula Oppenheimer, MD, MPH. Dr. Oppenheimer is moving on to Cape Cod, Massachusetts and a new position in the field of infectious diseases. Prior to her new appointment, she had been RUMC's Associate Program Director of Internal Medicine and ID/HIV Clinic Site Director. RUMC wishes Dr. Oppenheimer continued success and tremendous thanks for her service to our Staten Island community.
- ⇒ On Thursday, August 23rd, Richmond University Medical Center WIC Program, held a breastfeeding event to honor fully breastfeeding moms. The speakers were Linda Lotito, Breastfeeding Coordinator, and Brigida Torres, Peer Counselor. Close to 15 moms along with their children attended the event and moms were thrilled to receive a "Certificate of Excellence" from Linda Lotito for their dedication to breastfeeding. Thank you to Literacy Inc. for participating in story time!
- ⇒ Our Trauma Program is happy to report that they have been awarded a grant from the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee to participate in the Governor's "Child Passenger Safety Program". The goal of this program is to increase the proper use and installation of child safety seats in New York State. These funds will be allocated for the purchasing of seats for those that meet specific requirements and will enable the Trauma team to obtain the necessary equipment to run car seat events on Staten Island.
- ⇒ See our Summer 2018 CARE Magazine at <http://www.rumcsi.org/newsletters>
- ⇒ WINNING DESIGN of the 5K T-Shirt Contest—Congratulations to Dr. Anusha Lekshminarayanan from the Department of Medicine!
- ⇒ On September 20th our Dietary Department held a Healthy Eating Event at our 800 Castleton Avenue location. Nutritional games and snacks were available. Thank you to Marie Flazone for organizing.
- ⇒ Our FREE Weight Loss Surgery Seminars with Dr. Alex Barkan are enjoying success, with Staten Islanders expressing great interest in learning the ins-and-outs and requirements for this procedure. The September 20th event was well attended. October 18th is the next seminar and November dates will be available. Please call 718-818-4020 for more information.
- ⇒ RUMC marked the 17th anniversary of the September 11th attacks that changed our city and our country. As part of the ceremony, which took place at the hospital's September 11th memorial, administration recalled the lives lost with tributes and prayer. Over 100 people who attended the ceremony also gave thanks to First Responders and to the men and women in our Armed Forces.
- ⇒ RUMC will once again be hosting a table at the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk, scheduled for Sunday, October 21st at Midland Beach. To join in the fun that day please call Lorraine Scanni at 718-818-2102.

Monthly Employee Photo Contest!



Olga Rakhlin, MD
Clove Lake



AnnMarie Cazzetta
Niagara Falls Horseshoe

Junior Tyndale
South Beach



**Are you following us
on Social Media?**



Keep sending us those photos! These should be photos that reflect the idea to restore, support, and promote active and healthy lifestyles. Going for a run? Snap a photo of the sunrise. A late night stroll? Send us that picture of the sunset. Use your imagination and capture the beauty, whimsy, or nostalgia that surrounds us every day.

Please send those photos or any newsworthy materials and photos to Lorraine Scanni at lscanni@rumcsi.org.

