

Richmond University Medical Center

SEPTEMBER 2019 • RICHMOND UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER • WWW.RUMCSI.ORG

Richmond University Medical Center Holds Athlete Evaluation Day



President of Richmond University Health Network and chief administration officer, Richard Salhany, MBA, FACHE, president and CEO, Daniel J. Messina, Ph.D., FACHE; Mark Sherman, MD and NY Giant Bart Oates congratulate one of the student athletes after recently passing his pre-season physical.

To help athletes of all ages prepare for the upcoming sports seasons, Richmond University Medical Center provided free physical exams as part of a comprehensive athlete evaluation day on Saturday, August 17. The exams were provided at the hospital's primary care walk in center, located at 1161 Victory Boulevard. Over 30 student athletes came to be checked out before their upcoming seasons begin.

On hand to promote the importance of safety in sports was former New York Giants center and three time Super Bowl champion Bart Oates. He won two Super Bowls with the Giants in 1986 and 1990 and then one with the San Francisco 49ers in 1994. Oates was selected to five Pro Bowls during his career and started 125 consecutive games during his Giants career.

The physical exams were provided by a team of Richmond University Medical Center physicians, and nurse practitioners led by board certified orthopedic surgeons and sports medicine specialists Mark Sherman, MD and Maryirene Flynn, MD.

"Athlete's that are involved in organized sports require medical clearance before they can participate," Dr. Sherman said. "Historically, these examinations are done in a cursory manner and preventable injuries can be missed. This evaluation day offered a more focused examination by our team of expert medical

personnel intended to minimize the risks associated with sports participation."

Also on hand was Jerry Esposito, football commissioner for the Public School Athletic League-Staten Island.



Serena Chow is examined by Maryirene Flynn, MD. Serena plays both soccer and basketball.



Mark Sherman, MD and Maryirene Flynn, MD with the staff of the primary care walk in center on Victory Boulevard.

*A Publication for Employees, Physicians, Trustees, and Volunteers of
Richmond University Medical Center*

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



Recently we welcomed Michael Cabbad, M.D. to his new role at Richmond University Medical Center as chairman of our department of obstetrics and gynecology. Dr. Cabbad is highly regarded by his medical peers and the communities of Staten Island and Brooklyn.

Dr. Cabbad did his training at The Brooklyn Hospital Center and went on to complete his Fellowship in Maternal Fetal Medicine at SUNY-Downstate. He subsequently became director of obstetrics at Kings County Hospital before returning to The Brooklyn Hospital

Center where he took on the role of chief of maternal fetal medicine establishing an active Perinatal Diagnostic Center that has performed over 10,000 fetal assessments a year. During his tenure at his former hospital, he also served as director of the department, program director of the training program and as chairman for the last 20 years.

Dr. Cabbad is board certified in both general obstetrics and gynecology and maternal fetal medicine. He has served as the chairman of the professional practice evaluation committee for over eight years where he was instrumental

in reviewing all adverse outcomes and patient experiences brought before that committee. He presently holds the title of clinical associate professor with the Icahn School of Medicine, Mount Sinai and has established himself through the years as an accomplished leader and specialist.

Dr. Cabbad will be leading the department and Richmond University Medical Center as we expand our OB/GYN services not only across Staten Island, but also in Brooklyn, as he has established a presence in the Bay Ridge community.

Lastly, let me update you on the progress of our new ED. Despite the heavy rains these past few months, we remain on track to finish construction a year from this coming December. Very shortly the first steel beams will be erected, the first real sign of our new addition becoming reality. Your continued patience as construction continues, and your support as we progress, is deeply appreciated. Without you, none of this expansion would be possible.

**Remember the Power of One —
You Make A Difference!**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel J. Messina".

Patient Satisfaction: A Note of Thanks

The reason I am writing this note is to extend my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the outstanding level of care afforded to my mother, Martha, during this difficult time. Your nurses and Dr. Pacifico gave such quality care that it helped lessen the stress and emotional turmoil we all suffered. They exemplify all that is considered excellent in medicine. Each staff member demonstrated the unique ability to combine medical knowledge with humanity; the combination of which resulted in exemplary medical care. We are forever in your debt.

— Martha T & Family

I wish to thank the entire hospital staff for caring for me in April of this year. I would especially like to thank the ambulatory surgery department and the spectacular Dr. Michael Piccarelli.

— Thomas R.



RUMC Greatly Reduces Infection Rates

Through multifaceted efforts, Richmond University Medical Center has announced significant progress in reducing bloodstream infections and urinary tract infections for two straight years.

According to administrative director of infection prevention and control, Paul R. Geneve, the hospital has reduced these infections to the point where they are 60 percent and 50 percent lower than expected by the Center for Disease Control's National Health and Safety Network (NHSN). The medical center has also experienced similar decreases in the incidence of multidrug resistant organisms and surgical site infections.

"All of these accomplishments would not be possible without the never ending commitment by our clinical and ancillary staff to patient safety," chief of medicine, senior vice president/ chief medical officer Mitchell Fogel, MD, said. "The dedication and compassion of the employees of Richmond University Medical Center drive our achievements in patient quality and safety. Our staff is dedicated and passionate about the well-being of every patient."



Dr. Michael Cabbad Named New Chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Michael Cabbad, MD has been appointed the new chair of obstetrics and gynecology at Richmond University Medical Center. Board certified in obstetrics and gynecology as well as maternal fetal medicine, Dr. Cabbad has over 40 years of experience caring for families with high risk pregnancies and providing consultation to physicians who also treat high risk pregnancies. Dr. Cabbad is the first physician on Staten Island capable of performing a transabdominal cerclage, or TAC, to prevent pregnancy loss due to cervical weakness.

Armed with years of experience helping mothers with high risk pregnancies and reoccurring pregnancy losses, Dr. Cabbad is one of the foremost experts in transabdominal cerclage, or TAC procedures. A TAC involves a small incision in the lower abdomen through which a small, woven synthetic band is placed high on the cervix. The band supports the cervix, preventing it from opening and losing a pregnancy.

"Dr. Cabbad has personally delivered well over 10,000 children and has overseen the care and treatment of more than 50,000 mothers over the course of his distinguished career," president and CEO Daniel J. Messina, Ph.D., FACHE said.

Dr. Cabbad served as the former director of obstetrics at Kings County Hospital before going to Brooklyn Hospital Center where he took on the role of chief of maternal fetal medicine, establishing an active perinatal diagnostic center that has performed over 10,000 fetal assessments a year. During his 20 year tenure at Brooklyn Hospital Center, he also served as program director of the hospital's OB/GYN training program.



Positive Response to New Sensory Suite at Breast & Women's Center

Recent studies confirm that aesthetic upgrades to the design of health care settings can dramatically improve the patient experience, relax occupants, and promote a greater sense of comfort and healing. Nowhere has this been taken more to heart than at Richmond University Medical Center, where a cutting-edge new sensory suite recently unveiled at the hospital's dedicated Breast and Women's Center is resulting in more pleasant and efficient procedures for patients as well as higher-quality imaging for medical professionals.



As a diagnostic radiologist and the director of breast imaging and intervention at Richmond University Medical Center, Michael Shamis, MD, is very familiar with the standard experience women have when they undergo breast imaging at hospitals nationwide. "Typically, a woman will go to a radiology outpatient facility or imaging center, sit in the waiting room with all of the other patients needing radiology of some kind until she's called in, then change her clothes, wait again, and have her mammogram performed," he said.

Typically conducted within a cold and clinical exam room, "many women are nervous, find the compression of the mammography machine to be painful, and have an overall unpleasant encounter," said Dr. Shamis, who confirmed that the negative experience, combined with their fear of what might happen, can lead many women to skip the annual mammograms that could save their lives.

Unveiled at the Breast and Women's Center at 1161 Victory Blvd. earlier this year, the facility's progressive new sensory suite stands in stark contrast to the conventional imaging experience and represents a new day in patient-centric health care. Among other upgrades, the sensory suite is outfitted with a flat-screen TV that displays calming visuals such as waterfalls, forests, and beach scenes and also incorporates an audio component (e.g., water rushing, birds chirping, waves lapping, etc.) to create an even more interactive experience.

"The room colors are a calming shade of beige and dimmers in the suite help reduce bright overhead lighting," Dr. Shamis said. "This type of spa-like setting helps take a patient's mind off of what's happening and puts them more at ease. We find that in this environment, patients aren't as sensitive to being compressed because they're more relaxed and comfortable, which subsequently enables us to get better images."

Dr. Shamis confirmed that some of the biggest benefits of the setting occur during biopsy procedures, which can be especially anxiety-filled for patients. "These procedures are now being done in the sensory suite and the calming audio-visuals are successful in relaxing the patient and getting her mind off of the procedure at hand," said Dr. Shamis, who noted that two technicians are also present onsite to comfort the patient. "We're committed to fully supporting patients through these procedures and helping them feel better about the situation."

Officially opened in October 2018, the hospital's Breast and Women's Center is a comprehensive "wellness" center. From routine mammograms and exams to biopsies, surgical procedures, and personalized breast cancer treatment, the center provides patients with immediate access to a highly-trained medical team including board-certified, fellowship-trained radiologists and physicians who provide compassionate, individualized care utilizing the most advanced technology available. Comprehensive imaging, clinical, and minor surgical services are all available in the one location.

According to Dr. Shamis, patients are appreciating and positively responding to the facility's two new sensory mammography suites. "One woman recently told me that her appointment in the sensory suite was the greatest experience she's had in her 10 years of getting mammograms," he said. "We're excited to be the only hospital facility on Staten Island to offer this sensory stimulation atmosphere system and to have invested in this beneficial technology."

The Breast and Women's Center of Richmond University Medical Center is located at 1161 Victory Blvd. and can be reached by calling (718) 818-1161.

This article can be found on Sllive.com and was written by Susan Bloom.



Athenahealth Selected as New Platform for Richmond Health Network

Richmond Health Network has selected athenahealth, a cloud-based electronic health record (EHR), practice management and patient engagement service to replace the hospital's current ambulatory EHR, Eclinical Works. The new system will go live on November 5.

"After an exhaustive vetting process, and input from our executive steering committee, athenahealth has been selected after careful consideration to the readiness of our organization," president of Richmond University Health Network and chief administration officer, Richard Salhany, MBA, FACHE, said.

Among the benefits of the new system are:

- **Network Knowledge:** Collective insight from a nationwide network of over 75,000 providers, plus a continuously updated database of insurance and pay-for-performance rules.
- **Back-Office Service:** Dedicated athenahealth teams that alleviate administration burdens, including tracking claims.
- **Accelerators:** To help reduce documentation time, the system learns which templates are used for documentation, which orders are prescribed for a given diagnosis, and will make recommendations.
- **Cloud Based System:** All providers and staff access a single, shared network, so everyone sees the same patient data and the same clinical workflow. Athenahealth continually updates their software to keep everyone ahead of payer and clinical changes.
- **Quality Management/Population Health:** athenahealth offers an improved population health service assisting providers and staff in the coordination of care to engage patients. It also allows easier management of populations and close care gaps for the ACO and Quality incentive programs across the organization.



To help staff learn the new system, on-line learning courses are a critical part of the training process and will be assigned based on the following roles. Courses will be available starting in September:

- **Management:** Defined as "superuser" (SU); first to use online training
- **Admin/Clerical:** Check-in/out staff, medical records staff, etc.
- **Billing:** Staff members who handle billing functions and do not access charts
- **Clinical Staff:** Clinical support staff (MA/Nurse)
- **Provider:** Licensed

"There are a variety of events and activities that go into making a training program successful," Salhany said. "Both athenahealth and Richmond Health Network have been working closely to design and implement a training program that fits the needs for all users."

Former St. Vincent's Employee Celebrates 100th Birthday

Mildred Wangler, a former employee of St. Vincent's for many years, turned 100 years of age on July 1st. After her retirement from the hospital, that is now Richmond University Medical Center, Mildred worked as a volunteer in Human Resources until the age of 96. Helping to celebrate Mildred's personal milestone with her was Marina Fedorovsky from Payroll and Evelyn Rosales from Human Resources.



August New Hires — Welcome to RUMC!

Joel Abraham, *Paramedic*
Ria Ajibade, *Nursing Assistant*
Steven Alcindor, *MHT*
Aziza Andrews, *Nursing Assistant*
Emily Bisogna, *Unit Clerk*
Amber Black, *EMT Driver*
Renae Bright, *PA*
Michael Cabbad, *Physician*
Mary Cain, *Sr Clerk*
John Capotosto, *Anesthesia Tech*
Jacqueline Castellon, *Office Support*
Stephanie Culotta, *Social Worker*
Jared DeSalvo, *Paramedic*
Vanessa Dominguez, *SLP*
Rita Dwamena, *Nurse Manager*
Heba Elbery, *Classroom Substitute*
Sahar Elshenawy, *Classroom Substitute*
Thomas Falcone, *Security*
Danielle Farley, *Paramedic*
Olha Fedoryshyn, *Clinical Lab Tech*
Desara Gjediku, *Guest Rep*
Anthony Guaragno, *Financial Analyst*
Trai Hyde, *Building Service Worker*
Ishita Kharode, *Chief of Endoscopy -*
Jon Kravitz, *Security*
Krystal Lopez, *Assistant Teacher*
Magdalena Lubinski, *Lab Tech*

Kate McNamara, *Fellow*
Chrystina Mecca, *Receptionist*
Shadi Mehraban, *Clinical Research Fellow*
Edyl Melecio, *Building Service Worker*
Patricia Messina, *RN*
Lori Miller, *Clerk*
Nikola Miloshevski, *Transporter*
Nadira Mitchell, *Food Service Worker*
Stephanie Morrison, *Central Sterile Tech*
Kenya Munnerlyn, *Building Service Worker*
Angely Ng, *Nursing Assistant*
Robert Pillarella, *EMT Driver*
Arthur Reyes, *Nursing Assistant*
Nicholas Rodriguez, *Transporter*
Deborah A Rodriguez, *Peer Specialist*
Nicholas Schettino, *EMT Driver*
Suzan Shasivari, *Building Service Worker*
Mervat Shaybout, *Classroom Substitute*
Corey Straker, *Supervisor*
Nicole Sutler, *Receptionist*
Megan Sweezy, *Social Worker*
Stephanie Tavarez, *Food Service Worker*
Jacqueline Titus, *Case Aide*
Dolores Vanpelt, *VP of Process Improvement*
Oron Wettenstein, *Radiology Tech*
Lorraine Zarzana, *Receptionist*

TJC Readiness

It is often said that it takes 21 days to break a habit.

Starting today, and for the next 21 days let's begin to break the habit of staff consuming food and beverage in patient care and work areas. Staff should utilize the cafeteria or staff lounges to consume food and beverages. If we all gently remind each other, we can accomplish this task.



BOARD PROFILE:

Meet Our Trustees: Jill O'Donnell-Tormey, Ph.D.

Jill O'Donnell-Tormey, Ph.D., is executive director of the Cancer Research Institute, the only nonprofit organization dedicated exclusively to transforming cancer patient care by advancing scientific efforts leading to new and effective immune system-based strategies to treat, control and prevent cancer.

Dr. O'Donnell-Tormey serves on the boards of the Staten Island Foundation and Zero: The Project to End Prostate Cancer, and is the former vice president of the board of directors of the Notre Dame Academy. She has also been recognized as one of the "Top 100" Irish Americans by Irish America magazine and received the Fairleigh Dickinson University Pinnacle Award, the highest honor bestowed on its alumni.



RUMC Celebrates World Breast Feeding Week

On August 7, Richmond University Medical Center celebrated World Breastfeeding Week with games,

raffles and information on the importance of breast feeding in the main lobby. Richmond University

Medical Center is Staten Island's only Baby Friendly Hospital, designated by the WHO and UNICEF.



RUMC In The Community

On August 2 Richmond University Medical Center participated in the Coast Guard Family Day at Ft. Wadsworth. Dozens of families received information on the hospital's lines of service and

specialty programs. Free lung capacity screenings were also provided. Then on August 6, the hospital was on hand to celebrate the annual Night Out Against Crime in Midland Beach. Tami

the Trauma Ambi was on hand to help promote the various injury prevention programs offered by the Trauma Team.



August 2019 Employees of the Month

Congratulations to the following employees of the month for August:

Richmond University Medical Center
Nancy Marudo
Community Health Worker

Richmond Health Network
April Frost
Receptionist/Clerk
Primary Care/ Immediate Care/ Walk In Center at 4360 Hylan Blvd.

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