

— MED-CENTER

Pulse

INSIDE:

A Publication of ECMC Corporation

Message from ECMC Corp. CEO
Jody L. Lomeo - pg. 2

ECMC Echocardiography Laboratory
Accredited - pg. 3

ECMC Opens Doors as Designated
Stroke Center - pgs. 4-5

ECMC Receives Chest Pain Society
Accreditation - pg. 6

ECMC Leaders nominated for Business
First Health Care 50 Award - pg. 7

ECMC one of only two area hospitals
selected to participate in National Quality
Improvement Collaborative- pgs. 8-9

Michael A. Meyer, MD, appointed
Editor-in-Chief for Neurology
International - pg. 10

Ann Victor-Lazarus recognized
by Buffalo Business First as Beta
Award finalist - pg. 10

Mandip Panesar, MD, appointed
Medical Director of ECMC
Hemodialysis Unit - pg. 11

NYS Fire Investigators present donation
for ECMC Burn Unit - pg. 13

ECMC presents donation to Good
Neighbors/Harvest House - pg. 14

ECMC presents the Fourth Annual
Dr. Rakesh Bidani DVT Educational
Symposium- pg. 15

ECMC Youth Career Day at Science
Museum. - pgs. 18-19

Three ECMC professionals to be
honored May 16th during ECMC Lifeline
Foundation Springfest 2009 - pgs. 20-23

ECMC Nurse/Employee/Volunteer
of the Month - pgs. 26-28

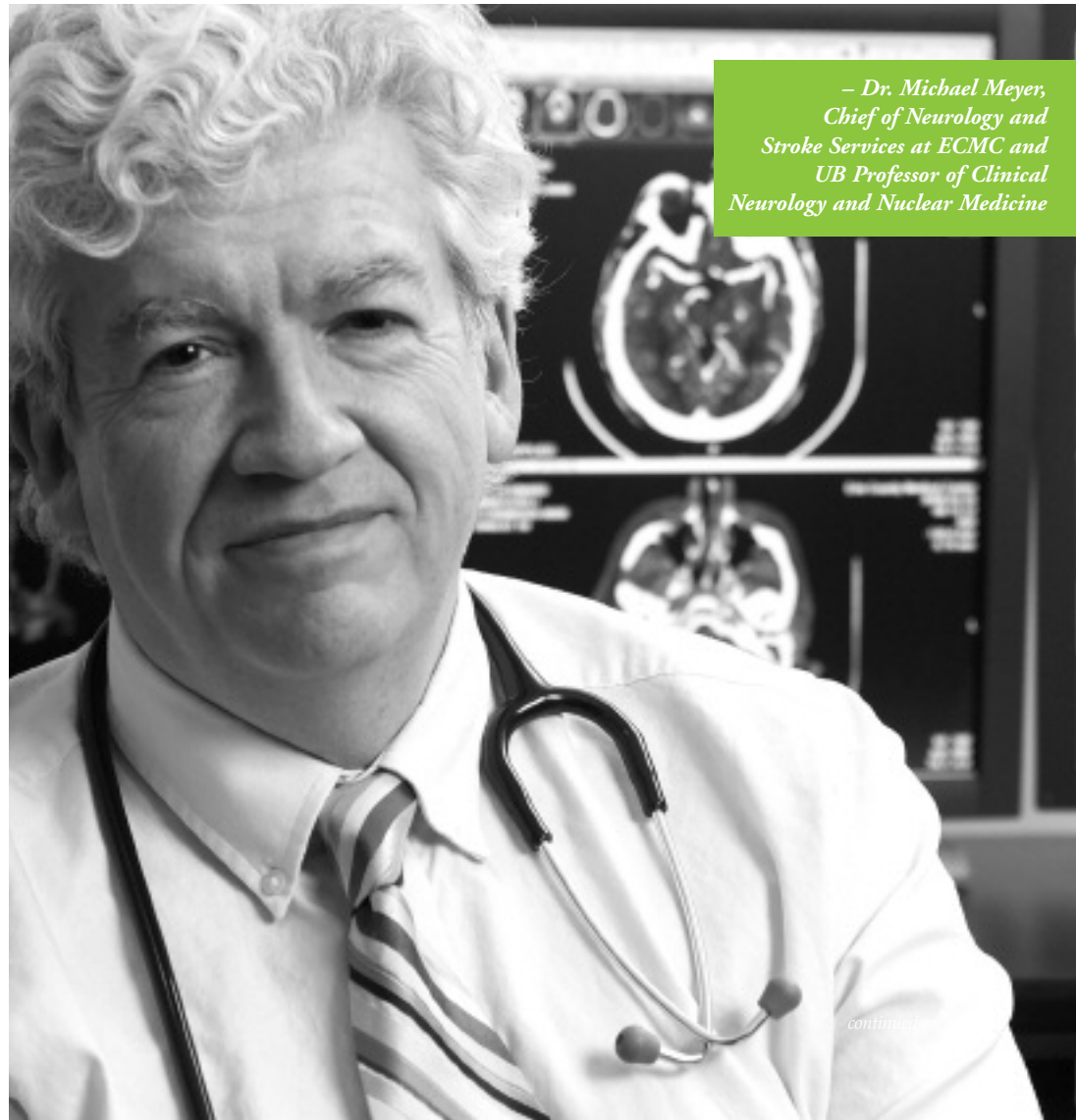
Rehab P.E.D.S. Celebrates "The Week of
the Young Child" at new location - pg. 29

ECMC Opens Doors as Designated Stroke Center

*24/7 facility, with
two CT scanners,
is fully certified for
stroke care*

On April 30, 2009, ECMC held a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony to officially announce that New York State approved Erie County Medical Center as only the region's fifth Designated Stroke Center, a medical, financial and patient benefit in a county that has the most stroke deaths statewide.

continued on page 4



*— Dr. Michael Meyer,
Chief of Neurology and
Stroke Services at ECMC and
UB Professor of Clinical
Neurology and Nuclear Medicine*

continued on page 4

A Message from ECMC CEO

Jody L. Lomeo



Jody L. Lomeo
ECMC Corp. CEO

This has been an exciting few months for ECMC. We received our Stroke Designation, our Accreditation as Chest Pain Center, and patient room renovations are complete on the twelfth floor. In addition, after receiving valuable clinical input across the hospital, we have replaced all of our beds with new state-of-the-art units for our patients' comfort and safety. These investments are a demonstration of our continued commitment to our medical professionals to provide them with the resources to deliver the very best patient care.

The reason why we make these investments is because of our daily commitment to patient care. Since I began as CEO last year, I have had numerous acquaintances, friends, and family tell me about their loved one's experience as a patient at ECMC. While they always comment on the excellent care, what is as important to them is the way they were treated. I often hear of the compassion and understanding of physicians and nurses at ECMC, as much as I hear about quality of care. I would like to publicly thank our staff members for their dedication to our patients.

At our annual ECMC Lifeline Foundation dinner, to be held Saturday, May 16, 2009, a few of the ECMC family will be honored for their dedication to patients and patients' families. I would like to congratulate Kevin E. Cichocki, D.C.; William J. Flynn Jr., M.D.; and William R. Arnold, R.N. Thank you to Dr. Bill Flynn and Bill Arnold for your commitment to quality care at ECMC and our patients. Thank you to Dr. Kevin Cichocki who has donated hundreds of hours for the betterment of ECMC and our community. These individuals truly represent the best of ECMC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jody L. Lomeo'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.

Jody L. Lomeo
Chief Executive Officer
ECMC Corporation

ECMC Echocardiography Laboratory Accredited



An echocardiography technician uses the latest non-invasive 4D ultrasound imaging device to examine a cardiac patient.

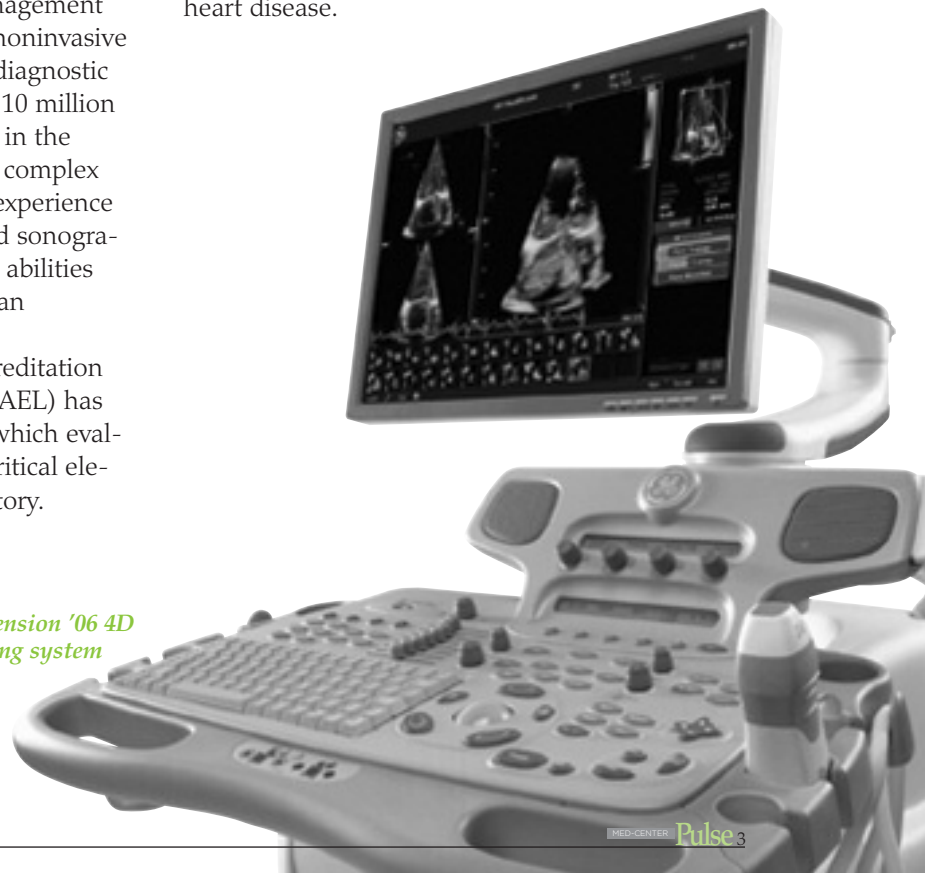
One American dies every 32 seconds of cardiovascular disease, disorders of the heart and blood vessels. Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, costing society over 83.7 billion dollars each year in health services, medications and lost work time due to disability. Cardiac structure and flow information provided by echocardiographic testing is useful in the detection and management of many types of heart disease. This noninvasive test has become one of the standard diagnostic tools in cardiology with an estimated 10 million echocardiograms performed annually in the United States. Echocardiography is a complex imaging technique that relies on the experience and training of both the physician and sonographer. Their interpretive and technical abilities determine the diagnostic accuracy of an echocardiographic examination. The Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories (ICAEL) has developed an accreditation program which evaluates the quality of these and other critical elements of an echocardiography laboratory.

Erie County Medical Center Corporation was recently granted accreditation by the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Echocardiography Laboratories (ICAEL). The laboratory is one of the first one thousand echocardiography laboratories in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico to be so recognized for its commitment to high quality patient care and its provision of quality diagnostic testing.

The ICAEL was established with the support of the American Society of Echocardiography (ASE), the American College of Cardiology (ACC) and the Society of Pediatric Echocardiography (SOPE) to provide a peer review mechanism to encourage and recognize the provision of quality echocardiographic diagnostic evaluations by a process of voluntary accreditation. A non-profit organization, the ICAEL is dedicated to ensuring high quality patient care and to promoting health care.

Participation in the accreditation process is voluntary. Accreditation status signifies that the facility has been reviewed by an independent agency which recognizes the laboratory's commitment to quality testing for the diagnosis of heart disease.

The Vivid 7, Dimension '06 4D ultrasound imaging system



ECMC Opens Doors as Designated Stroke Center

Cover story continued



(l. to r.) Participants during the Stroke Center at ECMC grand opening included: L. Nelson Hopkins, MD, Professor and Chairman of Neurosurgery, S.U.N.Y. at Buffalo; Dr. Michael A. Meyer, Chief of Neurology and Stroke Services, ECMC; Dr. Brian Murray, Chief Medical Officer, ECMC; Jody L. Lomeo, CEO, ECMC (congratulating Dr. Meyer); Dr. Timothy DeZastro, Chief of Radiology, ECMC; and Paula Quesinberry, RN, Stroke Program Coordinator, ECMC.

The medical center's application for the stroke designation listed benefits already realized for stroke patients receiving care at ECMC, and projected others, including: improved efficiency of patient care; faster evaluation and treatment of acute stroke patients leading to better outcomes; improved patient treatment times; better patient outcomes due to appropriate protocols and guidelines; fewer stroke-related complications; decreased patient length of stay; higher patient survival rates; improved long-term outcomes; services to reduce patient disability; and increased patient satisfaction. Additionally, ECMC's stroke program will continue to work closely with the Stroke Center at Millard Fillmore Gates for patients that require alternative stroke care.

Cost savings to ECMC and the Western New York community will also result from reduced patient lengths of stay and initiation of treatments for secondary prevention, reducing the risk of future hospital admissions. Since Erie County has more stroke deaths than any other county in New York State, this program is particularly needed in this region.

"ECMC and its stroke team are justifiably proud of this designation," said ECMC CEO Jody L. Lomeo. "What's especially positive is that ECMC and the Western New York community

need not expend additional funds to meet the requirements for the stroke center designation, since ECMC already has the medical staff, radiological equipment, and surgical team to implement this program. This is purely for the patients' benefit."

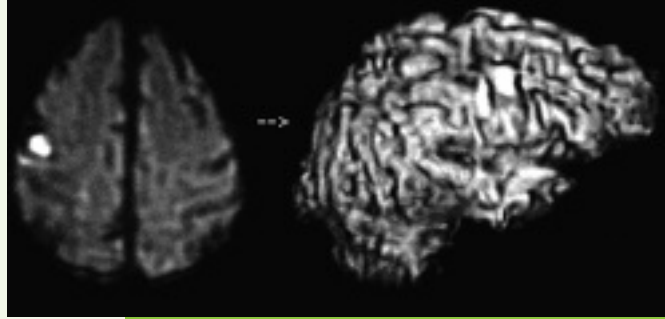
The state Health Commissioner established Designated Stroke Centers statewide to improve treatment standards and access to high-quality care for patients with a presumptive diagnosis of stroke.

Other designated stroke hospitals in Erie County are Kenmore Mercy, South Buffalo Mercy, Millard Fillmore, Gates Circle and Sisters of Charity hospitals. Statewide, there are 114 other hospitals with the designation, out of 289 total hospitals.

On Dec. 11, 2008, the State Hospital Review and Planning Council of the Health Department informed ECMC officials that the application for ECMC to become a Designated Stroke Center was initially approved, pending a site review and some final steps in the process to be conducted by the DOH over the next few months.

In 1995, Dr. Michael A. Meyer, chief of Neurology and Stroke Services at ECMC, co-authored a landmark paper published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* on a new and

ECMC is able to acquire enhanced images from the 64-slice scanners (left) to assemble and render complete three-dimensional images (right) of arteries and veins of the brain that can be interactively rotated for viewing from any virtual vantage point.



aggressive approach to acute stroke that utilized a clot-busting medication, tPA, drawing attention to ECMC's expertise.

"I am very pleased to see that the Health Department adopted the recommendations from this important study," said Dr. Meyer, who is also Professor of Clinical Neurology and Nuclear Medicine at the University at Buffalo School of Medicine. "In so doing, the Health Department is taking a strong role in developing a statewide program for acute stroke."

"I am also pleased that the state approved ECMC's application as a Designated Stroke Center. As a 24/7 Adult Regional Trauma Center, ECMC has already been caring for many patients requiring stroke care."

The ECMC 24/7 Stroke Team includes physicians from multiple specialties. Qualified Emergency Department physicians, having received training and certification to perform National Institutes of Health Stroke Scale evaluations, are members of the acute stroke team. Constant stroke patient medical coverage is provided by neurology residents and staff at ECMC. Stroke Program Coordinator Paula Quesinberry, RN, oversees patient care services and community education, and Nursing and Rehabilitation staff members play an integral role in stroke center services at ECMC.

ECMC also operates an out-patient neurology clinic for stroke-related evaluations.

The ECMC facility is already well equipped to provide stroke evaluation and care. Immediately adjacent to the large 29-bed ECMC Emergency Department, equipped for urgent care, is a 64-slice digital imaging scanner for rapid CT angiography of the brain and neck vessels.

With the recent installation and utilization of a second 64-slice digital imaging scanner, ECMC has the ability to evaluate and treat stroke patients in an optimal setting.

ECMC is able to acquire enhanced images from the 64-slice scanners to assemble and render complete three-dimensional images of arteries and veins of the brain that can be interactively rotated for viewing from any virtual vantage point.

"The ECMC Stroke Team is unique in its routine use of interactive, three-dimensional image processing for not only CT, but also MRI images. These can enhance diagnosis and subsequent treatment planning for patients with stroke-related problems."

Dr. Michael Meyer



Dr. Michael Meyer officially opens the Stroke Center at ECMC during April 30, 2009, grand opening/ribbon cutting ceremony.

In addition to applications to evaluate stroke patients, the two 64-slice scanners are also available continuously for high throughput trauma and cardiac imaging.

"The ECMC Stroke Team is unique in its routine use of interactive, three-dimensional image processing for not only CT, but also MRI images. These can enhance diagnosis and subsequent treatment planning for patients with stroke-related problems," Dr. Meyer said.

ECMC Receives Chest Pain Society Accreditation

Second WNY hospital, just fifth statewide, to gain national designation

On March 23, 2009, ECMC officials announced it received the Society of Chest Pain Centers' national accreditation as a Chest Pain Center with a percutaneous cardiac intervention (PCI) designation, just the fifth such hospital in New York State.

Heart attacks are the leading cause of death in the United States, with 600,000 people dying annually of heart disease. More than five million Americans visit hospitals each year with chest pain.

ECMC also becomes the 250th accredited Chest Pain Center with PCI designation in the nation, out of 5,759 hospitals. ECMC's accreditation is good until March 15, 2012.

"Providing rapid assessment of patients with chest pain and heart attacks fits in well with our longstanding trauma center designation and mind set. Receiving the accreditation verifies our excellent team approach to this patient population", said Michael Manka, M.D., Emergency Department Director, at ECMC.

"This rare, national designation is testimony first to the excellent heart attack care patients coming to ECMC receive, but also to the team – from the EMTs and physicians in outlying communities to the ECMC's emergency physicians, cardiologists and nurses – that work so hard and so effectively to provide superior care," said Jody L. Lomeo, ECMC's CEO.



PCI is the technical name for angioplasty, the process of clearing a blocked or narrowed coronary artery that could lead to a heart attack. In an angioplasty, an interventional cardiologist threads a probe, typically entering through the leg or shoulder, to clean out or suppress the arterial blockage. Studies show this method to be at least as effective as a coronary artery bypass graft, a surgical technique that essentially creates a route around the blockage. Narrowing or blockage is usually caused by cholesterol-laden plaques that form due to atherosclerosis.

The goal of the accreditation agency, the Society of Chest Pain Centers, is to significantly reduce the mortality rate of patients by teaching the public to recognize and react to the early symptoms of a possible heart attack, reduce the time that it takes to receive treatment, and increase the accuracy and effectiveness of that treatment.

The Columbus, Ohio-based society's accreditation process ensures hospitals meet or exceed quality-of-care measures in acute cardiac medicine. The accreditation process includes on-site evaluations by a review team from the society.

THE CRITERIA FOR ACCREDITATION INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Emergency Department integration with the Emergency Medical System
- Emergency assessment of patients with symptoms; timely diagnosis and treatment
- Assessment of patients with low risk, and no assignable cause for their symptoms
- Process improvement
- Personnel, competencies, and training
- Organizational structure and commitment
- Functional facility design
- Community outreach

The Chest Pain Center's protocol driven and systematic approach to patient management allows physicians to reduce time to treatment during the critical early stages of a heart attack, when treatments are most effective, and to better monitor patients when it is not clear whether they are having a coronary event. Such observation helps ensure that a patient is neither sent home too early nor needlessly admitted.

With the rise of Chest Pain Centers came the need to establish standards designed to improve the consistency and quality of care provided to patients. The society's accreditation process insures centers meet or exceed quality-of-care measures in acute cardiac medicine.

The Chest Pain Center at ECMC demonstrated its expertise and commitment to quality patient care by meeting or exceeding a wide set of stringent criteria and completing on-site evaluations by a review team from the Society of Chest Pain Centers.

In New York State, ECMC joins its Great Lakes Health System partner, Buffalo General Hospital, and three in the New York City-Long Island region with the PCI designation. Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital in Williamsville is accredited as well, but not with the PCI designation.

The society's approach to Chest Pain Center Accreditation is radically different from other certification processes that set specifications and then measure compliance. In contrast to more traditional certification models, its Accreditation Review Specialists are collaborative and provide feedback, education and resources to assist the facility in addressing gaps and improving processes. If facilities are successful improving the care of the ACS patient it supports the mission to reduce heart attack deaths.

ECMC Leaders nominated for Business First Health Care 50 Award.

Extraordinary leadership. Extraordinary care.



JODY L. LOMEO
CEO, ECMC
VICE CHAIR, GREAT LAKES HEALTH
BOARD OF DIRECTORS



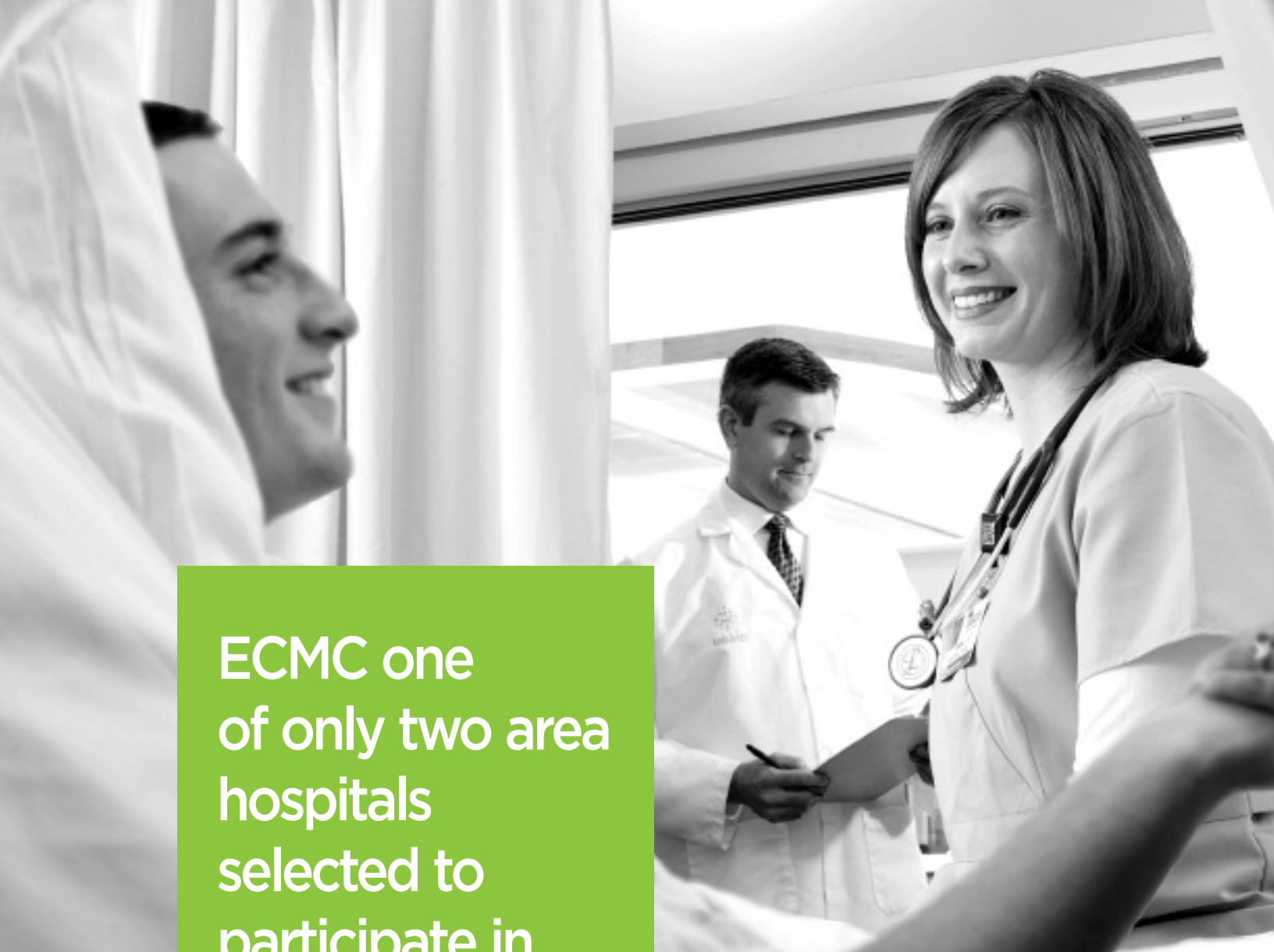
SHARON L. HANSON
CHAIR, ECMC BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEMBER, GREAT LAKES HEALTH
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ECMC is proud to honor Sharon Hanson and Jody Lomeo. We thank them for their unparalleled dedication and tireless commitment to providing Western New York with quality health care. Under their leadership, ECMC has evolved into a better, stronger hospital. And their continuing dedication to partner with Kaleida Health to create Great Lakes Health System will result in greater healthcare quality and access for all. Congratulations to both of these extraordinary leaders for being nominated for the 2009 Health Care 50 award.

ecmc.edu

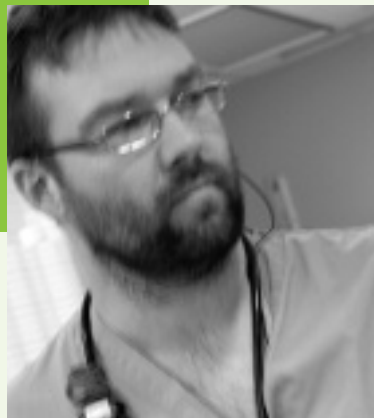
The Culture of Care





**ECMC one
of only two area
hospitals
selected to
participate in
National Quality
Improvement
Collaborative**

Nurses from ECMC and Medina will develop innovations to improve quality of care. Program is part of effort to align local forces for improved health care quality.





The P2 Collaborative of Western New York announced recently that Erie County Medical Center and Medina Memorial Health Care System have been selected by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) to participate in a new effort to improve the quality of care in hospitals. The program will help nurses and other frontline staff identify, test and implement changes that will improve the quality and safety of patient care in their medical and surgical units.

The program is part of RWJF's Aligning Forces for Quality (AF4Q) initiative, a cornerstone of the Foundation's \$300 million commitment to improving quality in specific regions across the United States. The P2 Collaborative coordinates local efforts for the program. Western New York was selected last year as one of 14 AF4Q communities nationwide.

The new nurse-led program is based on successful pilot efforts by the Foundation to transform care at the bedside, by making hospital staff that spends the most time directly caring for patients the key drivers of quality improvement. Hospitals that have already participated in the program report a cultural shift on their medical-surgical units that has produced better clinical outcomes, more time spent with patients by staff, and lower turnover of nursing jobs.

"We know that the quality of health care can be improved in every community in the nation, and the more people who get involved, the more likely we are to succeed," said Shelley Hirshberg, executive director of the P2 Collaborative. "Having local hospital leaders involved in our efforts is an important part of our strategy to improving quality of care. Not only will they learn new ways to improve care in our community, but they will be sharing what works in our community with other hospitals around the nation that need our insights."

Experts say the effort to transform care at the bedside is unusual in its focus on engaging nurses and other frontline staff to develop and lead the quality improvement efforts. Ideas for improving care come not from the hospitals executives, but from the nurses who treat patients every day. Nurse-led teams identify where change is needed on their unit, suggest and test potential solutions, and decide whether and how those innovations should be implemented.

"Because they spend so much of their day with patients and their families, our nurses are in unique positions to know exactly how quality can be enhanced from both the clinical and operational perspectives," said Bonnie Ann Glica, RN, MS, senior vice president of nursing for Erie County Medical Center Corporation. "Nothing is more important than high-quality care and I'm glad our team was selected to be part of this effort."

Led by RWJF, the TCAB Collaborative will be overseen by The Center for Health Care Quality at The George Washington University Medical Center School of Public Health and Health Services, which serves as the national program office for the Aligning Forces for Quality initiative. Technical assistance will be provided by the American Organization of Nurse Executives. The Institute for Healthcare Improvement will convene training workshops for participants. The first cohort is in process and the second cohort launches fall of 2009.

In every region involved in the Aligning Forces for Quality initiative including Western New York, broad-based teams of people who get care, give care, and pay for care are working together to improve healthcare quality. By aligning people from across the community in different AF4Q initiatives, the P2 Collaborative hopes to help achieve community-wide transformation of health care.

For more information, visit www.p2wny.org or www.rwjf.org.

Michael A. Meyer, MD, appointed Editor-in-Chief for Neurology International



Michael A. Meyer, MD, was recently appointed Editor-in-Chief for Neurology International. Dr. Meyer is a Professor of Clinical Neurology and Nuclear Medicine and ECMC Chief of Neurology and Stroke Services. He is Board Certified in Neurology and Nuclear Medicine.

Dr. Meyer co-authored a landmark paper published in the New England Journal of Medicine (1995) on a new and aggressive approach to acute stroke, using the clot busting medication, tPA. The New York State Department of Health has adopted the recommendations from Dr. Meyer's important study.

Ann Victor-Lazarus recognized by Buffalo Business First as Beta Award finalist



Ann Victor-Lazarus, MS, RN, CPHRM, Vice President of Patient Advocacy was one of the finalists for the Beta Award recognized by *Buffalo Business First*. Over the past year, Ann's greatest moments at the hospital have been providing data to the Chief Medical Officer, Chief Nursing Officer, Patient Safety team, and Administration to utilize in decision making to improve quality care for patients that seek care at ECMC.

Mandip Panesar, MD, appointed Medical Director of ECMC Hemodialysis Unit



Mandip Panesar, MD, Medical Director, Hemodialysis Unit, ECMC

Mandip Panesar, MD, was recently appointed as the Medical Director of the Hemodialysis Unit at ECMC. Dr. Panesar is a Diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine, Board Certified Internist, and a Board qualified Nephrologist who has been a member of the Renal Unit and on staff at ECMC for nearly three years.

Dr. Panesar served as Chief Fellow in Nephrology at the University of Arkansas (2005). He began his fellowship at the

University of Arkansas in 2004. Prior to this, Dr. Panesar performed his residency in Internal Medicine at St. Francis Medical Center through Seton Hall University (2001-2004).

Dr. Panesar earned his Doctor of Medicine at St. George's University (1996-2000). He earned both his Master of Science and Bachelor of Science degrees in Physiology at McGill University, Canada (1991-1996). Dr. Panesar also earned an undergraduate degree in Health Sciences at Marianopolis College (Canada; 1989-1991).

Dr. Panesar has conducted extensive research, including work performed at: the University of Arkansas (Division of Nephrology), St. Francis Medical Center (Seton Hall University, New Jersey), and Jewish General Hospital, Nephrology Research Center, Laboratory of Molecular Endocrinology, and School of Physio/Occupational Therapy (McGill University, Canada).

Dr. Panesar is well-published, having contributed toward numerous research articles on kidney transplant, mechanisms of glomerulonephritis, infectious diseases, nephrogenic systemic fibrosis, and complications of dialysis (1996-present).

Dr. Panesar has received many honors and awards including: Resident of the Year (Research) and Resident of the Year (St. Francis Medical Center), International Peace Scholarship (St. George's University, Canada), Research Fellowship (Royal Victoria Hospital, Canada), a research grant from AMGEN, and an Award of Excellence from ECMC (2008).

Audrey Hoerner appointed NP / Unit Manager of Burn Treatment Center



I am pleased to announce that **Audrey A. Hoerner, MS, APRN, BC**, is the new Nurse Practitioner / Unit Manager of the Burn Treatment Center (effective March 2, 2009). She started in the Burn Treatment Unit (BTU) at ECMC in 1989. Audrey had the privilege of working with the late Dr. Roger Seibel, Director of the BTU, who encouraged her to become a Nurse Practitioner. In 2002, Audrey received her

Nurse Practitioner degree from Daemon College. In that same year, she assumed the position as NP for Surgical Services, where she worked until beginning her position in the BTU.

As the Nurse Practitioner and Unit Manager of the Roger W. Seibel, MD, Burn Treatment Center, Audrey's role is to facilitate care of burn patients as well as manage the Burn Unit on a day to day basis. This includes budgeting, staffing, education, establishing protocols, and standardizing care of patients. Audrey is currently implementing a Burn Registry that will be incorporated into a national repository of burn information.

Audrey has said, "I am appreciative that ECMC has given me the opportunity to reach my goal. I am now able to utilize my education and knowledge to resume my work with burn patients."

Please join me in wishing Audrey the best in her new role.

Peggy Cramer, RN, MS

Vice President Trauma and Emergency Department

7-South Nursing Staff lead by JoAnn Wolf recognized for highest timely discharges

JoAnn Wolf, RN, BS, (sporting her "Flash Report" ball cap award) enjoys a moment with Karen Ziemanski, RN, MS, Assistant Director of Nursing (ADON) during a luncheon celebrating the 7th Floor, South (her nursing unit) success in the timely discharge of patients prior to noon. The 7th Floor, South is the highest performing nursing unit in the timely discharge of patients working in cooperation with Orthopaedic and Surgical In-patient Services and all other interdisciplinary departments. This initiative is designed to free in-patient beds in the morning to provide open beds for patients waiting in the emergency department overnight for bed placement. Reducing waiting time in the emergency department for bed placement is a proven metric in measuring patient satisfaction. Our patients and physicians appreciate the great job JoAnn and other staff members are doing on the 7th Floor, South.



ECMC Director of Plant Operations Dick Kerling elected president of ASHE



Richard L. Kerling was recently elected President of the American Society of Healthcare Engineers (ASHE) Western New York Chapter. He was a former senior member of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, a member of the National Fire Protection Association, and a member of the American Society for Hospital Engineering.

Dick Kerling is the Director of Plant Operations at ECMC (2005-present). He has served as Kaleida Health Administrator for Facilities

Management and Security where he consolidated management of four major healthcare facilities and developed corporate project management systems. Before working at Kaleida Health, Kerling was Assistant Administrator of Plant Operations and Security at Buffalo General Hospital. He converted the entire facility to energy saving electronic lighting and created an expense budget tracking system.

Mr. Kerling has also served in other area hospitals, such as Children's Hospital of Buffalo as the Chief of Engineering and earlier in his career at Buffalo General Hospital as the Associate Director of Plant Operations.

Kerling earned his Journeyman Stationary Engineer Certification from the State of New York in 1976. He received his Chief Stationary Engineer License in the City of Buffalo in 1981.

Kerling served as a Vietnam Veteran in the United State Marine Corp. He also received the Detroit Police Department Civilian Citation in appreciation of outstanding service and cooperation (February 4, 1969) for chasing an armed robber and subduing and holding him for police, after the armed robber shot two of three other men who were in pursuit.

NYS Fire Investigators present donation for ECMC Burn Unit

Buffalo Fire Marshal and ECMC Lifeline Foundation Board Member James O'Neil (second from left) brought together New York State Fire Investigators Chapter 23 Jason Karasinski (left), Vice President and Richard Frommert (back center), Secretary-Treasurer to present a \$1,000 check to Foundation Executive Director Gia Coone (front right) and Clinical Director of Surgery William Flynn, MD (right).

The money was raised at the Fire Investigators annual golf outing and donated through the ECMC Lifeline Foundation to Clinical Director of Surgery William J. Flynn Jr., MD, to be used for the ECMC Roger W. Seibel, MD, Burn Treatment Center.



ECMC presents donation to Good Neighbors/Harvest House—Serving the Uninsured of our Community



(l. to r.) ECMC Corporation CEO Jody L. Lomeo and Board of Directors Chair Sharon L. Hanson present check in the amount of \$8,673 to Good Neighbors/Harvest House Director Kathy Armenat and organization co-founders Linda and Gary Tatu.

On behalf of ECMC Corporation, Board of Director Chair Sharon L. Hanson and CEO Jody L. Lomeo recently presented a donation of \$8,673 to Good Neighbors/Harvest House to support efforts to care for the uninsured. This organization provides preventative care to patients who might otherwise show up at ECMC's Emergency Department.

The check was accepted by Good Neighbors/Harvest House co-founders Gary Tatu and Linda Tatu and Director Kathy Armenat. The recipients expressed thanks to Ms. Hanson and Mr. Lomeo for the generous contribution to their organization from ECMC Corporation."

In 1993, Gary and Linda Tatu purchased the former South Presbyterian church and Sunday school building located at 1782 Seneca Street in Buffalo. They renovated and transformed the buildings into a Baby and Children's Ministry

and Christian Retreat Center now called Harvest House. A few years later, they purchased another facility, located at 175 Jefferson Avenue in Buffalo, now known as Good Neighbors Health Care, "...to help serve the people in an underserved community with all of the services that could help them build a better life." Currently, the Good Neighbors center offers educational and computer classes as well as free legal advice. The center began as a free medical clinic for the uninsured. Many generous people not only brought together Good Neighbors and Harvest House, but also captured the vision for a free health center and energetically moved it into fruition. Plans are in place to expand the services of Good Neighbors to include mental health, physical and occupational care, exercise classes and other health services. For information about Harvest House, log-on to: **www.harvesthouse.ws**. To learn more about Good Neighbors, see: **www.GNHCBuffalo.org**.

ECMC presents the Fourth Annual Dr. Rakesh Bidani DVT Educational Symposium

"Walking through the Continuum of Care"



The symposium held at ECMC on March 13, was an educational program on Deep Vein Thrombosis, DVT prevention and patient safety with anticoagulation, featuring a panel discussion. On the panel was moderator Dr. Regina Makdissi, Internal Medicine; Dr. Christopher Mutty, Orthopaedic Surgery; Dr. James Czynry, Rehabilitation Medicine; Dr. Gerald Logue; Coumadin Clinic Staff; and Sue Ksiazek, Clinical Pharmacist.

The panel and audience members followed a case from admission to discharge looking at possible complications, risks and benefits involved in following DVT protocols.



ECMC Diversity in the Healthcare Workplace

ECMC staff participated in the Diversity in the Healthcare Workplace workshop. The workshop included topics such as: improving quality through diversity, respecting differences, building trust, customer service, dealing with customers, and providing quality customer service.



ECMC's Community Outreach at Buffalo Wellfest



Paula Quesinberry, RN, BSN

ECMC was a Silver Sponsor for the Buffalo Wellfest on April 17th and 18th, 2009 at the Statler Towers Golden Ballroom & Terrace Room. Rita Hubbard-Robinson, along with several ECMC staff members, medical residents, interns and doctors volunteered to work at the booth and make health related presentations at the event. The presentations offered included: Pediatric Educational and Diagnostic Services, Drug abuse (Alcohol and Other Drugs); an American Epidemic; What is high blood pressure and what should you do about it?; and Diabetes



Jocelyn Massaro, PT, DPT & Leanne Shed

Prevention. ECMC provided nearly 500 individuals with health related material, blood pressure, cholesterol and glucose screening, consultation on the Pediatric Educational and Diagnostic Services, and Stroke Center, and the ECMC "green-friendly" shopping bags. A big thank you is owed to Jocelyn Massaro, PT, DPT; Jeffrey L. Anker, MD; Joseph L. Izzo, Jr., MD; John R. Fudyma, MD; Norman McCulloch, MD, MBA; Vicky Moe, MD (Resident); Leanne Shed (intern); and Paula Quesinberry, RN, BSN.

ECMC Youth Career Day at Science

*Opportunity for
Buffalo seventh
graders to learn about
health careers*



Museum

On March 31, 2009, Erie County Medical Center teamed up with the Buffalo Public Schools and the Buffalo Museum of Science to introduce more than 200 seventh graders to careers in health care.

The "Healthcare Professions Conference for 7th Graders," ran from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and featured introductory remarks from Dr. James A. Williams, Buffalo Superintendent of Schools.





Mark Mortenson, president and CEO, Buffalo Museum of Science, and Rita Hubbard-Robinson, corporate training director at ECMC coordinated the program that involved students from eight schools.

The symposium involved professionals from ECMC in nursing, cardiovascular services, surgical technology, radiology, rehabilitation medicine, adolescent medicine, internal medicine, and hospital administration. D'Youville College, Erie Community College, Trocaire College, Rural Metro Medical Services and the Regional Resource Center for Emergency Preparedness of Western New York at ECMC provided hands-on activities about healthcare careers.

"The financial future of the Buffalo region will rely on three fields: education, finance, and healthcare. It is critical to create important partnerships with healthcare providers like ECMC to prepare Buffalo Public School students to start careers in healthcare," said Dr. Williams. "We need to reach out to as many students as possible at a young age to introduce them to the incredible opportunities before them in an expanding and lucrative field. I am proud of this partnership and look forward to introducing the children of Buffalo to the possibilities of pursuing lucrative positions and careers in the healthcare industry."

Featured in the programs are Karen Ziemianski, ECMC's assistant director of nursing and Cheryl Nicosia, nurse clinician; Jacqueline Blackley, vice president of cardiovascular services; James Turner, VP of surgical services and Jeremy Hoover, administrative assistant for surgical services; Rose Marie Nadolinski, a senior radiologic technologist; Angela Duell, occupational therapy, Stacey Lenhard, physical therapy, and Heather D'Errico, speech therapy.

"ECMC is happy to provide this educational community service. Offering 12-year-olds a window into their future is important to their development and creates a truer vision of possibilities for success," said Ms. Hubbard-Robinson. "We hope that this conference, exposing youth

to hands-on activities, will give them the 'aha' moment that says 'I can do this, I can be a nurse or a surgical technician. 'We want the youth participating in this conference to dream big dreams."

The students were offered eight 15-minute break-out sessions with interactive aspects at the Science Museum. Lunch followed these, with keynote speakers Dr. Jonathan Daniels, adolescent medicine; Dr. Olga Klinkova, a second-year resident in internal medicine; and Dr. Norman McCullough, assistant to the president at ECMC.

"The Buffalo Museum of Science is thrilled to partner with ECMC on this event," said Mortenson. "This helps to showcase the science that is happening in our city and region and helps to increase awareness for the students about the educational preparation needed to pursue careers in the sciences."

Also involved is Dr. Denise Brylinski, a D'Youville chemistry professor; Pati Aine Guzinski, coordinator of the emergency preparedness center at ECMC; Rob Kasper, education coordinator, and Patrick Reagan, marketing coordinator, at Rural/Metro Medical Services; Linda Kerwin, Trocaire's program director of peri-operative nursing and surgical technology; and from ECC, Marcia Bermel, medical lab technology professor, Coleen Clark, Tim McQuade, Pamela Simmeth, nursing department instructors, and Marvin Herman, dental lab technology professor.

"This collaboration between the Buffalo Museum of Science, local colleges and healthcare agencies, and the Buffalo Public Schools is exciting," Hubbard-Robinson said. "The 7th graders of today are the workforce of tomorrow. The decisions that they make to stay in school, stay on task and excel in math and science, and plan for a successful career in healthcare, will keep the workforce plentiful and individuals employed in lucrative careers. ECMC looks to do more to educate youth about the 300-plus job opportunities in hospitals and healthcare."

Three ECMC professionals to be honored May 16th during ECMC Lifeline Foundation Springfest 2009

Springfest 2009, Putting on the Ritz, the ECMC Lifeline Foundation's annual black-tie gala, will be held on Saturday, May 16, 2009, at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. Springfest is the premier fundraising event conducted each year by the Lifeline Foundation for ECMC Corporation. Attendance for this 2009 function is expected to exceed 525 medical and community professionals.

ECMC Lifeline Foundation will recognize three outstanding individuals during this annual gala event. The individuals chosen to be honored this year are: Kevin E. Cichocki, BA, BS, DC, as the *Lifeline Chairman's Distinguished Service Honoree*; William J. Flynn Jr., MD, as the *Distinguished Physician Honoree*; and William R. Arnold, RN, as the *Distinguished Nursing Honoree*.

Putting on the Ritz



Chairman’s Distinguished Service Honoree:

Kevin E. Cichocki, BA, BS, DC, Vice-chair and Chief Clinical Officer of Palladian Health, Dr. Cichocki has overseen the development of proprietary clinical care algorithms integrating physical therapy, chiropractic, and physical health and fitness with primary care to eliminate duplication of services and reduce healthcare costs. As Director (1994) of the New York Chiropractic Group, Dr. Cichocki lead the organization to help create an integrated environment between chiropractic and medical communities within hospitals and in establishing the first in-house, hospital-based chiropractic clinics in the nation.

As an active ECMC Corporation Board of Directors Member since 1999, Dr. Cichocki supports the performance of the hospital system, ensuring that the institution meets its Public Benefit Corporation mission. He is Immediate Past-chair of the ECMC Corporation Board of Directors and currently serves as a Vice-chair. As board chair, Cichocki was instrumental in turning the hospital around to be fiscally sound.

Cichocki played a key role representing ECMC in negotiations with New York State’s Berger Commission and the subsequent merger process with the Kaleida Health System. Dr. Cichocki represents ECMC Corporation as a Board Member of Great Lakes Health System of Western New York, the organization including Kaleida Health and ECMC Corporation created to develop a new model of healthcare delivery for Western New York.

Dr. Cichocki was Chiropractic Speaker for the Congressional Health Care Reform Forum (1994). He served as a member of the New York State Chiropractic Association Board of Directors (1996-2000), President (1992-1996), Vice President (1990-1992), and Treasurer (1989-2000). He has also served as: Staff Chiropractor for the World University Games (1993) and the Empire State Games (1993-2000). Other professional organizations of which Dr. Cichocki is a member include the: American Chiropractic Association and its Councils on Nutrition and Sports Injury; the Foundation of Chiropractic Education and Research; and the National College of Chiropractic Alumni Association.

Kevin E. Cichocki earned his graduate degree as Doctor of Chiropractic (1986) and an undergraduate Bachelor of Science degree (1984) from the National College of Chiropractic, Lombard, Illinois. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Biology from Canisius College (1982). Dr. Cichocki has also gained expertise through post graduate work with the New York Chiropractic College and the National College of Chiropractic in such specialties as: sports injury, radiological diagnostics, nutrition, and in studies of numerous other injuries and illnesses.

Dr. Cichocki resides with wife Kathi in the town of Elma.

Three ECMC professionals to be honored May 16th during ECMC Lifeline Foundation Springfest 2009



Distinguished Physician Honoree: William J. Flynn Jr., MD, is Associate Professor of Surgery (1999) for the State University of New York (S.U.N.Y.) at Buffalo, School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. Dr. Flynn was appointed Assistant Professor of Surgery at S.U.N.Y. Buffalo, School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences (1991) where he also completed his residency (1989). Dr. Flynn earned his doctorate from the Northwestern University School of Medicine in (1983). He received his Master of Sciences degree from S.U.N.Y. Buffalo (1979). He is certified in Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Advanced Trauma Life Support, and Advanced Burn Life Support.

Dr. Flynn was recently appointed Clinical Director of Surgery at ECMC. Prior to this appointment, he served at ECMC as Attending Staff Surgeon (1991) and as the Director of Surgical Intensive Care Unit (ICU); Assistant Clinical Director of Surgery and Project Planner/Supervisor of the Trauma ICU Renovation Project.

Throughout his career, Dr. Flynn has earned many accreditations and certifications for his medical knowledge, teaching abilities, and outstanding work ethic, which define both his sense of dedication and the high quality of care that he directs and delivers to ECMC patients. He is a member of the: New York State Committee on Trauma, American Trauma Society, Buffalo Surgical Society, American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, Buffalo Academy of Medicine, and various other organizations. He earned Fellowships as a Trauma Fellow; a Research Fellow; and in Intravital Microscopy Section, University of Louisville (1991). Dr. Flynn became a Diplomat of the American Board of Surgery in General Surgery (1991) and Surgical Critical Care (1992) and a Diplomat of the National Board of Medical Examiners (1984).

Dr. Flynn lives with his wife Nancy in the town of Orchard Park.



Distinguished Nursing Honoree: William R. Arnold, Jr., RN, BSN, Nursing Informatics Manager at ECMC has served in this capacity since 2002. Informatics merges technology and nursing, including new developments in various monitoring systems, automated vital signs equipment, and more efficient medical and administration information. Health efficiency and patient safety are top priorities for Nurse

Arnold at ECMC. As the only person at ECMC in this position, he is required to understand perspectives of a nurse, a computer analyst, and an administrator. Bill Arnold is currently working on a bed tracking system for ECMC.

Bill Arnold consistently demonstrates a passion for healthcare and a solid work ethic. Having an affinity for medicine, Bill Arnold graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from D'Youville College (1981). With 25 years of his 30 year career in Critical Care, he gained valuable knowledge and experience working in such a highly active environment. This background prepared him for ECMC's fast-paced environment.

Before joining ECMC, Bill Arnold served as a staff nurse and a unit manager in various area hospitals. He also served in the Air Force Reserves for five years as a flight nurse. Flight nurses aid in combat transports and go into the field to take wounded soldiers back to safety.

Bill Arnold and his wife Kathleen live in Clarence Center.

Springfest 2009 will commence at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo at 6:00 P.M. with cocktails and a silent auction. Dinner will be served at 7:00 P.M. Dancing to the music of *JOYRIDE & The Hitmen Horns* will immediately follow the dinner program. Those individuals or organizations interested in obtaining additional information, sponsoring Springfest, and/or wishing to purchase tickets, should contact the ECMC Lifeline Foundation at **716-898-5881**.

ECMC Lifeline Foundation, Inc. was created as a not-for-profit corporation with a mission to assist ECMC in establishing the resources needed to support the medical center's Adult Regional Trauma Center and its Culture of Care through excellence in medical and customer services. Since ECMC is now an independent Public Benefit Corporation and is no longer a part of Erie County, it seeks to receive support from the community it has helped for so long and from those who may need its services in the future.

Springfest 2009 Gift Gathering Luncheon



The Springfest Gala's Second Annual Gift Gathering Luncheon was held on Friday, March 13, at the Buffalo Club. More than 50 individuals turned out at this function to support Springfest. Gifts received will be auctioned at the 20th Annual Springfest Gala, scheduled for Saturday, May 16, at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo. Funds raised at the Springfest Gala go to support the ECMC Corporation patient care programs. For information, contact the ECMC Lifeline Foundation at 898-5800.



(l. to r.) Ms. Marie Hare, Vice President, KeyBank; Mrs. Gia A. Coone, Executive Director, ECMC Lifeline Foundation; Ms. Bonnie Ann Glica, RN, MS, Vice President of Nursing, ECMC



(l. to r.) Mrs. Kathi Cichocki; Mrs. Mary Nugent; Mrs. Kathleen Cichocki



(l. to r.) Mrs. Ann L. Swan, William E. and Ann L. Swan Foundation; Mrs. Barbara Whitney; Ms. S. Virginia Parsons, ECMC Lifeline Foundation Board Secretary



(l. to r.) Mrs. Kathi Cichocki; Mrs. Mary Lomeo



(l. to r.) Mrs. Gia A. Coone, Executive Director, ECMC Lifeline Foundation; Mr. Sterling Kozlowski, President, KeyBank and Chair of 2009 Springfest Gala; Mrs. Jayne Murray.



(l. to r.) Ms. Deborah DiMatteo, Vice President, M&T Bank; Mrs. Ann Victor-Lazarus, Vice President of Patient Advocacy, ECMC

2009 ECMC Lifeline Foundation Events



Puttin' on the Ritz

SPRINGFEST 2009

Benefitting ECMC Lifeline Foundation
May 16, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Buffalo



2009 TOURNAMENT OF LIFE GOLF CLASSIC

Park Country Club
Monday, August 17, 2009



WNY RUNS FOR HEROES

Delaware Park/Marcy Casino
October 3, 2009

Board of Directors Extraordinary Care Award



Shown here are: Nurse Jamie York, RN (center); ECMCC Board of Directors Chair Sharon L. Hanson (left); and Jody L. Lomeo, CEO, having recognized Jamie and her Nursing Team for "Extraordinary Care" provided to patients.

On April 29, 2009, the ECMC Corporation Board of Directors recognized three Nurses as well as their Nursing Teams for the "Extraordinary Care" they provide to patients. **Nurses Jamie York, RN** (shown in center of photo above); **Courtney Stewart, RN**; and **Robin Trimble, RN**; and their Nursing Teams were applauded for the care that they provide to patients.

In a letter of commendation from ECMC Corporation CEO Jody L. Lomeo, Mr. Lomeo stated, "I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your receipt of the ECMCC Board of Directors *Extraordinary Care Award* acknowledging your exceptional work ethic. No one knows better than those of us at ECMC that you are the epitome of service, dedication, and professionalism. It is people like you who make ECMC such a great place..."

Julie Serdin - May

Julie Serdin, RN, is the nurse of the month for May. Julie has been an RN on the 12th Floor, Zone 2 for three years. She is an outstanding preceptor (instructor) for both students and orientees, always taking them under her wing. Julie is an excellent patient advocate who consistently finds ways to improve patient outcomes. She works well with others. She is reliable and patient, always going out of her way for others. Julie has been a great asset to the zone and is greatly appreciated. Thank you Julie!



Justin Kane - April

Justin Kane, RN, is the Nurse of the Month for April. Justin has demonstrated leadership as well as professional sensitivity to patients and their families. His relationship with staff is respectful and he is seen as a resourceful and reliable Registered Nurse on the day shift. Justin has contributed to the Quality Improvement programs within the Department and has served as a role model to new staff members. Congratulations Justin!

Donald Cervi - March

Donald Cervi, LPN, is a Senior Licensed Practical Nurse who has worked at Erie County Medical Center for the past 19 years. Don brings a wide range of skills and experience to the department. He is motivated and ready to learn to take on new tasks. Don is very good with patient teaching and safety. He is exceptional in drawing blood and starting IV therapy. In an emergency he is calm and focused and is available to assist. Some of his other skills include obtaining EKG's, medication pass (distribution), computerized documentation, quality improvement, wound care, and diabetic monitoring. He is self motivated, able to recognize and report patient changes. He is respected by his peers and is often called upon as a resource person to help them deal with an issue. Thank you Donald!

Erika Willig - May

Erika Willig, Receptionist, in the Nurse Staffing Office is an invaluable member of the Nursing Department. Her calm manner is a valuable asset when dealing with multiple staffing issues, payroll, and assisting in various matters. Erika is the "Go To" person in nursing. She thrives in a busy and hectic atmosphere that includes employees, staff and visitors to the hospital. Good work Erika!



Ken Dzialak - April

Ken Dzialak, OT, an Occupational Therapist in Behavioral Health is the Employee of the Month for April. Ken is primarily assigned to work with adolescents on the 4th floor, zone 4. He has a special way of bringing out the best of a bad situation and comforting those around them. He shows a great deal of compassion when he is listening and speaking with the patients. He is never judgmental but is able to redirect the conversations to turn even a negative situation to a positive. He never hesitates to volunteer extra time or work with very challenging patients. Ken is respected by both the patients and the staff. In addition, he is a conscientious worker. Good job Ken!

Diane Hawbaker - March

Diane Hawbaker, HA, a hospital aide in Psychiatry, is an exceptional person who understands the needs and possesses the qualities of patience, understanding and tolerance when attending to psychiatric patients. Her calm, gentle approach soothes even the most troubled patient. Diane's compassion draws patients to her and they are able to discuss their hardships and concerns. Her firm sense of boundaries aids in the therapeutic process. She is a role model for her peers and a great asset to the hospital.



Joanne Schellati - February

Joanne Schellati, PT, is a physical therapist working with cardiac patients. Joanne demonstrates very sharp skills and intuitively understands the challenging aspects involved with taking care of this select group of patients. Joanne's warm and pleasant personality is both contagious and inviting to patients and staff. Her bedside manner and people skills are second to none. She is the kind of employee that we are all very proud to have on our team.

Virginia Russell - May

Virginia C. Russell of the Pastoral and Spiritual Care Department at ECMC has been named Volunteer of the Month for May, 2009. Ms. Russell is a county retiree. She was first employed at the Erie County Home for twenty years as an aide and then a chart room aide. She then transferred to ECMC and worked in S.P.D. (Supply Process & Distribution) until her retirement in 1995. Virginia has been volunteering as a secretary/coordinator for Pastoral Care since 1991. Her general knowledge of the hospital has made her an invaluable part of this department's mission to serve the spiritual needs of the entire hospital population. In addition, Virginia also faithfully serves her church, J. W. Loguen AME Zion Church, as well as its District and Conference. Virginia's first volunteer efforts go all the way back to the 1980's when she served at WNED-TV as a phone bank worker, a bid-taker during auctions and a computer clerk inputting donor information. Thank You, Virginia, for all that you! Your dedicated service is beyond measure! Congratulations!



Bob Boergers - April

Bob Boergers is April's Volunteer of the Month. Bob came to us two years ago as a former cardiac patient with a mindset of helping others who are going through similar difficulties. Bob has faithfully visited hundreds of patients on the 12th floor, zone 2 and also in the Cardio Care Unit, CCU and the Cardiothoracic Unit, CTU. One patient even sent a commendation to the hospital referring to him as "Bob- the cardiac wonder volunteer." His assistance and willingness have been a great help to cardiac patients and staff as well as to the Volunteers of ECMC. Thanks Bob. You are "all heart!"



Shirley Hessel - March

Shirley Hessel has been a volunteer at ECMC since 1973. She is currently a member of the Volunteer Board and works at least one day per week in the Gift Shop in the main lobby. When you pass by and see the windows beautifully decorated you can thank Shirley. Her artistic eye and skill are used to make the Gift Shop a more attractive place to shop. But equally as nice is her pleasant disposition and willingness to help. Thank you for all that you do!



Rehab P.E.D.S. Celebrates “The Week of the Young Child” at new location

ECMC Rehab P.E.D.S. celebrated the “Week of the Young Child” with the grand opening of their new location at 4242 Ridge Lea Road, Amherst. Phone: 716-819-2400



Rehab P.E.D.S. Director Patricia Migaj pauses to select a book in the new Ridge Lea Office.



(l. to r.) Glenda Brzoska, Stephanie Nichter, Karin Ziegler, Annette Paruta, Robert Hawkins, Patricia Migaj, and Tracye Johnson celebrating the grand opening of their new office.

Important Days to Know

March

Brain Injury Awareness Month
Kidney Month
Nutrition Month
Professional Social Work Month

(1-7) Dental Assistants Recognition Week

(30) Doctors' Day

April

Alcohol Awareness Month
Donate Life Month
Minority Health Month
Occupational Therapy Month
Sexual Assault Month
Sexually Transmitted Diseases Awareness Month
Women's Eye Health and Safety Month

(12-18) Patient Advocacy Week

(19-25) Healthcare Administrative Professionals Week

(19-25) Healthcare Volunteer Week

(19-25) Medical Laboratory Professionals Week

(26-May 2) Crime Victims' Rights Week

(8) Radiology Nurses Day

May

Arthritis Awareness Month
Better Hearing and Speech Month
High Blood Pressure Education Month
Lupus Awareness Month
Mental Health Month
Osteoporosis Awareness and Prevention Month
Stroke Awareness Month
Trauma Awareness Month

(6-12) Nurses Week

(10-16) Hospital Week

(10-16) Nursing Home Week

(17-23) Emergency Medical Services Week

(12) Florence Nightingale's Birthday

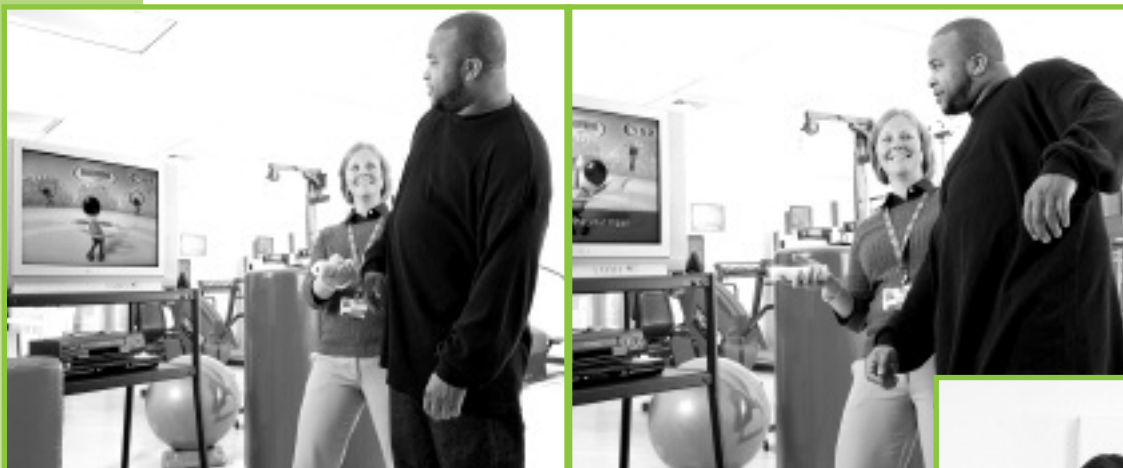
(13) Health Care Auxiliary Day in New York State

(15) Critical Care Awareness and Recognition Day

April is Occupational Therapy Month!

Occupational therapy is skilled treatment that helps individuals achieve independence in all facets of their lives. Occupational therapy assists people in developing the "skills for the job of living" necessary for leading independent and satisfying lives. This includes skilled treatment in rehabilitating lost motor or cognitive function, adaptive equipment/splinting, home modifications/job site evaluations, client and caregiver guidance, performance skills assessments and treatment and customized treatment programs to improve one's ability to perform daily activities. Occupational therapists work with patients that have a variety of diagnoses including but not limited to: stroke, spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, burns, amputees, general/cardiac deconditioning, orthopedics, cerebral palsy, developmental delays and mental health issues. Occupational therapists work with a wide variety of ages from infancy to the elderly. Registered occupational therapists generally require 5 years of college education whereas certified occupational therapy assistants necessitate a 2 year degree to work in the field. Registered

occupational therapists (OTR) are able to both evaluate, treatment plan and treat. Certified occupational therapists (COTA) treat under the guidance of a registered occupational therapist. Occupational therapists are required to obtain multiple continuing education credits throughout the calendar year in order to maintain their certification and licensure to practice. It is a very rewarding profession that is highly regarded by the population it serves. Occupational therapy is an integral area of practice that assists patients to maintain their quality of life, despite disability, disease or dysfunction. Occupational therapists work in various care arenas throughout ECMC including acute care, acute rehabilitation 8th floor north, subacute/skilled nursing, psychiatry, outpatient at ECMC, pediatric *school based therapy* at School 84 and *pediatric itinerant therapy with children from birth through five years of age in our PEDS Department now located at 4242 Ridge Lea Road, Amherst, New York 14226.*



A Rehab patient uses a WiiFit therapeutic activity to improve strength and balance.



A spinal cord patient prepares a meal with an occupational therapist, working on balance, coordination, arm and hand strength, and safety.

May is Better Hearing and Speech Month!



A traumatic brain injury patient works with a speech pathologist on cognitive skills for improving attention-concentration, problem solving, and judgement.

Communication and feeding skills are vital to everyday life, and Speech-Language Pathologists (SLPs) and Audiologists are the Communication Professionals. SLPs work with individuals in all phases of life, from birth through the elderly years, who have difficulties with producing sounds, understanding and expressing language, voice disorders, cognitive difficulties (memory, concentration, problem solving), and feeding/swallowing. The SLP is an integral member of the Coma Stimulation Team, who labor tirelessly to yield emergence from a minimally conscious state to a level of alertness for this patient group. Audiologists assess the hearing of individuals of all ages and, when necessary, fit individuals with devices to assist with hearing problems. ECMC offers Speech Language programs to our young children and adult community.

For young adults and adults: The Speech Pathology / Swallowing Rehab Service is a unique component of the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine. This skilled team works closely with Physicians and other disciplines to meet the individual needs of our patients throughout the Rehab continuum. Speech Pathologists provide clinical services to inpatients from intensive care through acute neuro-rehab, and to those individuals who continue to require intervention upon discharge on an outpatient basis. Programming is designed for patients who have suffered a neurological event, i.e. a brain injury or stroke, which has

rendered difficulty with their abilities to comprehend spoken messages, express needs, recall information and swallow safely. Other services provided include the evaluation of: tracheostomy / ventilator dependent patients and their candidacy for a speaking valve to improve verbal communication and swallowing function; and vocal pathology etiologies, for example laryngectomy (removal of the larynx).

For young children: The Rehab Home Health—P.E.D.S. Department offers community-based diagnostic and treatment speech and language services to children ages birth to 5 years through the NYS Department of Health Early Intervention Program and through the School Districts throughout Erie County. These services are free for qualifying children. Our NYS Licensed SLP's each have a wealth of experience providing evaluations and treatment to our youngest clients utilizing a combination of researched-based and developmentally appropriate practices.

For questions regarding adult services, please call Lisa Traniello, Rehabilitation Medicine Supervisor, Post Acute Care at 898-3212 or Kathleen Pacelli, Senior Speech Pathologist at 898-5527. For questions regarding pediatrics, please contact Patti Migaj, Director of Special Services, Rehab Home Health at 819-2400. Services may be obtained via a computerized referral.

ECMC welcomes new Cafeteria Chefs

We are very pleased to announce the hiring of Chris Damiani as Executive Chef for Morrison at ECMC. Chris has an outstanding culinary background in the Western New York community. After earning his undergraduate degree at Geneseo, he could no longer resist his true passion for food, and he went on to earn an A.O.S. in Culinary Arts graduating with honors from Johnson & Wales in Rhode Island. Chris returned to the Buffalo area, and his experience has afforded him the opportunity to work with many talented professionals throughout his career. Chris was the Sous Chef at the Orchard Park Country Club for three years. He spent four years as the Executive Chef at the Buffalo Yacht Club. He then became the Executive Sous Chef at Romanello's South before joining the Wegman's organization and serving as Cooking Coach & Seafood Department Manager at their flagship Alberta Drive store. Most recently, Chef Chris was at the Frog Hair Grille on Transit Road in Williamsville where he opened the restaurant, developed the menu, and served as Executive Chef for the past two plus years. Chris' passion for great food and great customer service will be an outstanding asset at ECMC. You will see Chris daily in the cafeteria where he will be creating, serving, and meeting our guests. Initially, Chris will be overseeing food quality and production in the cafeteria, and subsequently, he will also oversee production, menu planning,

and presentation of patient food service. Please join me in welcoming Chris to ECMC. You'll have no trouble finding him as he loves dealing with people and talking about food!

Also joining our team is new Cafeteria Chef, Jake Burmeier. Jake is a recent ECC graduate with a degree in Culinary Arts. Jake's most recent experience was working with Chris opening and developing the Frog Hair Grille. Jake has been here for a couple of weeks, and his professionalism and ability have already been an asset to our staff.

Both Jake and Chris are native Western New Yorkers, and are thrilled to become part of ECMC. One of the areas they will immediately impact is having a low-priced daily special. Monday through Friday, we will have a cafeteria special for ECMC employees and volunteers that will include an entree, side dish, and fountain drink for \$2.99 (including tax). Look for this to begin on March 2nd.

We know you have choices, but we hope to see you soon. Thank you for your patronage and allowing us to serve you.

Mike Galbraith
Food and Service Director
Morrison's Food Service

SIAA Bronze Award goes to ECMC for Annual Report to the Community 2007-08



Only WNY
Healthcare
company/service
provider to be
recognized for this
national honor

The Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) Corporation recently received notification from the Service Industry Advertising Awards (SIAA) that ECMC and its contracted graphic design firm Eberle-Sciandra won the organization's Bronze Award for the ECMC Corporation "Annual Report to the

Community 2007-2008" during the Sixth Annual SIAA Awards.

SIAA recognizes the creativity and communication accomplishments of the service industry. It is the only advertising awards to specifically recognize the achievements of the service industry. Nearly 1,200 entries were received in this year's awards. A national panel of judges evaluated and rated entries in twelve groups and twenty-

seven categories including: execution, creativity, quality, consumer appeal, and overall break through advertising content. The judges awarded 184 Gold Awards, 112 Silver Awards, as well as 83 Bronze Awards. More information about the SIAA and the awards is available at: www.siaawards.com

The vision for ECMC's "Annual Report to the Community 2007-08" was provided by ECMC Corporation senior vice president Thomas J. Quatroche Jr., Ph.D. ECMC Corporation director of public relations and communications Joseph B. Cirillo managed the project and functioned as editor and contributing writer.

Designed by art director Joseph Sciandra and written by copywriter Philip Nyhuis of ECMC's contracted design firm Eberle-Sciandra (Buffalo, NY), the report highlighted ECMC healthcare services by featuring patient stories/testimonials and medical staff members involved in their care and depicting clinical staff and patients with photographs by Bob Wagoner of Wagoner Photography (Elma, NY). The report was printed by United Graphics (Buffalo, NY).

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN MANY AREAS:

- Gift Shop
- Hospitality Cart
- Plant Sales
- Workshops
- Social Events
- Attend Monthly Meetings
- Assist with Mailings

CONTACT:

Elaine Connors at 668-4546
Marcia Vanderlinden at 668-1805

OUR VOLUNTEERS RECEIVE:
Free Parking and Meal Tickets

Additional needs include transporting and escorting patients; clerical and as greeters to visitors.

Thank You ECMC

Erie County Medical Center
462 Grider Street
Buffalo, New York 14215

Dear ECMC:

Please accept my donation as an expression of my gratitude for the excellent care I received from all of the doctors, nurses, therapists and all other hospital staff. I suffered serious injuries, including a traumatic brain injury, resulting from a car accident on March 2, 2006. I spent almost two weeks in the trauma Intensive Care Unit, ICU and another week on the rehabilitation floor. My family and I feel blessed every day that I am alive and we believe I survived because of the wonderful medical treatment and care I received from ECMC. We are so thankful that we have such an excellent facility in our area.

God bless all of you and your families! Thank you!

Sincerely yours,

Amy Edel and Family

"Outstanding Staff Nurse Nominee"
Pamela Riley, RN,
Cardiac Step-down Unit, ECMC



"Nurse of Distinction Nominee"
Karen Beckman, MSN, RN,
*Clinical Nurse Specialist,
Emergency Department, ECMC*

Congratulations to all Nursing Award Nominees

We gratefully acknowledge all of the area's many dedicated professional nurses, including this year's nominees, but especially those at ECMC who enable us to maintain excellent patient outcomes.

ECMC is consistently ranked among the best hospitals in Western New York, New York State and the USA. Many of the reasons for our successes can be directly attributed to our exceptional nursing staff.



**462 GRIDER STREET,
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14215
ECMC.EDU (716) 898-3000**

THE CULTURE OF CARE

MED-CENTER

Pulse

Med-Center Pulse is a monthly publication of the Public Relations/Communications Department of ECMC Corporation

Editor: Joseph B. Cirillo

Contributing Editor: Kristy A. Rzeszutek

Please direct all communications for this publication in digital form to:

Joseph B. Cirillo

E-Mail: jcirillo@ecmc.edu

Special Notice of Change in ECMC Med-Center Pulse Publication Schedule

Published by the ECMC Corporation Public Relations/Communications Department, Med-Center Pulse is now published every other month (bimonthly as a two-month issue) available at the end of the second month of each bimonthly issue. Therefore, the article/photo submission schedule is revised accordingly. All submissions must be received by the end of the first month of the issue as follows:

| ISSUES | SUBMISSION DUE DATES |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| January-February | End of January |
| March-April | End of March |
| May-June | End of May |
| July-August | End of July |
| September-October | End of September |
| November-December | End of November |

ALL SUBMISSIONS ARE REQUIRED IN ELECTRONIC FORM (either as text in e-mail or as Microsoft Word files/attachments). Photographs must be forwarded as digital files/scans and attached to e-mail or submitted on CD, DVD, or USB devices.

ECMC.EDU



462 Grider Street • Buffalo, New York 14215

Stuff you never needed to know...

- Bacteria, the tiniest free-living cells, are so small that a single drop of liquid contains as many as fifty million of them.
- A toothpick is the object most often choked on by Americans. Every year, more than 8,800 people injure themselves in some way with a toothpick.
- During your lifetime, you will eat sixty thousand pounds of food- the weight of six elephants.