



Pulse

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A PUBLICATION OF ECMC CORPORATION

Russell Salvatore Donates 350 Flat-Panel TVs to ECMC *Donation also means free television service for patients!*



“This is the season of giving, and I want to give back,” Salvatore said. “When you are recuperating in a hospital bed, television becomes very important. I want to make sure all of ECMC’s patients have the same excellent patient experience that I did. I wish everyone a quick recovery and a very Happy Holiday.”



ECMC Launches Schwartz Center Rounds

Nationally recognized program helps employees strive to create best patient and family experience *pgs. 6-7*

ECMC receives
Get With The
Guidelines-Stroke
Silver Plus
Quality Achievement
Award *pg. 9*



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October- November-December	November 15th

*ECMC Corp. Administration may require that this schedule change without notice.

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Contributing Editors: Sarah Barrancotta,
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Please direct all communications for this publication in digital form to:

Joseph B. Cirillo at jcirillo@ecmc.edu

A Message from ECMC CEO Jody L. Lomeo



Jody L. Lomeo
ECMC Corp. CEO

As we end 2012, we reflect on the success of the organization and the challenges we faced together as a family. From the opening of the Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation and Kidney Care to the announcement of a \$15 million grant for a Great Lakes Health Behavioral Health Center of Excellence on the ECMC Health Campus, we have had many ribbon cuttings, announcements, and successes. The hospital is busier than ever and it is because of the dedication of the ECMC staff that we have become the hospital of choice for many Western New Yorkers.

As we enter 2013, we remain optimistic about our future. We continue to be busy, recruit many physicians to ECMC, and collaborate with our partners at Kaleida Health to improve the quality of care for patients of our community. We also continue to build upon our success to transform the patient experience. As you will read in this edition, Russell Salvatore, an ECMC patient and community philanthropist, has

purchased 350 flat screen televisions for our patient rooms. This is one more visible example that demonstrates to our patients that they come above all else.

The patient experience will be a paramount strategic initiative in 2013. This will continue to be our main focus. We believe everyone in the organization is responsible for enhancing the patient experience. This starts with me, as CEO, our management, physicians, nurses, and all staff. We have a great culture at ECMC, and we are striving to be the best in our field.

Our commitment is to our mission: to treat every person who enters ECMC with the highest quality care and compassion. Our dedicated staff members make ECMC great, and I am honored to represent our organization in our community.

We are grateful for the success we have achieved in 2012 and look forward to greater accomplishments in 2013 and beyond.

We thank you for your ongoing support of ECMC. May you and your loved ones have a blessed holiday and New Year!

Sincerely,

Jody L. Lomeo

Chief Executive Officer

ECMC Corporation



A visit by Buffalo Sabre Alumni Association Member Larry Playfair during a December 13th ECMC management meeting was arranged as a holiday surprise by ECMC CEO Jody Lomeo. Larry Playfair has been a key Sabres Alumni contact in the "Mobile Mammography Unit" partnership with the Sabres, First Niagara, WNY Breast Health, and the ECMC Lifeline Foundation. During Playfair's visit, he answered a variety of questions about hockey, the Sabres and his former teammates, which made for an interesting and enjoyable wrap-up to the meeting. Special thanks to Larry Playfair for taking time to visit ECMC to speak with members of the "ECMC Team!"

Russell Salvatore Donates 350 Flat-Panel TVs to ECMC

Donation also means free television service for patients!



On November 21, 2012, well-known Buffalo restaurateur Russell Salvatore, a former Erie County Medical Center patient, announced a Thanksgiving Eve gift of 350 26-inch, flat-screen, LG televisions for patient rooms.

The gift prompted ECMC to end its practice of charging patients a fee for television use to defray the cost of the televisions. All patients will now be able to watch television for free.

Salvatore, who was treated for a broken ankle at ECMC, was impressed with the care and compassion of ECMC staff. Salvatore's gift is in recognition and appreciation of ECMC's focus on the patient experience that has transformed the hospital. ECMC is the No. 1 Adult Regional Trauma Center in New York State, but beyond emergency care, ECMC also treats the largest number of fractures regionally.

"This is the season of giving, and I want to give back," Salvatore said. "When you are recuperating in a hospital bed, television becomes very important. I want to make sure all

of ECMC's patients have the same excellent patient experience that I did. I wish everyone a quick recovery and a very Happy Thanksgiving."

The gift to ECMC patients is through the ECMC Lifeline Foundation.

"Russell truly understands the impact a good experience can have on a person," remarked Jody L. Lomeo, CEO of ECMC. "He has set the standard for customer service in his restaurants and hotels locally, which has made him successful here. He really appreciates that success and is always looking for meaningful ways to give back. ECMC and our patients are very fortunate to be on the receiving end of his deep generosity.

"This gift allows us to continue to improve our superior patient experience," Lomeo said. "We're renowned for trauma care, transplant excellence and overall patient satisfaction. We want to really provide our patients with the best amenities that improve their stay."

In recent years, ECMC also replaced all the beds in the surgical/medical rooms with the latest in hospital bed technology.

"If you haven't been to ECMC in a while, you really must see it," Salvatore said. "There's new parking, a new entrance area, two major new care additions and now all the rooms have flat screens."



Behavioral Health Services

Out of multiple facilities that provide in-patient mental health services throughout Western and Central New York, the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) selected ECMC as the host organization to conduct their program. The *Preventing and Managing Crisis Situations* (PMCS) curriculum is designed for facilities that treat people with mental illness in an in-patient setting. The program covered awareness and understanding, prevention, verbal/non-verbal de-escalation, physical protective and restrictive techniques, follow-up and agency planning, improving outcomes and creating a person-centered treatment culture. The “Mr. Peters Video” is used as a teaching tool in this program. Once a patient is admitted or has met with Behavioral Health staff, the staff members practice the ICPP (Individual Crisis Prevention Plan) to better understand the patient and the situation. Upon successful completion of this Train-the-Trainer course, participants are able to conduct the training at their facilities.

ECMC selected by NYS Office of Mental Health for site of “Train the Trainer Program”



Charles Sherman, explaining “Mr. Peters video”



David Robertson, explaining Individual Crisis Prevention Plan slides



Kathy Willett, Nurse, answering questions from those in attendance

ECMC Opens All-New CPEP Fast Track

On September 21st, ECMC held an open house event to enable all staff members to see the newly renovated unit. Numerous improvements were incorporated into the updated facility.

CPEP renovations and enhancements include:

- Addition of 4,500 square feet
- New Fast Track Triage Unit for a more open, safe and therapeutic environment for all patients/families and visitors
- Faster response time by psychiatric professionals to patients during potential psychiatric emergencies
- More expedient assessment and development of personalized patient response plans

Fast Track Triage improvements:

- Expanded waiting area and safer handling of all personal possessions
- Safer environment for patients, staff, and visitors
- Therapeutic setting for patients not in immediate crisis but requiring assessment, evaluation, and plan for psychiatric services in the community

- Expansion of CPEP space for examination/interview rooms, waiting areas, privacy and restrooms
- More efficient delivery of care for patients



ECMC Launches Schwartz Center Rounds

Nationally recognized program helps employees strive to create best patient and family experience

On September 25, Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) Corporation announced that it now offers a regular forum for its employees to openly and honestly discuss the most challenging emotional and social issues that arise in caring for patients and their families. The program, called Schwartz Center Rounds®, has been found to increase compassionate care, improve teamwork, and reduce caregiver stress.

Schwartz Center Rounds is a program of The Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare, a Boston-based nonprofit dedicated to strengthening the relationship between patients and caregivers. Unlike traditional medical rounds, the focus is on the human dimension of healthcare. Caregivers share their experiences, thoughts, and feelings on topics drawn from actual patient cases. The principle is that caregivers are better able to make personal connections with patients, families, and colleagues when they have greater insight into their own feelings.

“Compassionate care is becoming increasingly difficult to provide in today’s fast-paced, technology-focused, and cost-conscious healthcare environment,” said Schwartz Center Executive Director Julie Rosen. “Financial pressures and administrative demands mean less time with patients and families and an emphasis

“We know that many caregivers today deal with many increasing clinical demands and emotional situations in the care of our patients and their families. We want to be able to provide our employees with a supportive outlet for expressing these feelings and methods for developing coping skills so they can continue to provide compassionate care to our patients and families.”

Jody L. Lomeo
Chief Executive Officer,
ECMC Corp

on diagnosis and treatment rather than the impact an illness may have on the patient and family.”

“We know that many caregivers today deal with many increasing clinical demands and emotional situations in the care of our patients and their families,” explained Jody L. Lomeo, Chief Executive Officer, ECMC Corp. “We want to be able to provide our employees with a supportive outlet for expressing these feelings and methods for developing coping skills so they can continue to provide compassionate care to our patients and families.”

Schwartz Center Rounds were first piloted at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston in 1997. Since then, the program has grown rapidly as the need has increased. Today, Schwartz Center Rounds are conducted at hundreds of hospitals and other healthcare institutions across the country and at nine hospitals in the United Kingdom.

According to a comprehensive evaluation of the program published in 2010 in *Academic Medicine*, the journal of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), Schwartz Center Rounds strengthen the patient-caregiver relationship and remind caregivers why they entered the healthcare profession in the first place. Caregivers who participated in multiple Rounds sessions reported:



- Increased insight into the social and emotional aspects of patient care, increased feelings of compassion toward patients, and increased readiness to respond to patients' and families' needs;
- Improved teamwork, interdisciplinary communication, and appreciation for the roles and contributions of colleagues from different disciplines; and
- Decreased feelings of stress and isolation, and more openness to receiving and giving support.

Rounds also had a positive impact on the culture of host institutions, with more than half of evaluation respondents reporting specific changes in departmental or hospital-wide policies and practices, particularly a greater use of palliative care services.

"From all indications, the need for a program like Schwartz Center Rounds is great," said Rosen. "In a national survey we conducted last year, more than 80% of patients said they believe that good communication and emotional support can make a difference in how well patients recover from illness and even whether they live or die. Yet their ratings of how well their caregivers demonstrated compassionate care fell short of their expectations."

"We congratulate Erie County Medical Center on recognizing the importance of the patient-caregiver relationship, and we look forward to working with them to advance compassionate care for all patients and families," she added.

SAVE THE DATES for the 2013 Schwartz Center Rounds to be held the last Thursday in the months of January through June 2013!

About The Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare: *The Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare (www.theschwartzcenter.org) reflects the vision of Ken Schwartz, a Boston healthcare attorney who died of lung cancer at the age of 40 and found that what mattered to him most as a patient was the compassionate care he received from his caregivers, which he said "made the unbearable bearable." He established the Schwartz Center just days before his death to ensure that all patients receive compassionate care. In addition to sponsoring Schwartz Center Rounds, the Schwartz Center develops and funds other innovative programs, recognizes and honors caregivers who demonstrate extraordinary compassion, and supports policies that promote and advance compassionate care.*



Dr. Mark Laftavi presents at Emirate Medical School

Dr. Mark Laftavi recently received recognition on behalf of the Center of Excellence in Organ Transplantation team from the Emirate Medical School. Recognition was given by the successor of the Sheik of Emirate for the outstanding contribution to the field of organ transplantation.

Dr. Mark Laftavi presented work from ECMC and the University at Buffalo as a speaker and chairperson. Currently, United Arab Emirate (UAE) is becoming an interest to many prestigious medical schools around the United States. Johns Hopkins, Harvard and other well-known universities opened sections of their schools in the Emirate region. ECMC and the University at Buffalo were invited to present at the Emirate Nephrology and Transplant Congress.

Congratulations to Dr. Mark Laftavi and the ECMC Transplant Team for a job well done!



Specialized training for home dialysis care

Submitted by **Vi-Anne Antrum, RN, MSN, MBA, FACHE, Unit Manager, Hemodialysis and the Vascular Access Center, ECMC.**

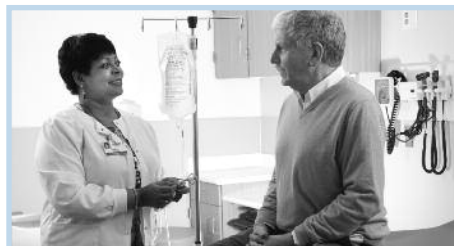
The Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation and Kidney Care offers a comprehensive array of services including:

- Kidney and Pancreas transplantation
- In-center outpatient hemodialysis
- Vascular access services
- Inpatient hemodialysis services and
- Home dialysis services

For more than 30 years, ECMC has been the headquarters for home dialysis services, particularly peritoneal dialysis, in Western New York. The state-of-the-art Center of Excellence has special facilities dedicated to peritoneal and home hemodialysis training. The establishment of the home dialysis program offers patients a great deal of flexibility in receiving care for their End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD). As an alternative to traveling to the hemodialysis unit, patients who desire more independence and flexibility in their schedules can choose either peritoneal dialysis or home hemodialysis, which can be conducted at home or at work. For more information on the home dialysis program or the

Regional Center of Excellence, consult with your doctor or call the Center of Excellence at 716-898-1400.

The Center of Excellence also offers training for home dialysis by our home dialysis registered nurses. Our peritoneal dialysis nurse is Donna Martin, RN. Vanessa Gray, RN, BSN, Renal Clinician, was instrumental in creating the peritoneal dialysis program. Tina Wheaton, RN, is heading up the home hemodialysis program. Pat Cole, RN, BSN, is the Unit Manager for the Outpatient Unit and the home dialysis program. The Medical Director for dialysis services is Mandip Panesar, MD, FASN. John Henry, NP, MBA, is the Vice President for Transplantation and Kidney Care.



The "ECMC Home Dialysis Team" includes (l. to r.): Patricia Cole, Unit Manager, Outpatient Hemodialysis; Donna Martin, Home Peritoneal Dialysis Nurse, Home Dialysis Program; John Henry, Vice President, Transplantation and Kidney Care; Vi-Anne Antrum, Unit Manager, Hemodialysis and Vascular Access; Dr. Mandip Panesar, Medical Director, Hemodialysis; Vanessa Gray, Case Manager, Renal.



Outpatient Dialysis Center of Excellence Celebrates pre-go-live of MIQS



Shown standing (l-r) are: Kim Taylor, Leah Fish, Vi-Anne Antrum, Tina Wheaton, and Donna Martin. Seated (l-r) are: Pat Cole, Roseanne Huber-Krzeminski, Tabitha Galuski, Tracy Thomas, and Raielle Clemons.

Outpatient Dialysis Center of Excellence celebrates the pre go-live of MIQS. MIQS, the Dialysis Specific Electronic Medical Record went live on October 1, 2012, after many months of planning and integration. This technology integrates patient information across the continuum of care and standardizes best practice in the dialysis arena. Congratulations and thank you to all the staff members and physicians who participated.

ECMC receives Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Silver Plus Quality Achievement Award

Award demonstrates ECMC's commitment to quality care for stroke patients



Erie County Medical (ECMC) Corporation has received the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Get With The Guidelines®-Stroke Silver Plus Quality Achievement Award. The award recognizes ECMC's commitment and success in implementing a higher standard of stroke care by ensuring that stroke patients receive treatment according to nationally accepted standards and recommendations.

To receive the Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Silver Plus Quality Achievement Award, ECMC achieved at least 12 consecutive months of 85 percent or higher adherence to all Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Quality Achievement indicators and achieved at least 75 percent or higher compliance with six of 10 Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Quality Measures during that same period of time, which are reporting initiatives to measure quality of care.

With a stroke, time lost is brain lost. The nationally accepted stroke treatment measures include aggressive use of medications, such as tPA, antithrombotics, anticoagulation therapy, DVT prophylaxis, cholesterol reducing drugs and smoking cessation, all aimed at reducing

death and disability and improving the lives of stroke patients.

"ECMC is focused on improving the quality of stroke care by implementing Get With The Guidelines-Stroke, following evidence-based protocols that have been shown in the scientific literature to quickly and efficiently treat acute ischemic stroke patients," said Paula Quesinberry, BSN, RN, Stroke Program Coordinator and EEG Supervisor, ECMC.

"ECMC is to be commended for its commitment to implementing standards of care and protocols for treating stroke patients," said Lee H. Schwamm, M.D., chair of the Get With The Guidelines National Steering Committee and director of the TeleStroke and Acute Stroke Services at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. "The full implementation of acute care and secondary prevention recommendations and guidelines is a critical step in saving the lives and improving outcomes of stroke patients."

Get With The Guidelines-Stroke uses the "teachable moment," the time soon after a patient has had a stroke, when they are most likely to listen to and follow their healthcare professionals' guidance. Studies demonstrate that patients who are taught how to manage their risk factors while still in the hospital reduce their risk of a second heart attack or stroke. Through Get With The Guidelines-Stroke, customized patient education materials are made available at the point of discharge, based on patients' individual risk profiles. The take-away materials are written in an easy-to-understand format and are available in English

and Spanish. In addition, the Get With The Guidelines Patient Management Tool provides access to up-to-date cardiovascular and stroke science at the point of care.

"The fact that ECMC earned the Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Silver Plus Quality Achievement Award demonstrates that our clinicians are committed to providing care that has been shown to quickly and efficiently treat stroke patients," said Jody L. Lomeo, Chief Executive Officer, ECMC Corp.

The number of acute ischemic stroke patients eligible for treatment is projected to grow over the next decade due to a large aging population. According to the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association, stroke is one of the leading causes of death and serious, long-term disability in the United States. On average, someone suffers a stroke every 40 seconds; someone dies of a stroke every four minutes; and 795,000 people suffer a new or recurrent stroke each year.

ABOUT GET WITH THE GUIDELINES:
Get With The Guidelines® is the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's hospital-based quality improvement program that empowers healthcare teams to save lives and reduce healthcare costs by helping hospitals follow evidence-based guidelines and recommendations. For more information, visit heart.org/quality.

Rear Admiral Rebecca McCormick-Boyle speaks at ECMC for "Buffalo Navy Week"

Rear Admiral Rebecca McCormick-Boyle, Chief of Staff, U.S. Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, presented at ECMC in honor of "Buffalo Navy Week," commemorating the War of 1812. Her presentation pertained to the Navy Medicine's part in the Maritime Strategy, trauma care, battlefield medicine humanitarian assistance/disaster relief efforts, emergency medicine, research and development.



The Jonah Center for Oncology and Hematology at ECMC continues to provide expert clinical care to current and new patients...



ECMC cancer specialists in *The Jonah Center for Oncology and Hematology at ECMC* (formerly the Jonah Center for Cancer Care & Blood/Immuno Conditions at ECMC) continue to provide expert clinical care to current and new patients. The Center, now in a redesigned facility, emphasizes aesthetic principles in a healing atmosphere. A collaborative team of university-based physicians discusses each case in a group setting, reviewing pathology, radiography, and laboratory data to develop a comprehensive clinical approach for each patient. All ancillary services (laboratory, radiology, surgical, podiatric, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and rehabilitation medicine) are located on-site for convenient and efficient care. **The Jonah Center can be contacted at 898-3948.**

Dr. Ahmed joins team as Attending Physician



Mohamed S. Ahmed, MD, PhD, has been appointed Attending Physician for The Jonah Center for Oncology and Hematology at ECMC. Dr. Ahmed is also Head of the Division of Hematology and Oncology at Mount St. Mary and Niagara Falls Memorial Hospitals. Dr. Ahmed's areas of expertise include Medical Oncology, Hematology and Transfusion

Medicine. Dr. Ahmed obtained his Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Aligarh Muslim University in India and his M.D. from St. George's University School of Medicine in Grenada, West Indies. He completed the residency program in Internal Medicine at Stamford Hospital/Columbia University and his Hematology/Oncology fellowship at the Medical College of Wisconsin. He is Board Certified in Internal Medicine, Hematology and Oncology.

Dr. Logue serves as Attending Physician



Gerald Lee Logue, MD, continues to serve as Attending Physician for The Jonah Center for Oncology and Hematology at ECMC. Dr. Logue specializes in Medical Oncology, Hematology, and Immunology. He is the former chief of staff at the VA Medical Center in Buffalo and is currently a Professor of Medicine and Head of the Division of Hematology at the State University of New York at Buffalo. Dr. Logue is a member of the board of directors of the Western New York Hemophilia Center and a member of the Editorial Board of Hematologic Pathology. He was the principal and co-principal investigator on several important medical studies and is the author of medical journal articles, book chapters, abstracts and letters.

Dr. Logue is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and is certified in hematology and medical oncology by the American Board of Internal Medicine. Dr. Logue completed his fellowship in Hematology, assistant residency in Medicine, and as internship in Medicine at Duke University Medical Center. He earned his M.D. through the University of Pittsburgh, School of Medicine, and a B.S. in Engineering Science at Pennsylvania State University.

Daniel Ford, PA, and James Miller, PA, serve as well-respected Physician Assistants for The Jonah Center.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Mohamed Ahmed to ECMC. Furthermore, please join me in thanking the entire clinical and support team for continuing to provide the exceptional care that patients have come to expect from *The Jonah Center*.

Ronald Krawiec
Senior Vice President of Operations
ECMC Corporation

Rich Cleland appointed Chief Operating Officer for ECMC Corp.



Richard C. Cleland, MPA, NHA, FACHE, was recently promoted to the position of Chief Operating Officer for ECMC Corporation. In this capacity he oversees all

operational activities for the organization.

Prior to this recent appointment, as Senior Vice President of Operations for ECMC Corporation, Richard Cleland was in charge of ECMC Behavioral Health, Rehabilitation Services, Hyperbaric/Wound Center, Dietary, as well as Long-Term Care Services, including the Erie County Home and the Skilled Nursing Facility at ECMC. He was responsible for establishing the Center for Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine, the development of a new transitional care unit, the development of the new long-term care facility on the ECMC Health Campus, and is lead on the Great Lakes Health Behavioral

Health Center of Excellence (consolidation and integration of Buffalo General Medical Center and ECMC Corp.'s behavioral health programs, HEAL-21, \$15 million award).

Rich Cleland served for ECMC Corporation as Executive Director of Continuing Care and Administrator of the Erie County Home (2006-2008). He was formerly the Administrator of Brothers of Mercy Nursing and Rehabilitation Center (2000-2006). He was also Director of Maintenance, Plant Operations, and Environmental Services at Brothers of Mercy (1994-2000). He served previously at ECMC as Director and Assistant Director of Cleaning Services (1988-1994).

Rich Cleland is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE), the nation's leading professional society for healthcare leaders. He was one of several ECMC Corporation Executive Administrators specially selected to participant in the nine month Harvard University leadership development program, "Managing Healthcare Delivery."

The course is structured to further enhance knowledge of healthcare management skills and provide new perspectives about the healthcare industry.

Richard Cleland holds a Master's of Public Administration from Canisius College. He has a New York State Nursing Home Administrator's license and a certification from St Joseph's College of Maine in Long Term Care Administration (2003). He earned his undergraduate degree from Buffalo State College. He is on staff at both D'Youville College (Health Services Administration) and Erie Community College (Business Administration). Rich has been actively involved over the years in Clarence Baseball, The Homeless Coalition Homeless Connect Events of Buffalo and serves on the Canisius College Business School Advisory Committee.

Rich resides in Clarence with his wife Marsha and children Ashley, Jenna and Alex.

ECMC Corp. Administrative Appointments

We are very pleased to announce the following appointments...



Karen Ziemianski, RN, MS, to the position of **Senior Vice President of Nursing**, effective November 18, 2012. Karen has held the position of Assistant Director of Nursing for the Medical/Surgical Area since 2005, and in April 2012 accepted the position as Interim Director of Nursing. Karen received her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from D'Youville College, and her Master's Degree in Nursing from SUNY at Buffalo. Her continuing education has included completing two Executive Education courses: Management of Healthcare Delivery, Harvard Business School and the Financial Management for Nurse Managers and Directors course, The Wharton School.



Charlene Ludlow MHA, RN, CIC, to the **new** position of **Chief Safety Officer**, effective November 14, 2012. Charlene has held the position of Patient Safety Officer since 2008, and prior, Infection Control Manager (since 2003). Charlene received her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from D'Youville College, and her Master's Degree in Healthcare Administration from Roberts Wesleyan College. Her continuing education includes the Management of Healthcare Delivery at Harvard Business School. Charlene is the past President of both the Buffalo Chapter for APIC and the New York State APIC Coordinating Council. Charlene is also an Adjunct Faculty Instructor at Erie Community College.

Please join us in wishing both Karen and Charlene many years of success in their new endeavors and roles at ECMC Corporation!

Thank you,

*Jody L. Lomeo
Chief Executive Officer
ECMC Corporation*

*Richard C. Cleland
Chief Operating Officer
ECMC Corporation*

ECMC's John Eichner and Debbie Cudzilo featured in NYS Society of CPAs presentation in NYC



John P. Eichner and Debbie L. Cudzilo.

Erie County Medical Center's revenue cycle was on display for accountants across New York State as part of the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants (NYSSCPA) annual Healthcare Conference in New York City. **Debbie L. Cudzilo**, Vice President, Revenue Cycle, and **John P. Eichner**, Controller, presented a session called "Driving Revenue Cycle Performance." It's the story of ECMC's constant effort to make our registration and billing process patient-friendly. The presentation highlighted how Revenue Cycle and Finance teamed-up to identify, strategize and overcome hurdles to improve revenue cycle performance.

Revenue cycle is a term used to represent the process of identifying and protecting the financial integrity of the organization with

respect to all services and care provided. It starts with the first interaction with a patient such as scheduling or registering a visit and ends with addressing patient inquiries about billed services and payment.

Debbie Cudzilo talked about the approach taken to build an effective revenue cycle process. Key points in the process are personnel evaluation and development plans, involving revenue cycle sooner in the patient experience, instilling a higher level of accountability, focusing on documentation of services provided, and monitoring performance.

As a result of these efforts, ECMC has reorganized departments, introduced centralized scheduling and individual performance dashboards, increased cash collections for services provided and kept its cost-to-collect below 3% of patient revenue.

Simple strategies, tools and metrics lead to better results.

Debbie Cudzilo's extensive knowledge in Patient Financial Services, Credit and Collections, Patient Access functions, Charge Master Maintenance, Financial Counseling and Medical Records is an asset to ECMC. Prior to returning to ECMC, experience in similar roles at Grady

Health System in Atlanta and with Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center, Mt. St. Mary's Hospital, and Millard Fillmore Health System in the Buffalo/Niagara area helped shape her management skills.

Debbie serves on several internal committees, such as Revenue Cycle Management, Compliance, Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE), Utilization Management and Length of Stay. In addition, she has held several officer and director positions with the Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA), including President of the Western New York Chapter.

John Eichner oversees Accounting, Finance, Budgeting and Decision Support functions at ECMC. Prior to joining ECMC in 2010, John was a Controller and Chief Financial Officer for Olean General Hospital and worked in public accounting at Lumsden & McCormick, LLP.

John Eichner is a member of the NYSSCPA and also a Fellow of HFMA. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the State University of New York College at Fredonia. He is a peer reviewer for *hfm*, a monthly HFMA publication, and past-president of the Western New York Chapter of HFMA.

ECMC Resource Management Committee Showcased at National Conference

The Resource Management Committee is an interdisciplinary group that explores ECMC's use of resources to ensure effective allocation and alignment with clinical best practices.

The work of the Resource Management Committee was showcased during a provider support conference call held by the Advisory Board in May. The Advisory Board staff received so much positive feedback about our committee's work that our staff members were asked to present at the national stakeholders meeting in Washington, DC, on September 13th, 2012.

Catherine Gazda, Director of Care Management, presented the work of the committee targeting issues challenging all hospitals across the nation, including readmissions, length of stay, one-day stay reduction, and observation status. The audience was very complimentary of the results including these initiatives:

- The hospital's Appeals Department started a new process to reduce the number of payment denials they receive from one of the local insurance companies. They receive a list of patients who only stayed one day. They review these cases using established criteria to determine if the patients' illnesses and clinical services justify billing for an inpatient hospital day. If this is not the case, the staff can change the billing to observation level of care, a type of outpatient billing. This new process has resulted in an 85% reduction in short stay denials for the targeted payer.
- A review of admission order forms showed that each did not include all the choices for status or the type of service the patient is receiving, such as inpatient care, observation care, or post-day surgery. The committee revised the admission order sets for surgical services to include all the choices so the admitting doctor could easily find and mark the status. This change resulted in a 121% increase in appropriate use of observation status by the surgical groups.



Catherine Gazda

- An overview of several organizational initiatives to more rapidly place Alternate Level of Care (ALC) patients in other care settings resulting in a 12% reduction in ALC days

The Resource Management Committee members include: Dr. Yogesh Bakhai, Dr. Rafael Blochle, Kathleen DiPrado, Debbie Cudzilo, Dr. Nancy Ebling, Catherine Gazda, Christine Krol, Pat Maciejewski, Dr. Khalid Malik, Dr. Brian Murray, Maria Mychalczuk, Maryann O'Brien, Dr. Arthur Orlick, Cindy Paluh, Kathy Sweeney, Janice Welch, and Karen Ziemianski.

Congratulations to all committee members. Their efforts in the committee and commitment to quality care created this opportunity to gain recognition of for colleagues across the nation.

Vi-Anne Antrum recognized with “Early Career Healthcare Executive Award”



Vi-Anne Antrum, RN, MSN, MBA, FACHE, was recently recognized by the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) with the Early Career Healthcare Executive Award. The criteria for receiving this award include: affiliation with the American College of Healthcare Executives; demonstration of leadership ability; demonstration of innovative and creative management; executive capability in developing an organization and promoting its growth and stature in the community; participation in local, state, or provincial

hospital and health association activities; participation in civic/community activities and projects; demonstration of participation in College activities; and interest in assisting ACHE in achieving its objectives. Vi-Anne certainly meets all of these requirements. Congratulations, Vi-Anne, on this wonderful achievement!

Vi-Anne Antrum is the Unit Manager for Inpatient Hemodialysis and the Vascular Access Center. Vi-Anne began her career at ECMC as a staff nurse (2000), then became a Charge Nurse, and a Nursing Care Coordinator. Vi-Anne has held a wide range of management/nursing positions throughout her career. She holds Associate degrees in Nursing and Accounting from Onondaga Community College, a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Daemen College, and dual Master’s degrees in Nursing and Business Administration from the University of Phoenix. She holds certifications in Basic Life Support (BLS),

Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS). Vi-Anne belongs to Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society, the American College of Healthcare Executives, the New York Organization of Nurse Executives, and the New York State Nurses Association. Vi-Anne was also selected for inclusion in the 2011-2012 Cambridge Registry of Who’s Who Among Executives, Professionals, and Entrepreneurs.

About the American College of Healthcare Executives: *ACHE is an international professional society of more than 30,000 healthcare executives who lead our nation’s hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations. ACHE is known for its prestigious credentialing and educational programs and its annual Congress on Healthcare Leadership, which draws more than 4,500 participants each year. ACHE is also known for its journal, the Journal of Healthcare Management, and magazine, Healthcare Executive, as well as groundbreaking research and career development and public policy programs.*

Bonnie Sloma joins ECMC team



Bonnie Sloma, BSN, joined ECMC in July of 2012 as the Special Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer.

She began her nursing career with a Bachelor of Science from Niagara University and is currently enrolled in Niagara University’s MBA program. Her first nursing position was in the neonatal intensive care unit of Children’s hospital in Buffalo. She then moved on to Niagara County Community

faculty in their School of Nursing. Bonnie brings with her extensive history in long term care and is best known for her accomplishments with the state-of-the-art long term care facility, Our Lady of Peace in Lewiston, New York. She broadened her scope by becoming the Director of Nursing at Lockport Memorial Hospital. In 2004, she opened a consulting company called Heritage Health Care Group, LLC. Heritage focuses on assisting long term care facilities by maintaining regulatory compliance and developing quality assessment programs.

Bonnie was asked to join a unique group based out of Fredrickson New Brunswick, Accreon Inc., in the development of an Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system for long term care. The

program focused on a verifiable “med pass” component which brought positive improvements in medical administration.

In more recent years, she focused her efforts on developing and operating Kidney Dialysis units in New York State through her affiliation with Apollo Healthcare LLC.

Her involvement in the community includes serving as Chairperson of the Board of Trustees for Niagara County Community College, and having served as a Board Member for Lewiston Porter Central School and Starpoint Central School.

Bonnie is a resident of Lewiston, New York.

ECMC welcomes Gigi Chen as Wound Center Program Director



Please join us in welcoming **Gigi M. Chen, MBA,** to the role of Program Director of the Center for Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine.

Gigi brings a multitude of experience, business sense, knowledge, and skill to her role as Program Director of the Center for Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine at ECMC. With over

25 years of vast experience in the healthcare industry, Gigi has also held positions as Product Administrator for Independent Health, Hospital Administrator-Manager of Strategic Planning and Business Development at Children’s Hospital of Buffalo and later Business Advisor for Kaleida Health. Gigi was also Practice Manager for The Exigence Group where she managed two Emergency Departments of The Upper Allegheny Health System in Olean, NY, and Bradford, PA.

In Gigi’s most recent position as Program Director for United Memorial Wound Care &

Hyperbaric Medicine located in Batavia, NY, she was instrumental in opening the Center and bringing it to successful fruition.

Gigi earned her Master of Business Administration with Honor Distinction from Canisius College and a Bachelor of Arts degree from The State University of New York at Buffalo.

Richard C. Cleland, MPA, FACHE, NHA Senior Vice President of Operations ECMC Corporation

Michael Ackerman joins ECMC as Assistant Director of Nursing, Critical Care and Nursing Education



Welcome to **Michael Ackerman DNS, RN, APRN-BC**, ECMC's new Assistant Director of Nursing for Critical Care and Nursing Education. Michael Ackerman joins the ECMC staff after

spending 19 years at the University of Rochester Medical Center. While working at URM, Mike

served as the Associate Director of Nursing for Advanced Practice, and the Director of the Soviet Center of Advanced Practice. He also worked as a Nurse Practitioner in Critical Care and Cardiac Surgery as well as maintained a faculty position as a Professor in the School of Nursing. Originally from Tonawanda, he received his BS degree from Niagara University and his master's and doctorate degrees from the University at Buffalo. Mike has spent his entire career in critical care as a clinician, researcher and educator. He lectures both nationally and

internationally on a variety of topics. He is also a certified Crucial Conversations Trainer. Mike was honored last year by the American Association of Critical Care Nurses by receiving The Circle of Excellence Award. When not at work, Mike coaches youth and high school hockey and is also an Instructor for USA Hockey. Mike lives in Rochester with his wife Sue and their three children.

ECMC TICU Charge Nurse Lt. Kathleen Fay, Air Force Nurse-Leader recognized for Outstanding Service



Congratulations to Lt. Col. Fay, 914th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, N.Y., on receiving the General Beverly S. Lindsey Nursing Leadership Award for fiscal year 2011.

(U.S. Air Force photo by staff Sgt. Stephanie Clark).

ECMC TICU Charge Nurse **Lt. Kathleen Fay**, Air Force nurse, member of the Niagara family, has been recognized for outstanding contributions to the care and treatment of others.

Lt. Col. Kathleen Fay, Medical Readiness Officer and Critical Care Air Transport Team Nurse for the 914th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, was

selected as a recipient of the Brigadier General Beverly S. Lindsey Nursing Leadership Award for the fiscal year 2011. Fay was notified of the award during her recent 6-month deployment to Afghanistan.

"I was surprised, really surprised," she said. "It seems like there are more people doing more stuff. It's an honor; it's special to say I got it."

While at Bagram Airfield, Fay was the Intensive Care Flight Commander.

"We took care of everyone there," she explained. "Kids, our guys, NATO forces. There is nothing better than taking care of our troops. They deserve the best, that's why I don't complain when I go."

Lt. Col. Fay, who came to the Air Force Reserve in 2000 from the Army, has deployed numerous times. As well as the recent Bagram rotation, she has worked in Germany, Balad and

Baghdad, Iraq, in addition to other Southwest Asia locations.

"I love my deployments, I want to go one more time before I retire," she said.

In the civilian sector, Fay works at Erie County Medical Center's Regional Adult Trauma Center. Working as a charge nurse in the Medical Intensive Care Unit helps keep her skills up, said Fay.

The award was named for the first nurse General Officer selected from any of the military reserve forces. Col. Beverly S. Lindsey was selected for Brigadier General on July 1, 1985. She was the Mobilization Assistant to the Chief of the Air Force Nurse Corps Reserve from 1985-1989.

As recently published in "Air Force Print News Today," by the 914th Airlift Wing Public Affairs office.

ECMC Nurse Danita Edwards selected as March of Dimes Rising Star Nurse of the Year!

Danita Edwards RN, BSN, was selected as the March of Dimes *Rising Star Nurse of the Year*. All nurses nominated demonstrate the true appreciation and respect that so many have for the compassionate, skilled professionals in the nursing industry.

The March of Dimes recognizes that nurses are often at the front line of care, guiding families and helping to ease them through difficult times. Through the Nurse of the Year event, the March of Dimes Foundation honors the best of the best and pays tribute to people who protect the health of moms and babies every day.

"Thank you for being a leader and an inspiration not only to your peers, but also to the March of Dimes and families we serve," Dr. Jennifer Howse, President, March of Dimes Foundation, as she stated in the notification letter to Danita.

Congratulations Danita!!!



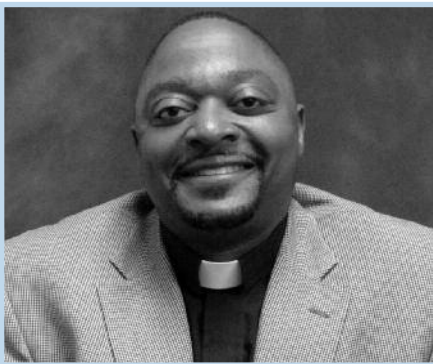
Pastoral Care Week Recognitions

During the recent 19th Annual Observance of Pastoral Care Week, two ECMC professionals were honored at a celebration brunch: **Sandra Lauer, Clinical Patient Advocate, ECMC;** and **Elder Garney Davis Jr., Trauma Chaplain, ECMC.**



Sandra Lauer, RN, BSN, earned an Associate's degree in Nursing from Genesee Community College and Bachelor's degree in Nursing from Robert Wesleyan College. She also received a degree in theater arts from George Brown College in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Sandra came to ECMC in 2001, as a Registered Nurse working in the Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program (CPEP). In 2004, she became the Nursing Inservice Instructor for Behavioral Health. In 2009, she accepted her current position as Clinical Patient Advocate in the Department of Quality Assurance/Risk

Management. Sandra is a member of the ECMC: Ethics Committee, Mental Health Disaster Response Team, Patient Experience Committee, Nursing Recognition Committee, Schwartz Center Rounds Committee, and Palliative Care Team. Sandra lives in Corfu, NY, with her husband Andy, two cats and a dog. She also has a daughter, Alex, and a son, Adam, who are both away at school.



Elder Garney Davis Jr. is the Trauma Chaplain here at ECMC. He also serves as: an Associate Pastor at New Bethel Community Church, WNY Law Enforcement Chaplain, a Board Member for City Wide Crusade Ministries, an International Police Fire Chaplain First Responder Colonel, and a DAT and DSHR Team Member for American Red Cross. Elder Davis also served for nine years as a United Auto Workers of America Assistant Regional Chaplain for Local 846 at American Axle and Manufacturing. He has done mission work in Uganda, Africa and South Africa since 2006

and has also served as a Minister of Music. Elder Davis' mission is "... to convey and display God's love to ALL nations by training men, women and youth to be disciples in God's Kingdom, and then releasing them into their destiny." Elder Davis was born and raised in Buffalo. He is married to Ladine Davis and is the father of six children.

Congratulations to Sandra Lauer and Elder Davis for jobs well done!

ECMC Transplant Recipients compete in Transplant Games

Three ECMC transplant recipients—Barbara Breckenridge, Christopher Toulmin and Jacquolyn Skinner—traveled to Grand Michigan, July 28-31, to participate in the Transplant Games of America.



ECMC transplant recipient Barbara Breckenridge displays all the medals she has won over the years in the US and World Games

The Transplant Games are held every two years at different locations. The purpose of the games is to promote organ donation, and show how it saves, changes, and enhances lives. The Transplant Games also honors those individuals who have given the gift of life and donor families.

There were over one thousand athletes in attendance from across the USA. All types of transplant recipients are eligible to participate in the games which consist of track and field, swimming, cycling, basketball, volleyball, bowling, table tennis and more.



ECMC transplant recipients and 2012 Transplant Games participants shown here include (l. to r.) Barbara Breckenridge (2012 award winner), Christopher Toulmin, and Jacquolyn Skinner (2012 award winner).

Record-setting "Heroes 5K Run and Healthwalk" for 2012



Emcee/Event Chair Robert Holliday, VP/GM, AT&T-Upstate New York District; and Board Member, ECMC Lifeline Foundation

The ECMC Lifeline Foundation *Heroes 5K Run and Healthwalk* presented by AT&T marked a milestone in September with a record field of runners, walkers and volunteers. Almost 400 participants and 50 volunteers joined the ECMC Lifeline Foundation in Delaware Park for the annual event. Members from area law enforcement lead by the New York State Police and Erie County Sheriff's Department Air One Helicopter, Motorcycle and Mounted Patrol Divisions lead the runners from the start line with a motorcade sendoff. Other agencies represented included Buffalo, ECMC, Tonawanda, Hamburg, Cheektowaga and Kenmore Police. Rural Metro Medical Services also took part in the motorcade.

Live music provided by Dive House Union greeted the runners as they crossed the finish line at the end of the 5K. Cash prizes were offered in each run age category and special cash awards went to the first place ECMC employee finisher as well as top law enforcement, firefighter and EMS runners.

During Post Race Party ceremonies Jody Lomeo, ECMC Corp. CEO, and ECMC Lifeline Board Vice-Chair Bob Holliday presented awards to the Foundation's 2012 Hero Honorees. The distinguished group of nominees included the Buffalo Police Department, Buffalo Police SWAT Team, ECMC Police Department, Buffalo Firefighter Kevin Hairston, Rural Metro Medical Services Paramedic Justin Janiga, ECMC Chief of Service for the Department of Emergency Medicine Dr. Michael Manka and ECMC Trauma ICU Charge Nurse Madonna Lakso.

Several local corporations joined AT&T in sponsoring the Heroes 5k Run and Healthwalk including Exigence, Saturn Radiology, AdPro Sports, McGuire Development/McGuire Pharmacy Group, Palladian Health, Rural/Metro Medical Services and the Lomeo Family.

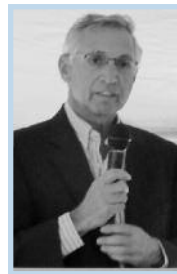
ABOUT THE ECMC LIFELINE FOUNDATION:

The mission of the ECMC Lifeline Foundation is to support the lifesaving medical mission of ECMC. In 2011 alone Lifeline provided nearly a million dollars in support to the Medical Campus. ECMC continues its transformation with a renovated ER, our new Mobile Mammography Bus that makes life saving screening available to all women, as well as the Center for Excellence in Transplantation and Kidney Care. Construction continues on our new Long-Term Care Facility and will begin soon on the new Center for Excellence in Behavioral Health. All these initiatives demonstrate our continued commitment to the difference between healthcare and true care.

Celebration of Life Fund-raiser for ECMC's Trauma Intensive Care Unit



Lifeline
FOUNDATION
ecmclifeline.org



On September 17, 2012, Mike and Debbie Billoni hosted a *Celebration of Life* fund-raiser for the Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) Corporation Trauma Intensive Care Unit (TICU). The event took place at Patriots and Heroes Park in front of Russell's Steaks, Chops & More, at 6675 Transit Road, Williamsville, New York.

"Twenty years ago, a car hit my bike from behind and I flew into the windshield and shattered it," said Michael J. Billoni, ECMC Trauma Patient, and Marketing and Public Relations Director for the Food Bank of Western New York. "When I got to ECMC, I went through 17 hours of trauma surgery. I learned that ECMC is an amazing place with a staff of incredibly caring, highly skilled doctors, nurses, and therapists. My

surgeon, Dr. John LaDuca, performed miracles and constantly encouraged me. I received great care at the medical center for 44 days."

Dr. John LaDuca was the Honorary Chairman of this *Celebration of Life* event.

Refreshments for the event were donated by Russell J. Salvatore of Russell's Steaks, Chops & More; Picasso's Pizza; Charlie the Butcher; Charlie Ciotta and Wardynski's & Sons, Inc.; Try-it Distributing Premier Wines & Spirits; and Coca Cola Bottling Co. of Buffalo. Entertainment was provided by DJ Jickster of 97 Rock and Richie Derwald. Sound was provided by AV Advantage.

If you were unable to attend this event, donations may be made payable and sent to: ECMC Lifeline Foundation – "Celebration," 462 Grider Street, Suite G-1, Buffalo, NY 14215 or ecmclifeline.org.

ABOUT THE ECMC LIFELINE FOUNDATION: *The ECMC Lifeline Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation that helps obtain the resources necessary to support the lifesaving medical services of ECMC, which is also a leading center for rehabilitation, transplantation, orthopaedic care, and many other medical specialties.*

ECMC receives donation for Mobile Mammography Unit from Order of the Eastern Star



Standing near the entrance to the Mobile Mammography Unit during a recent tour of the motor coach are: Linda Betts (2nd from left), Niagara Orleans District Deputy Grand Matron 2012, Order of The Eastern Star, State of New York; Joanne Braun (2nd from right); and Arlene Sweet (far right). The Order of The Eastern Star donated \$2,148.50 toward the Coach. Posing with the ladies representing the Order of the Eastern Star, after expressing thanks for the contribution, are Jody Lomeo (far left), CEO, ECMC Corp. and Vivian Lindfield, M.D. (center), Medical Director, ECMC Breast Health Services and WNY Breast Health.

Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) Corporation and the ECMC Lifeline Foundation recently accepted a contribution of \$2,148.50 from the Order of the Eastern Star, State of New York, Niagara Orleans District, based in Lockport, New York, for breast cancer awareness to be applied toward costs for the Mobile Mammography Unit.

During her term of service, Linda R. Betts, Niagara Orleans District Deputy Grand Matron 2012, Order of The Eastern Star, State of New York, was asked to select a charity to fund for the 2011-2012 year. An ECMC patient since 2007, Ms. Betts chose to contribute on behalf of the Order of the Eastern Star toward Breast Cancer Awareness, while at the same time, the organization's statewide project also raised funds for breast cancer awareness.

This past summer, the Erie County Medical Center Lifeline Foundation, First Niagara Financial Group and the Buffalo Sabres Alumni unveiled the Mobile Mammography Unit that conveys two digital mammography machines to underserved and under-tested women in all areas of Western New York.

With a combined \$750,000 contribution from First Niagara Financial Corp., the Sabres Alumni Association, and the Erie County Medical Center Lifeline Foundation, the clinical operations of the motor coach are managed by Amherst-based Western New York Breast Health, the practice of Dr. Vivian Lindfield, Medical Director, WNY Breast Health and ECMC Breast Services. The Erie County Medical Center Lifeline Foundation, which contributed to the purchase and operations of the coach, owns and maintains the vehicle.

Western New York had the highest rate of new breast cancer in Upstate New York, according to a 2010 report. In addition, Upstate New York



had a higher breast cancer death rate per 100,000 women in 2011 at 24.5 per year, than nationally, 24, statewide, 23.7, or in New York City, 23.9, according to the Susan G. Komen Foundation of WNY.

The Mobile Mammography Unit tours the inner-city as well as rural areas of the region. The 45-foot coach is parked at festivals, health fairs, churches, and community centers and other locations. All women are welcome for mammographies on the Mobile Unit. This includes those with insurance or those covered by Medicaid or Medicare, as well as the uninsured. Exams require a prescription, but women without a primary-care physician can obtain a "script" at the motor coach.

Appointments are necessary and patients can call **1-855-go4pink (464-7465)**. A current "Schedule of Mobile Mammography Vehicle Events" can be viewed on the www.ecmc.edu web site at: <http://www.ecmc.edu/mammography/schedule.asp>

ABOUT THE ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR: "Founded on the beliefs of charity, truth, and loving kindness, the Order of the Eastern Star is a fraternal organization comprised of both women and men."

Foundation Scholarship Program to Support ECMC Nursing Certification

The ECMC Lifeline Foundation is committing \$10,000 to support nurses wishing to receive certification in their area of specialty. The pilot program opened August 1. It is estimated that about 400 ECMC Nurses are eligible for the certification exam reimbursement program.

Scholarship Program Chair Michael Straeck of the ECMC Lifeline Foundation Board of Directors stated, "The Foundation's goal is to help bridge the gap in funding for the betterment of the staff, the hospital and its patients. A better qualified staff translates to better care for patients."

The first recipient of the program is Lynn Kordasiewicz, RN, of the Skin and Wound Care Unit. Lynn completed the requirements and received her certification as an Adult Nurse Practitioner (ANP). To qualify, the nurse must be employed at ECMC for a minimum of one year, be in good standing, be seeking certification relevant to their position at the hospital, and provide proof that they passed the certification test. Through the reimbursement program it is hoped that the number of credentialed personnel will increase substantially over the next year.

Senior Vice President of Nursing Karen Ziemianski, MS, RN, adds, "Nursing Certification is a mark of excellence. It recognizes knowledge and ability beyond the scope of licensure and is a commitment to lifelong learning."

More information on the ECMC Lifeline Foundation Scholarship Program and complete eligibility requirements are available in the Nursing Education Department.

Tournament of Life Raises over \$104,000



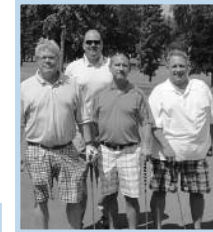
Park Country Club was the site of the 19th annual ECMC Lifeline Foundation Tournament of Life Golf Classic held August 13th. Over \$104,000 was raised to benefit ECMC patient care with 216 golfers taking part in the Tournament filling both the morning and afternoon rounds. The Tournament of Life was chaired by ECMC Corp. Board Vice-Chair, Michael Seaman.

fundraising games on course to win various prizes and experiences with all proceeds benefitting the Foundation. Each golfer took home a new pair of Adidas golf shoes.

The Tournament was presented by Gold Sponsor, LP Ciminelli, Inc. Silver Sponsors included Exigence and the Lomeo Family. Other corporate sponsors supporting the event at the Bronze level were Key Bank, Morrison Healthcare Food Services, Excelsior

Orthopaedics LLP, Scott Danahy Naylor Co. Inc., Rural/Metro Medical Services, Willcare, Palladian Health, Freed Maxick CPAs, Practice Management Center, AT&T, Siemens Industries, First Niagara Financial Group, Kaleida Health, Buffalo Sabres and Russell's Steaks Chops & More.

The day's events included breakfast, lunch, food on the course and a Clubhouse reception following play. Golfers took part in several



Erie County Medical Center Selects Omnicell G4 Medication Management Solutions

Major Academic Health System Announces System-wide Upgrade, Motivated by Omnicell Solutions to Enhance Medication Security and Regulatory Compliance

Omnicell, Inc. (NASDAQ:OMCL), a leading provider of medication and supply management solutions and analytics software for healthcare facilities, recently announced that Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) Corporation expanded its exclusive relationship with Omnicell to implement G4 automated medication management solutions throughout its 550-bed hospital. ECMC's relationship with Omnicell began in 1998 and has increased in scale to match the medical center's steady growth.

As its scope of healthcare services increased, ECMC needed medication management technology that streamlined and safeguarded the transportation of medications from the pharmacy to the automated dispensing cabinet (ADC) and to the patient's bedside. Upon reviewing all solutions available in the market, ECMC discovered that the Omnicell G4 medication management system connects to a single medication database, creating closed-loop movement of medications from controlled substance vaults to ADCs, and then to the bedside, meeting Joint Commission and other regulatory standards for medication administration.

In addition to seeking an overall upgrade to its medication management system, ECMC needed a mobile system that offered medication security and streamlined workflow for nurses. ECMC selected Omnicell's Savvy™ mobile medication system because it simplifies and secures the

transportation of medications from the ADC to the patient's bedside in patient-assigned locking drawers. Savvy also provides a clear audit trail for medications accessed by any clinician at any location by integrating with Omnicell's Anywhere RN™ software.

"Erie County Medical Center is constantly striving to improve its medication verification process," said Randy Gerwitz, Director of Pharmacy at ECMC. "In order to create a truly safe and streamlined medication distribution system, we performed an exhaustive review of all competitive medication automation systems, especially mobile systems."

"Omnicell clearly demonstrated a commitment to constantly improving its technology to meet the needs of a growing healthcare system," added Randy Gerwitz. "Because Omnicell's mobile medication system, Savvy, is so superior to competitive offerings, we won't have to worry about medication security in the next regulatory review. We are excited to bring the very best medication automation technology that is available to our patients and clinicians."

ECMC also reported that its purchasing decision was driven by the intuitive user interface, reliable design, and compelling long-term cost of ownership of Omnicell G4 medication management solutions.

ECMC is scheduled to complete its large installation of Savvy mobile medication systems by early 2013. In addition to ECMC's Savvy investment, the medical center will also upgrade to the following Omnicell solutions:

- OmniRx® G4 Automated Medication Dispensing Cabinets (ADCs), including the integrated Medication Label Printer that allows nurses to print patient-specific labels right from the ADC during medication issue.
- Anywhere RN™ offers nurses a flexible approach to the medication administration process designed to positively impact nursing workflow and patient safety. It is a web-based application designed specifically for nurses that provides real-time remote access to the Omnicell cabinet from virtually any computer or workstation in the patient care area.
- Anesthesia Workstation™ G4, an automated dispensing cabinet for the operating room that allows for secure, convenient access to drugs required during surgery and automates documentation of controlled substances, relieving the anesthesiologist of the tedious task of counting medications.

ABOUT OMNICELL: *Omnicell, Inc. (NASDAQ: OMCL) is a leading provider of automation and business information solutions enabling hospitals and other healthcare organizations to streamline the medication administration process and manage costly medical supplies for increased operational efficiency and enhanced patient safety. Through seamless integration with a customer's existing IT infrastructure, Omnicell solutions empower healthcare facilities to achieve comprehensive automation of medication and supply management from the arrival at the loading dock to the patient's bedside.*

Thank you for your support in keeping our hospital and campus clean...

Our goal of being a clean and healthy place of healing is as important as ever outside on our campus as it is inside our building(s). Many patients and visitors walk our beautiful campus as an important part of their recovery and peace of mind. You can help make their experience even better by refraining from littering in our parking lots, and if you are a smoker, by smoking in the designated smoke hut.

No other hospital in WNY has such a large, well maintained outdoor campus for our patients, visitors and staff members to enjoy. Therefore,

it is very important for each one of us to do our part to keep what is so special to us all, clean and serene for everyone who enjoys our facilities.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation and assistance.

ECMC Corporation Administration and Plant Operations



“Camp 9-1-1” Safety Training and Injury Prevention for Children

On August 23, ECMC hosted “Camp 9-1-1” Safety Training and Injury Prevention for Children. “Camp 9-1-1” is designed to provide children, ages 10 through 13, with an interactive introduction to emergency medical services with an emphasis on safety, injury prevention, and bystander care through an enjoyable learning experience.

Throughout the day children were able to participate in hands-on experiences, demonstrations and questioning sessions. Important life-saving information the children gained knowledge about included: performing adult and infant CPR, how to practice basic first aid skills, and bystander care. Tours were given through the ECMC Emergency Department and up to the rooftop helipad. Children were able to

meet with an FBI instructor and listen to a lecture on internet safety. Other activities the children were able to gain valuable knowledge from included: observing police dogs in training, watching a video on rollover accidents, and a Rural Metro Ambulance demonstration on patient care and safety. The children were able to visit the Pathology Department and see firsthand the affects of smoking. They were able to learn a great deal about health and safety in many situations, as well as careers in health care.

This program is funded by the Emergency Department Physician Group (University Emergency Medical Services) and the Erie County Medical Center. The Camp is run by Camp Coordinator Cara Burton.



ECMC Hosts Autumn MASH Camp

On October 18th, ECMC hosted its Fall MASH Camp for the Health Sciences Charter School (HSCS). MASH Camp exposes students to real life work experiences and allows them the unique opportunity to explore multiple careers in the healthcare and bio-sciences industries.

The Mash Camp included presentations by a variety of ECMC professionals. The event opened with a briefing of the day's activities given by Rita Hubbard-Robinson, Community Health Education and Outreach Director. A dynamic presentation followed by Sandra Lauer, Clinical Patient Advocate. Sandra provided an overview of what her job entails and the importance of customer service. After the morning sessions, students participated by taking department tours to Dietary, Emergency

and Plant Operations, as well as The Center for Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine.

After lunch, the HSCS students enjoyed career presentations about two hospital professions as well as a human resources overview with discussions about what hospitals are looking for when hiring employees. Career presenters included: from Healthcare Information Services (HIS), Chris Potter; from Internal Medicine, Regina Makdissi, MD, along with two third year residents; from Human Resources, Vice President Kathleen O'Hara. ECMC Corporation CEO Jody Lomeo closed out the day with an overview of what's new at ECMC and inspirational and motivational words encouraging the students to reach for excellence.

The presenters shared information about their professions, and their personal experiences in their professions. They discussed high school and college preparation and requirements for their positions and shared information about various positions in their departments.

Thanks to the presenters and also to Brian Haley, Stephen Forman, Gigi Chen, Linda Schwab, Karen Beckman and Dave Winkler, for their department tours. The event was a success and enjoyed by the students at the Health Science Charter School.



ECMC represented at International AIDS Conference



Mary Goodspeed, RN, (left), and Lori Anthony, RN, (right)

The International AIDS Conference held in Washington, DC, on July 19th, took place for the first time on American soil since 1990. The Erie County Medical Center was represented with an abstract by Springfest 2011 Distinguished Nurse Honorees **Lori Anthony, RN**, and **Mary Goodspeed, RN**. Only 31% of the 11,715 abstracts submitted from around the world were chosen for inclusion by the International AIDS Society.

The abstract written by Anthony and Goodspeed details ECMC's efforts to adopt and prepare the region to enact the 2010 legislation in New York State requiring expanded access to HIV testing in health settings and improved care for persons diagnosed with HIV.

Due to increased testing within ECMC and throughout the region, 84 newly diagnosed people entered HIV care with Immunodeficiency Services in 2011.

"We make every effort to get people into their medical appointment within a few days of their diagnosis," said Anthony about efforts to link people to HIV care. "It is very difficult for people to accept this diagnosis. We impress to our patients a sense of control that they now have over their lives and their healthcare. Although it may have been emotionally easier for them not to know about their HIV status, now they are in

control and they can make choices to live a healthier life."

To assist the rest of the region in preparing for the new guidelines, over 2,500 clinicians were trained in HIV testing and appropriate follow up for those diagnosed with HIV.

"The most common concern is what to do when someone tests positive, who should tell them and how to do so," Goodspeed said of her experience training clinicians. "There is reluctance because providers are not familiar with HIV/AIDS and feel they might not be able to answer questions their patients might ask about testing and treatment. By offering a referral line and assistance, most providers are reassured and more willing to provide testing."

"With an increase in patients comes the responsibility to provide HIV medical care, primary care, and support services such as social work/case management, mental health counseling, medication adherence and HIV education," said Ellen O'Brien, Program Manager of Immunodeficiency Services. "It takes very special people to do this work and we have them here!"

For more information regarding Immunodeficiency Services, call 716-898-4119.

Health Fair held at ECMC's Cleve-Hill Family Health Center



On August 23, the Cleve-Hill Family Health Center, located at 1461 Kensington Avenue at Kensington Ave. and Eggert Road, held a Health Fair with free health screenings available for the public. The free health screenings included: Body Mass Index (BMI), heart, glucose, blood pressure, nutrition, stroke health, diabetes, oral health, and HIV/AIDS. Healthy cooking demonstrations were presented by “Chef Steve.”

Cleve-Hill offers a full range of important healthcare services for patients of all ages, from care for expectant mothers, to pediatrics, to the treatment of acute and chronic illnesses. The Center’s healthcare capabilities include the following services and procedures: quality healthcare for the entire family, including newborns, children and adults; well child exams for newborns through the teen years; obstetrics services, from prenatal first visit to delivery for low-risk pregnancies; gynecological services, such as pap smears, contraception, treatment for vaginal infections and menstrual problems, and referrals when surgical care is needed; flu

vaccines and immunizations; comprehensive prevention and wellness care, such as routine physicals, annual exams, health counseling related to sexually transmitted diseases, as well as screenings for cancer, high blood pressure, and cholesterol; acute problems, such as coughs, flu, sore throats, abdominal pain, bladder infections, minor musculoskeletal injuries, and other common medical problems; ongoing evaluation and treatment of chronic illnesses, such as allergies, asthma, diabetes, high blood pressure, migraine headaches, skin conditions, and depression; procedures such as basic colposcopy, stitches, skin biopsy, and wart removal; urine pregnancy testing; and blood glucose determinations.

The Cleve-Hill Family Health Center is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 8:30 A.M. to 8:00 P.M., and Wednesdays and Fridays, from 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. The Center has a doctor on call 24 hours a day, and a nurse is always available to answer questions by telephone during regular business hours.

The Health Center also includes laboratory facilities on premise for patients with a prescription for blood work. The lab is open Monday through Friday, 9:00 A.M to 4:00 P.M.

For more information about the Cleve-Hill Health Fair and/or to schedule an appointment, interested individuals should call 831-8612.



5th Annual Summer Youth Program

The ECMC Summer Youth Program is a four week comprehensive self-development program for area high school students.

The program offered 80 interns hospital-based career exploration to stimulate interest in employment in health services and to help meet the future need for qualified personnel in this field. Summer Youth Interns were required to

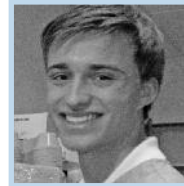


work two six-hour days per week for a total of 12 hours a week. This included hospital-based career exploration programs in heart health education and accident prevention, as well as a CPR certification course.

The program began with orientation and culminated with an awards program.

This summer, participating high schools included: Bishop Timon-St. Jude, Buffalo Academy for Visual & Performing Arts, Canisius, Cardinal O'Hara, City Honors, Clarence, East, Frederick Law Olmsted, Frontier,

Health Sciences Charter, Hutchinson Central Technical, Iroquois, Kenmore West, Lancaster Central, Leonardo Da Vinci, Maryvale, McKinley, Mount Saint Mary's, Nardin, Nichols, Orchard Park, Royalton-Hartland, St. Francis, St. Joseph's, St. Mary's, Sweet Home, Tapestry Charter, Tonawanda, Williamsville East, Williamsville North, and Williamsville South.



ECMC receives Grant from Christopher Reeve Foundation

ECMC Therapists (l. to r.) Michael Koch, Occupational Therapist and Kelly Parkhill, Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist received notification of an \$8,400 grant awarded by the Christopher Reeve Foundation for ECMC to purchase integrated computer hardware and software for use by patients with paralysis. Thank you and congratulations to Kelly and Michael for your work in successfully applying for this grant to benefit ECMC Rehab patients!



ECMC Educates Community at Gerard Place

Living Healthy on a Budget

Submitted by Hiruy "Hudy" Berhan, Assistant to Rita Hubbard-Robinson, JD, Community Health Education and Outreach Director, ECMC Corp.

The ECMC presentation held in November was designed for members of Gerard Place, a transitional housing and supportive services program for homeless single parent families on the east side of Buffalo. Gerard Place frequently has community health educators and life skill instructors come and teach their members about various life skills such as parenting, job readiness, and money management. The goal is to arm these families with the knowledge and skills that will allow them to break through the socioeconomic obstacles that stand between them and achieving their goals. By empowering our fellow community members with such information we are strengthening our city as a whole.

The ECMC health and wellness presentation at Gerard Place was a demonstration designed to

both inform and persuade. The presentation incorporated elements of nutrition education, physical activity, and healthy lifestyle modification. The topics discussed at the presentation included: the difference between fats, grocery shopping on a healthy budget, the benefits of regular physical activity, and ways to maintain and or lose weight. To better present these topics, we utilized educational games and a couple cooking demonstrations. We showed presentation attendees how to make "ants on a log," a healthy snack made with celery, peanut butter, and raisins. We also showed the attendees how to make pumpkin spiced pudding, a great dessert or snack for the current autumn season. The best part about it was that it only required four ingredients: instant pudding, canned pumpkin, 2% milk, and spices (nutmeg and cinnamon).

It is our hope that the members of Gerard Place gained some useful information from our presentation. Throughout the demonstration we advised attendees that they should take

realistic steps to improve their daily nutrition and physical activity. The most important thing we hope happened is that the members took a few important lessons away from the presentation, and can go on to teach their family and friends those same lessons. This will lead to happier and healthier community members, more informed citizens, and help make the east side of Buffalo more of a haven for wellness.



UB Department of Surgery at ECMC hosted American College of Surgeons NYS Resident Trauma Paper Competition.

The University at Buffalo's Department of Surgery Division of Trauma at ECMC hosted the American College of Surgeons New York State Committee on Trauma (COT) Resident Trauma Papers Competition on October 31, 2012. The purpose of this program is to promote trauma research among surgical trainees and encourage participation in COT-related activities. This program is held yearly and open to general surgery residents, surgical specialty residents

and trauma fellows across Upstate New York. Accepted papers describe original research in the area of trauma in one of two categories: (1) basic laboratory research or (2) clinical research. UB's surgical residents took home two awards. Dr. Peter Smit was awarded first place for his basic science research project, *The Role of sRAGE and HMGB1 in the Pathogenesis of Aspiration-induced Acute Lung Injury*; and Dr. Edward Cho was awarded runner up for his clinical research

project, *Survey of Surgical Residents' Adherence to Global Protection Techniques During Bedside Procedures*. Both residents were mentored by Dr. Alan Guo. This event was held in conjunction with the department's annual John R. Border Memorial Lectureship. Dr. Timothy Fabian, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Tennessee in Memphis, Tennessee, served as guest lecturer.



Dr. William Flynn (right), Associate Professor, Surgical Critical Care, SUNY at Buffalo; and Chief of Service, Surgery, ECMC, congratulating Dr. Peter Smit (1st place, basic science research)



Dr. Timothy Fabian, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Tennessee in Memphis, Presented as the 2012 John R. Border Memorial Lectureship guest speaker.



Dr. William Flynn congratulating Dr. Edward Cho (runner up, clinical research)

ECMC Nurse of the Month

December

Jody Nazzarett



Jody Nazzarett, RN, is a dedicated nurse to the patients and physicians in the Vascular Access Center (VAC). She is both proficient and efficient at her job. Jody serves as a preceptor in the VAC and willingly imparts her knowledge. She is a perfectionist and sets high standards for herself and her colleagues. She willingly helps out in other areas of specialty in a variety of ways. Jody is a member of the New York State Nurses Association and has participated in several committees through her years at ECMC. She most recently participated in meetings to help plan the Renal Center of Excellence. Jody is a strong patient advocate and shows great compassion to the patients she serves. She is a valuable member of the ECMC team.

November

Jennifer Brinkworth



Jennifer Brinkworth, RN, BSN, has worked for ECMC for several years holding different positions gaining her experience. She has worked in Nursing In-service Education (NIED), the Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program (CPEP) and Inpatient Behavioral Health, as a Nursing Care Coordinator (NCC) and currently as a Unit Manager on the 4th Floor, Zone 1. Her focus is always on providing the best care possible. She demonstrates this daily by assisting the patients as needed and working closely with them. While Jennifer was doing an in-service (teaching) in CPEP, she took it upon herself to bring out sandwiches and juice for the patients. She is one of the most dedicated nurses who goes that extra mile. She is a role model for staff and an inspiration to us all. Thank you Jennifer.

October

Gale Washington



Gale Washington, RN, provides exemplary, holistic patient care in the inpatient dialysis unit. She has worked at ECMC for the past 30 years. She is always expanding her own knowledge base through literature review and conferences. Gale precepts (teaches) nurses who are new to dialysis and she also works with students who are on their clinical rotation. She imparts her knowledge, understanding, and experience to those with whom she works. She serves as a mentor to the staff and receives compliments from her colleagues and patients alike. Gale is a member of the New York State Nurses Association. She also participates in the employee survey follow up meeting. She provides true care everyday and lives the ECMC mission.

September Nurse of the Month

Patti Palma



Patti Palma, RN, was nominated by her peers for her great work acting as Unit Manager. The floor staff found her very helpful and supportive during their unit manager's time away from ECMC. Patti demonstrates excellence in clinical rehabilitation nursing practices, acts as a mentor to the other staff, as a resource to all. Patti works well in an interdisciplinary team model, and also demonstrates excellence in understanding policy and procedures and ensuring that all staff members' performances are to high levels. Patti has been an employee and a true asset to ECMC for 28 years.

ECMC Employee of the Month

October

Gina Campanella



Speech Pathologist **Gina Campanella** has been a great asset throughout the continuum of care; floating easily between acute, rehab, SNF/sub-acute and outpatient areas on a daily basis. Gina shows excellence and expertise in her care for such a diverse group. She is a strong patient advocate, ensuring by good communication that linkages are made with the community as necessary, even when the need may be outside the Speech Pathology purview. Gina will do what it takes to facilitate what is in the best interest of the patient.

September

Patricia Eckert



Patricia L. Eckert, RT, RDMS, Ultrasonographer, has a reputation that precedes her in the hospital. Doctors know they can rely on her ultrasound skills and expertise. After hours, she teaches doctors in the Emergency Room how to enhance their skills using ultrasound. Patricia is willing to change her on-call schedule to accommodate other technicians. She possesses amazing organizational skills and is a team player. Congratulations, Patricia, on this well-deserved recognition!

ECMC *Volunteer of the Month*

December Denise Mack



Denise Mack came to ECMC as a Volunteer Board Member in 2009. She is dedicated and caring as well as a hard worker. Denise helps out in our Gift Shop whenever she can. She still works a job outside of ECMC so the Volunteer Department is very fortunate to have her help when she has some free time. She has co-chaired the Volunteer Fall Fashion Show the last several years and done an excellent job. She is also helpful in hospital sales and fund-raising. Her easy going manner and sense of humor make her a pleasure to work with. Denise, thanks for all you do and keep up the great work!

November Neleta Gordon



Neleta "Nelli" Gordon came to ECMC as a volunteer in June 2006. She started by helping the SNF with recreation activities. She has also assisted in the Volunteer office. Currently, she works in the clothing closet trying to keep things in order, which is no easy job! A native of Jamaica, Nellie loves to cook and clean. Her laughter is contagious and she is always willing to help. She is a pleasure to have as a volunteer and we are very grateful for all she has done for us. Congratulations, Nellie, and keep up the good work!

October Kate Hahn



Kathleen "Kate" Hahn has been volunteering in inpatient Rehabilitation (8 North), since June of 2012. In that short amount of time, Kate has brought such a bright light to our unit and has been a tremendous asset to our team. She provides endless compassion, respect and humor to our patients. Kate inspires and motivates our patients by encouraging them during their daily therapy treatments. She also takes the time to listen to the patients and their families, and she shares personal stories. Kate is sincere in her actions. Her enthusiastic, yet calming demeanor provides peaceful interactions for our patients who are dealing with traumatic diagnoses.

Kate always comes in smiling, willing to assist staff and patients in any way that she can; whether it is cleaning gym equipment, playing cards or even going to buy patients coffee and snacks. She is generous with her time and is willing to go above and beyond to brighten a patient's day.

Our patients regularly ask about Kate and look forward to the days that she volunteers. Their faces light up and they smile when they see her. We are very thankful that Kate is a volunteer on 8 North. She leaves positive, lasting impressions on the staff, patients and their families!

September *Volunteer of the Month* Barbara Breckenridge



Barbara Breckenridge is always willing to help others and give of herself. While staying very busy, her bright smile and calm demeanor remain part of her welcoming presence. She is a very strong advocate for organ donation. It has become her mission in life to educate, support and encourage everyone living with kidney disease and all people in need of life-saving organs.

Barbara's journey with kidney disease began in 1991. She started hemodialysis treatments in 1996, which lasted three and a half years. While on dialysis, she learned to live her life and to not let kidney disease defeat her. Barbara received the long awaited call for a kidney transplant on July 30, 1999. She received the kidney on July 31, 1999.

Barbara joined the Board of Directors of the National Kidney Foundation where she served as Minority Community Educator (1997). She also volunteered for Upstate New York Transplant Services. She served as Interim Executive Director for the National Kidney Foundation of Western NY (2005-2007). Barbara then worked as Community Relations Director for the National Kidney Foundation Serving WNY (2007-2011).

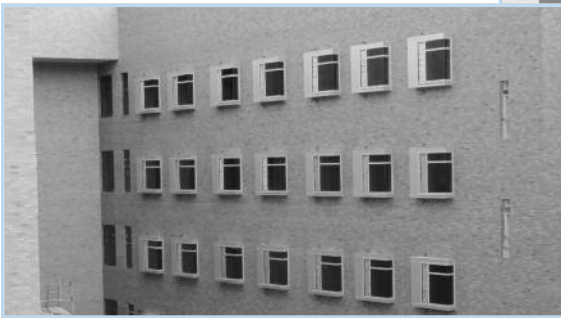
Barbara is currently serving as Community Relations Director for the Northeast Kidney Foundation of Greater Buffalo, a local organization that serves all renal patients of WNY. She became an ECMC volunteer with Pastoral Care (2003-present). Last year, Barbara joined the ECMC Volunteer Board.

Thank you, Barbara, for all you do to help ECMC and our patients. You are truly an example of taking something difficult and bringing good out of it. Your willingness to serve is commendable and we are fortunate to have you as our volunteer.

ECMC Campus Growth – Progress Report

Long Term Care Facility

Description: A five-story building containing a total of 390 Long Term Care Facility beds. There will be three floors with 96 skilled nursing beds each, one floor containing 66 sub-acute rehab beds, a 20-bed Ventilator Unit, and a 16-bed Behavioral Intervention Unit on the ground floor.





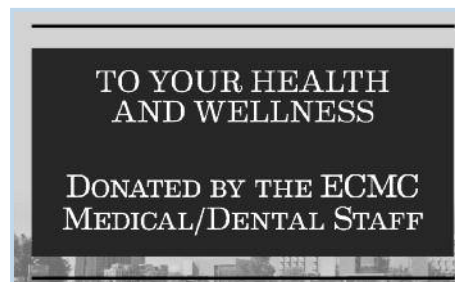
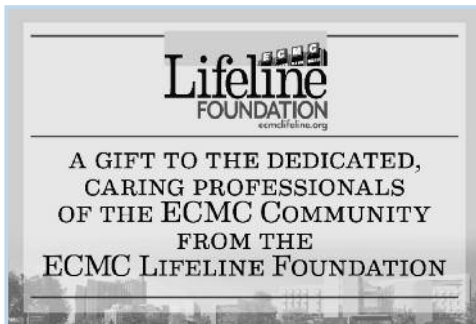
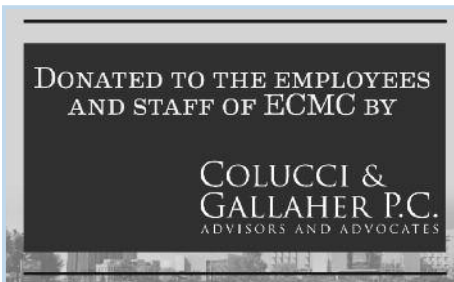
ECMC Fitness Center

Built by Employees, for Employees!

ECMC Employees impressed with Fitness Center during Open House event...



A Fitness Center open house event was held on November 27th to recognize donors for their contributions which made this facility a reality...



ECMC Important Days to Know

DECEMBER

Week-long Observances

3-7 Older Driver Safety Awareness Week (National)

Recognition Days/Events

1 AIDS Day (World)

NOVEMBER

Month-long Observances

Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month (National)
Bladder Health Month
COPD Awareness Month
Diabetes Month (American)
Diabetic Eye Disease Month
Epilepsy Awareness Month (National)
Hospice Palliative Care Month (National)
Lung Cancer Awareness Month
Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month (National)
Sexual Health Month (National)

Week-long Observances

1-7 Medical-Surgical Nurses Week
1-7 Urology Nurses and Associates Week
4-10 Allied Health Professions Week (National)
4-10 Aspiring Nurse Leader Week
4-10 Diabetes Education Week (National)
4-10 Medical Staff Services Awareness Week (National)
4-10 Patient Transport Week (National)
4-10 Radiologic Technology Week (National)
5-9 Blood Management Awareness Week
5-11 Perioperative Nurse Week
11-17 Mental Health Wellness Week
15 Great American Smokeout
17 Family Volunteer Day

Recognition Days/Events

15 Great American Smokeout
17 Family Volunteer Day

OCTOBER

Month-long Observances

Beast Cancer Awareness Month (National)
Chiropractic Health Month (National)
Dental Hygiene Month (National)
Domestic Violence Awareness Month (National)
Eye Injury Prevention Month
Healthy Literacy Month
Home Eye Safety Month
Liver Awareness Month
Medical Librarians Month (National)
Medical Ultrasound Awareness Month
Patient-Centered Care Awareness Month
Pharmacists Month (American)
Physical Therapy Month (National)
Talk about Prescriptions Month

continued

OCTOBER continued

Week-long Observances

2-8 Gerontological Nurses Week
2-8 Healthcare Resource & Materials Management Week (National)
2-8 Mental Illness Awareness Week
1-7 Healthcare Foodservice Workers Week
6-12 Physician Assistants Week (National)
7-13 Emergency Nurses Week
7-13 Fire Prevention Week
7-13 Healthcare Central Services / Sterile Processing Week
7-13 Health Resources and Materials Week (National)
7-13 Nuclear Medicine Week
7-13 Mental Illness Awareness Week (National)
8-12 Dialysis Technician Recognition Week (National)
12-20 Bone and Joint Awareness week (National)
14-20 Case Management Week (National)
14-20 Healthcare Security & Safety Week
10-15 Emergency Nurses Week
14-20 Infection Prevention Week (international)
15-19 Medical Assistants Week (National)
21-27 Hospital & Health-System Pharmacy Week (National)
21-27 Healthcare Quality Week
21-27 Healthcare Facilities & Engineering Week (National)
21-27 Pastoral Care Week (National)
21-27 Respiratory Care Week (National)
23-31 Red Ribbon Week

Recognition Days/Events

6 Depression Screening Day® (National)
10 Stop America's Violence Everywhere (SAVE) Today
12 Arthritis Day (World)
19 Mammography Day (National)
24 Lung Health Day
27 Lock Your Meds Day

SEPTEMBER

Month-Long Observances

Alzheimer's Month and Alzheimer's Action Day (World)
Cholesterol Education Month
Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Month
Healthy Aging Month
Leukemia, Lymphoma and Myeloma Awareness Month
Pain Awareness Month
Prostate Cancer Month
Prostate Health Month
Reye's Syndrome Awareness Month
Sickle Cell Awareness Month
Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month

Week-long Observances

9-15 Environment Services and Housekeeping Week (National)
9-15 Nephrology Nurses Week (National)
9-15 Suicide Prevention Week
16-22 Farm Safety and Health Week (National)
16-22 Prostate Cancer Awareness Week
16-22 Rehabilitation Awareness Week (National)
16-22 Surgical Technologist Week (National)
23-29 Hearing Aid Awareness Week
30-10/6 Gerontological Nursing Week

Recognition Days/Events

2 MDA Labor Day Telethon
26 Woman's Health and Fitness Day (National)
29 Family Health and Fitness Day- USA

ECMC Staff Members and/or immediate relatives of Staff Members Serving in the Military

NAME	TITLE	LINE OF SERVICE	CURRENT STATION	RELATIONSHIP TO ECMC AND/OR TO ECMC STAFF MEMBER
Kyle J. Broginski	Meritoriously promoted to Corporal	United States Marine Corps. 1st Marines 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Platoon Combat Engineer	Afghanistan, Combat Outpost Payne, Southern Helmand River Valley	Son of Kevin J. Broginski, Electric Control Technician, Plant Operations, ECMC
Shawn Drzyzga	Specialist	U.S. Army: Recently Honorably Discharged after four years of service	Fort Campbell, KY	Son of Laurie Drzyzga, Hospital Police Officer, ECMC
Kathleen Fay	Lieutenant Colonel	U.S. Air Force, 914th Aeromedical Staging Squadron (Niagara Falls Airbase) and 455th Expeditionary Medical Operation Squadron (Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan)	Niagara Falls, NY & Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan	On military leave from ECMC Cardiac Care Unit as Charge Nurse
Dr. Kurt Von Fricken	Lieutenant Colonel (LTC)	U.S. Army	Afghanistan	ECMC Cardiothoracic Surgeon
Micah J. Gray	Lance Corporal	U.S. Marines Basic Utilities Electrical Engineer Generator Specialist	Okinawa, Japan	Son of David Gray, LPN, Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program (CPEP), ECMC
Brett Harrison	Senior Airman	Niagara Falls 914th Security Forces	Kirkuk, Iraq	Son of Chuck Harrison Plant Operations, and Rose Harrison, RN, ECMC
Samantha Hoch	Sergeant	U.S. Army 277th Quartermaster Company	Niagara Falls, NY	ECMC Main Lobby Prima Pizza General Manager and co-owner
Katherine A. Keleher	Lance Corporal	United States Marine Corps. Combat Correspondent/ Photographer	Parris Island, SC	Daughter of Kerry Keleher, LPN, Nurse Consultant Patient Advocacy, ECMC
Kevin J. Kuhn	Platoon Sergeant	United States Marine Corps. 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit Military Police Detachment Combat Logistics Battalion	Camp Pendleton, CA	Son of Donna Carr, RN, Patient Safety, ECMC
Thomas W. Liebel	Specialist	U.S. Army	Bamberg, Germany	Son of Bruce Liebel, Director of Reimbursement, ECMC
Brian Payne	Marine	U.S. Marines	Honorably Discharged	Son of Shirley Csepegi, Unit Manager, Psychiatry, 4th Floor, Zone 2
Steven Payne	Reenlisted Recruiter	U.S. Army	Long Island, NY; (previously Stationed in Ft. Gordon, GA)	Son of Shirley Csepegi, Unit Manager, Psychiatry, 4th Floor, Zone 2
Tim Payne	Special Forces Member	U.S. Army	Injured in the line of duty in Kandahar, Afghanistan on July 3, 2011 (see separate article in this issue of Pulse)	Son of Shirley Csepegi, Unit Manager, Psychiatry, 4th Floor, Zone 2
Andrew Payne	Specialist	U.S. Army	Vicenza, Italy (two deployments to Afghanistan)	Son of Shirley Csepegi, Unit Manager, Psychiatry, 4th Floor, Zone 2
Charles D. Schroeder	Master Sergeant	U.S. Air Force Reserves 914th Aerial Port Squadron's First Sergeant	Most recent deployment to Bagram Airfield Afghanistan, January 2010	ECMC MRI Staff Member
Frank J.A. World 4/13/84 - 4/01/10	Sergeant	United States Marine Corp. LAR Alpha Company, 2nd Marine Division, Infantryman	<i>Killed In Action</i> April 1, 2010, in Marjah, Afghanistan (while in 6th yr. of 8 yr. commitment)	Brother-in-law of ECMC Hospital Public Safety Assistant Eric Smith
Joseph A. Zaccagnino Jr.	Master at Arms, First Class	U.S. Navy	Naval Base, Norfolk, VA	Son of Sandra R. Cutrona, Supervisor, Health Information Management (HIM) Dept.

Are you or a family member currently serving in the military?

If so, we would like to publish your/their name, line of service, location of station, and number of years in the military.

Please E-MAIL TO: jcirillo@ecmc.edu

CONSENTS: For any article to be published including a person's name, etc., a completed and signed consent for each person identified must be completed and mailed/delivered to:

Joe Cirillo
 Director of Public Relations & Communications
 ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER CORPORATION
 462 Grider Street, Third Floor Administration
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ABOUT ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER (ECMC) CORPORATION:

The ECMC Corporation includes an advanced academic medical center (ECMC) with 550 inpatient beds and 136 skilled-nursing-home beds, on- and off-campus health centers, more than 30 outpatient specialty care clinics and a long-term care facility. ECMC is the regional center for trauma, burn care, transplantation and rehabilitation and is a major teaching facility for the University at Buffalo. Most ECMC physicians, dentists and pharmacists are dedicated faculty members of the university and/or members of a private practice plan. More Western New York residents are choosing ECMC for exceptional patient care and patient experiences—*the difference between healthcare and true care.*

EXT-September - December, 2012

SAVE THE DATE:

February 2

ECMC Day at Kissing Bridge

A nearly 50% savings for a day of fun on the slopes plus a great dinner. Tickets on sale December 1. Stop by Lifeline in G-1 for more information.

May 11

Springfest Gala 2013 Featuring KC and the Sunshine Band

A black tie gala to benefit ECMC Lifeline Foundation. It promises to be the best party of the year and you're invited.

July 6

ECMC Day at Coca Cola Field

Discounted tickets and a party under the tent.

July 27

ECMC Day at Darien Lake

Special park admission pricing and pavilion lunch.



Interesting News and Information...

Life in the year 2100

As published in The New Yorker, The Week, April 8, 2011, by the turn of the century, says physicist Michio Kaku, and based on interviews with 300 of the world's top scientists, Kaku assembled some predictions for what that world, 100 years in the future, will look like.

One of these predictions is described below.

The human life span will be extended.

Aging will be slowed down by attacking it at the molecular and genetic level. We may be able to "cruise" at the age of 30 almost indefinitely by growing new organs as they wear out or become diseased, ingesting a cocktail of proteins and enzymes, using gene therapy to alter genes that may slow down due to aging, and following the old adage of maintaining a healthy lifestyle.