

— MED-CENTER

Pulse

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A Publication of ECMC Corporation

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"This center will do so many remarkable things for patients in the community who need this service. This is another example of working together with Kaleida and Great Lakes Health to respond to the community's needs and improve the level of healthcare in this region, while lowering costs at the same time."

Jody L. Lomeo
ECMC Corp. CEO



Standing (l. to r.) during the February 24, 2011 Center for Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine Center at ECMC ribbon cutting ceremony are: Jody Lomeo, CEO, ECMC; Elizabeth Engler, Program Director, Wound Center; James Lukan, MD, Medical Director, Wound Center; representing the Great Lakes Health and Kaleida Health Systems Merrill T. Dayton, MD, Chief of Surgery, Kaleida Health System and Professor and Chairman, Department of Surgery, SUNY at Buffalo; and Wayne Fuller, Wound Center patient.

Keep updated each issue with news and information on ECMC expansion and growth in our new feature section....

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A Message from ECMC CEO

Jody L. Lomeo



Jody L. Lomeo
ECMC Corp. CEO

As we all know, it is an exciting time for ECMC and the future of our campus. From the new Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation & Kidney Care to the new long-term care facility to the recently opened Center for Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine at ECMC to initiatives to build primary care and new service lines, we must ensure that we have proper oversight to complete projects and initiatives successfully and in a timely manner. We must also not lose sight of the growth of our existing services, and we must continue to redesign our operations to become more efficient and meet the challenges of our local and State economy, as well as federal healthcare reform.

I have worked with the Board of Directors and the executive management team to reorganize efforts to become more effective in this new era of growth. In this regard, I am pleased to announce that we have hired Ronald Krawiec to join the executive management team as Senior Vice President of Operations (see separate article on pg. 6). We are excited to have Ron join the ECMC family and bring his wealth of experience in operations combined with his knowledge of our rural and community partners. Please join me in giving Ron a warm ECMC welcome.

While many of the responsibilities of executive management will remain the same, the following changes will be made:

Richard Cleland, Senior Vice President of Operations will be responsible for long-term care, rehabilitation, behavioral health, the hyperbaric wound care center, the development of a new transitional care unit, and the development of the new long-term care facility on the ECMC campus.

Ronald Krawiec, Senior Vice President of Operations will be responsible for imaging services, pharmaceutical services, dietary services, laboratory medicine, ambulatory services, support services, and new primary care and rural hospital initiatives.

Kenneth Richmond, Senior Vice President of Operations will be responsible for security, construction management, development of The Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation & Kidney Care, volunteer services, pastoral care, and the new service line in head and neck surgery.

Thomas Quatroche, Senior Vice President of Marketing, Planning, and Business

Development will continue with his existing responsibilities but will also be responsible for the development of primary care, new clinical partnerships, and physician recruitment and retention. The Grider Initiative, the Board-designated endowment fund established for physician recruitment and retention, has hired William Gajewski as Vice President to assist Tom with outreach to physicians in the community and increase responsiveness to our ECMC physician customers.

As you can see from the new initiatives, we have many exciting growth strategies to strengthen the organization and continue to provide exceptional care to our community.

It is my hope that the reorganization of these areas will increase the responsiveness of our executive and senior team to all of our internal and external customers.

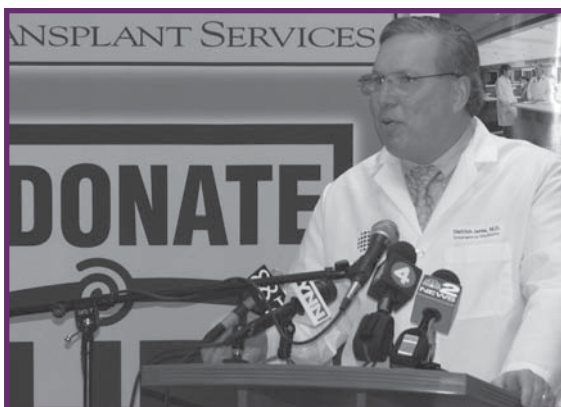
While we are growing in order to provide better care and financial viability for ECMC's future, we are also mindful of the New York State Medicaid cuts that we face today. While we understand that the State must address its budget issues, that fact remains that these Medicaid cuts are in areas that serve ECMC's mission to care for those less fortunate. Our mission is something that we all take very seriously, but we also take the financial viability of the organization very seriously.

Governor Cuomo's budget, while not perfect, is a good step towards reforming our Medicaid system and "sharing pain" across all of the sectors of State services. We ask that you please advocate to your legislators on the importance of our services to the community, ask them to adopt the Governor's budget, and to adopt Medicaid reform proposed by the Healthcare Association of New York State. Also, as you can see, it is more imperative than ever before that we continue our growth strategy to ensure that we generate enough margin to protect our mission.

Jody L. Lomeo
Chief Executive Officer
ECMC Corporation

ECMC Announces Partnership with UNYTS

Local community Blood Bank will save Hospital dollars



On January 4th, ECMC Corporation in conjunction with Upstate New York Transplant Services (UNYTS), announced to the Western New York community, ECMC's new partnership with UNYTS as their primary provider of blood products.

Event speakers included: Mark Simon, UNYTS CEO and President; Jody L. Lomeo, ECMC CEO; and Dietrich Jehle, MD, ECMC Associate Medical Director and Professor of Emergency Medicine.

Since beginning collections in June 2007, UNYTS has already become the primary supplier of blood products for the six hospitals in Niagara and Wyoming Counties and for the entire Kaleida Health System.

With the addition of ECMC, UNYTS will provide the Western New York region with over sixty percent of its blood supply and will be supplying 8-9,000 more additional units of blood and 500 more platelet products in 2011.

Every three seconds someone needs blood. In keeping blood donation, processing and distribution community-based, Upstate New York Transplant Services will save area hospitals as much as thirty percent per unit of blood. This is needed savings which will be reflected back into patient care and other hospital needs.

"ECMC is proud to be partnering with UNYTS' Community Blood Service. As the region's center for trauma, a transplant and kidney disease center, 24/7 cardiac care, and 60,000 emergency room visits, our physicians and nurses see the important need for blood every day. Blood supplied by UNYTS will help to ensure that ECMC is well equipped to care for our patients with a high quality, locally donated product which not only saves our hospital needed dollars, but also saves lives," said ECMC CEO Jody L. Lomeo.

Community blood banks concentrate on fulfilling the blood needs of a single region. Often as a result of this locally-driven operation, donation rates rise among the area population and costs decrease on the part of area purchasers. Community blood banks are neighbors helping neighbors—and nearly 50% of the U.S. blood supply is a result of these programs. Community Blood Banks answer the everyday needs in thousands of communities across the nation and were the first and primary responders for many major tragedies including 9/11.

By giving blood with UNYTS, you are making sure your family, friends, neighbors and other members of the community have blood available when they need it.

Headquartered in Buffalo and established in 1981, Upstate New York Transplant Services is among the leading procurement organizations in the United States and is the only organization of its kind nationwide to offer opportunities for organ, eye, tissue and blood donation.

ECMC Opens Unique Wound Care Center

cover story continued



On February 24, Erie County Medical Center dedicated a Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine Center that will speed healing for trauma, surgical, diabetes and other slow-healing wounds in a unique facility for Western New York with six surgeons and three podiatrists.

Nearly 24 million people, 8 percent of the American population, have diabetes and 15 percent of those with the disease will develop chronic wounds.

The ECMC Wound Center, which the hospital built in response to closure and consolidation of facilities at Millard Fillmore Gates Circle and ECMC, is a new, state-of-the-art facility with two hyperbaric chambers. It exists to help wound patients before ulcers and injuries lead to amputations.

Hyperbaric oxygen therapy involves putting a patient in a pressurized chamber daily with 100 percent oxygen for a length of time over weeks, depending on the wound. The effect of the pressure two levels below sea level is to open

blood vessels, improve circulation and deliver enriched oxygenated blood to wound sites, enhancing and speeding healing. The feeling is like an airplane descending to land.

"This center will do so many remarkable things for patients in the community who need this service," said Jody L. Lomeo, ECMC CEO. "This is another example of working together with Kaleida and Great Lakes Health to respond to the community's needs and improve the level of healthcare in this region, while lowering costs at the same time."

Lomeo explained that if diabetics and trauma patients with wounds can heal faster and more effectively, short- and long-term treatment costs are less, further complications are limited or avoided and patients can go on to live healthier lives. There will also be an increased emphasis on motivating physicians to refer patients to the center when problem wounds are initially discovered so they can heal before more serious complications arise.

The center, located on the hospital's ground floor near the medical center's entry road for easy patient access, is managed by nationally known wound center operator Diversified Clinical Services (DCS), of Jacksonville, Florida, but staffed with ECMC surgeons, and functions as a hospital department.

DCS's experience treating more than two million wounds over 20 years in some 300 hospitals shows that its centers traditionally achieve excellent clinical outcomes. These include high limb recovery rates, an 88 percent healing rate within 31 median days-to-heal, and extremely high patient satisfaction. Treatment and services are insured.





In its first two months of work commencing late last year, ECMC's center handled 17 patients a day on average initially and built to 30 a day. The goal is 40 a day, and there is room for two more hyperbaric chambers as capacity and volume increase. As the patient census grows, a nutritionist is also expected to be added to the center's staff.

"This is a line of service for Western New York patients that will literally change lives," said Elizabeth Engler, the center's manager. "With Western New York's higher-than-average rate of diabetes, and located as it is in the region's trauma center, the services we offer will save lives and salvage limbs."

The center is open to all patients in Western New York, and at least one came from as far as Ft. Drum, near Watertown, for treatment. U.S. Army Pvt. Casey Sherman of Leroy, New York was referred to ECMC from his physician in Watertown.

"My experience at ECMC was exceptional," Sherman said. "But the key for me was healing more rapidly so I could return to active duty sooner than anyone could have expected, which I did."

The actual hyperbaric chambers each hold a reclined patient who communicates by phone with a technician. Patients can watch television and DVDs through an acrylic dome or listen to piped-in music. A surgeon specially trained in hyperbaric healing is available for the start and end of each treatment, as well as to treat the wounds themselves.

Another patient, Batavia radio personality Wayne Fuller, was referred by his physician.

"This center is extraordinary and all Western New Yorkers are fortunate to have a place like this to help them get healthy," Fuller said. "I, for one, couldn't be happier."



Staff members of The Center for Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine include:

James Lukan, MD,
Medical Director

Raphael Blochle, MD

William Flynn, MD

Weidun Alan Guo, MD

Michael Chopko, MD

John Hurley, DPM

David Davidson, DPM

Joseph Anain, DPM

Beth Engler,
Program Director

Danielle Levesque, RN,
Clinical Coordinator

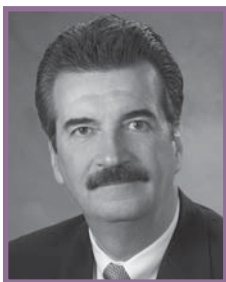
Erica Freeman,
Safety Director

Crystal Cooper, RN

Catherine Comella,
Front Office Coordinator

More about DCS: Diversified Clinical Services (DCS), headquartered in Jacksonville, Florida, is the world's largest wound care management company with over 300 hospital partners delivering excellent evidence-based care to patients with chronic wounds. DCS has been the leader in wound care for over 20 years, offering the most advanced modalities—including adjunctive hyperbaric oxygen therapy. Providing outstanding wound care is DCS's entire focus. Our leaders are internationally recognized experts in wound care, who research, teach, and guide quality-improvement initiatives such as DCS's Clinical Practice Guidelines. Based on our experience of treating more than two million wounds, DCS Centers traditionally achieve excellent clinical outcomes, including high limb salvage rates, an 88% healing rate within 31 median days-to-heal and extremely high patient satisfaction. Together, we heal wounds and improve patients' lives.

Ronald Krawiec appointed Senior Vice President of Operations



Ronald Krawiec has been appointed to the ECMC Corporation executive management team as Senior Vice President of Operations. Ron will be responsible for imaging services, pharmaceutical services, dietary services, laboratory medicine, ambulatory services, support services, and new primary care and rural hospital initiatives.

Most recently, Ron was the CEO of Wyoming County Community Hospital and has over 30 years of experience in healthcare. Ron has served in the roles of Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer, and Chief Financial Officer for other healthcare organizations. He has worked many years at Lake Shore Healthcare Center and the Department of Health.

Please give a warm ECMC welcome to Ronald Krawiec!

President and COO Mark Barabas recertified as Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives

Mark C. Barabas, DHA, FACHE, President and Chief Operating Officer, ECMC Corporation, was recently recertified as a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE).

In the recent recertification notification to Mark Barabas, the letter stated, "Congratulations on recertifying as a Fellow..." "...you have reaffirmed your commitment to professional development." The letter further stated, "...continue to be a role model for other healthcare executives and ...encourage other members to advance or recertify in ACHE."

Mark Barabas is a senior healthcare executive with over 30 years of comprehensive healthcare experience, specializing in operations, the regulatory approval process, and hospital accreditation. For well over three years at ECMC, he has worked on numerous initiatives including preparation for the joint commission review. He also works extensively addressing length of stay issues across all services and serves as a consultant and accreditation inspector at hospitals across the country. Mark Barabas is also the administrative leader for the Great Lakes Health



*Mark C. Barabas, DHA, FACHE,
President and Chief Operating
Officer, ECMC Corporation*

System of Western New York consolidation of the ECMC and Buffalo General Hospital kidney/pancreas transplant programs.

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.

Harold Berberick appointed Interim VP, Behavioral Health



Harold Berberick

I would like to introduce Harold Berberick, Interim Vice President of Behavioral Health Services, effective February 21, 2011 (via Horizon Health Corporation based in Lewisville, Texas).

Harold has 40 years of behavioral health experience and has held previous positions as President of Behavioral Health Strategies, Inc. (1999-2010); Executive Director, Pilgrim Behavioral Health, Inc.,

Quincy, MA; Director of Project Management, New York State Office of Mental Health, Albany, NY; Director of Rehabilitation Services, Capital District Psychiatric Center, Albany, NY. He has also consulted with the Matthew Thornton Health Plan, Bedford, N.H., as a Mental Health Consultant and Acting Director of Mental Health for 17,000-member HMO. He has also

assisted the Joint Commission in development of new accreditation standards. Harold holds a Doctorate of Education, Leadership Studies, Public Administration from Fairleigh Dickinson University, New Jersey; Master of Arts, Psychology, University of Northern Colorado; and BA, Sociology, Minor in Psychology and Philosophy, Regis College, Denver, Colorado. He is well published and has achieved Fellow status with the following organizations: American College of Healthcare Executives; American College of Mental Health Administration and American Orthopsychiatry Association.

Please join me in welcoming Mr. Berberick to our organization.

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

Nurse Nicole DeRenda appointed NCC

Nicole DeRenda, RN, BSN, has been appointed to the position of Nursing Care Coordinator (NCC). She first joined the ECMC team as a Registered Nurse (RN) in 2002, and has worked as a medical-surgical nurse on 8-North and also on 10-South. In 2004, Nicole began working in the Trauma Intensive Care Unit, and was an RN in the Burn Treatment Center from May 2010 until her promotion to NCC. During her time at ECMC, she has participated in the Quality Improvement/Quality Assurance committee, and has also been an active participant in the preceptor program and as a charge-trained nurse.

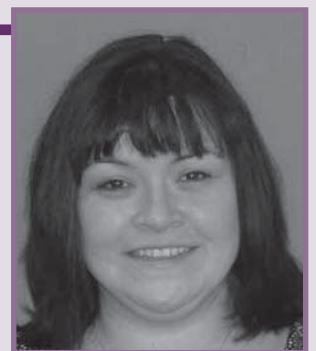
Nicole's outside experience includes holding positions as a nursing supervisor, post-operative recovery nurse, and charge nurse for an orthopedic rehabilitation floor, including involvement in nursing health and education, and also data collection and research.

Nicole is a Buffalo native, and has obtained her degrees from the State University of New York at Buffalo. She holds baccalaureate degrees in both Nursing and in Human Development, and is currently pursuing a Master's of Science in Nursing. Nicole's community efforts include volunteering for the Make-A-Wish Foundation and the American Cancer Society. Nicole is currently a board member on the fundraising committee of the Hope Center, based out of Buffalo.

To reach Nicole, you may contact her in the Nurse Staffing Office, Room G-50 or at extension 3201.

Nicole's email is nderenda@ecmc.edu.

Please join us in welcoming Nicole DeRenda in her new role.



New York State American Trauma Society Award to be presented to ECMC's Dana Trawinski



ECMC's Dana Trawinski, RHIT, CSTR, has been named to receive the *Trauma Registrar of Distinction Award* during the organization's March 2011 meeting.

The New York State Trauma Coordinator, Registrar and Physician of Distinction awards are presented annually by the New York State Division of the American Trauma Society. The awards were developed to recognize trauma care excellence among the membership. Each

recipient is selected based on their significant contribution to trauma care over the past year.

Dana Trawinski has been the Trauma Registrar at ECMC for the past seven years. During that time, she has shown consistent professionalism and dedication to the Trauma program at ECMC. She has taken ownership of the trauma registry, overseeing all aspects of the program. She identifies all trauma admissions daily, noting patient injuries, location, and service as well as activation level and response times. She routinely identifies and brings quality improvement issues to the Trauma Coordinator. Dana prepares and submits data to the School of Public Health (SPH) and is responsible for edits and revisions.

Dana Trawinski has been instrumental in moving the trauma registry to a regional web based program. She works diligently with vendors and ECMC's Healthcare Information Services (HIS) / Information Technology (IT) department at

modifying the trauma data base to make it efficient. Dana's efforts helped ECMC interface its trauma registry with the hospital Electronic Medical Record (EMR) to improve data entry and efficiency. She has assisted with the data mapping and submission to the National Trauma Data Set (NTDS). She routinely assists with reports for quality improvement and also prepares data reports for ongoing trauma research. She is assuming the responsibility of coordinating the entry of regional trauma data from non-centers in the Western New York region.

Dana is also a resource to other registrars in the region. She has assisted in training new trauma registrars for ECMC as well as mentoring those in other facilities. She remains a resource for these registrars. Dana also serves as a mentor for students studying in Hospital Information, spending time showing them what a trauma registry is and how to apply the Registered Health Information Technology (RHIT) to a trauma registry. In addition, Dana is active in her national Hospital Information Management organization, attending conferences and maintaining continuing education credits. She has successfully completed the exam as a Certified Specialist in Trauma Registry. Due to her dedication and outstanding performance in her profession, Dana Trawinski recognition as the *Trauma Registrar of Distinction* is well deserved.

Congratulations Dana!

William Gerwitz appointed ACC Supervisor

William Gerwitz has been appointed to the position of Administrative Control Clerk (ACC) Supervisor. Bill has been employed at ECMC for over 22 years and has experience working as an ACC in every area of the facility. Most recently, Bill has served as the ACC in the Burn Unit and Cardiothoracic Unit. Bill was Employee of the Year in 2005. Please welcome Bill Gerwitz to his new role at ECMC. Bill can be reached at extension 3773, in Room G-41.



Nurse Lori Nediceyuva appointed NCC



Lori Nediceyuva RN, BSN, has been appointed to the position of Nursing Care Coordinator (NCC). Lori has been employed at ECMC on the IV team since 2009.

Prior to coming to ECMC, Lori worked with UB Family Medicine on a grant from the New York State Department of Health for a company called Healthy Partners of Erie, which developed a program to help patients connect with primary care doctors in the community.

Lori started her nursing career at Children's Hospital of Buffalo as a staff nurse on the surgi-

cal step-down unit. She became a travel nurse, which took her to California and Texas. As a travel nurse, she worked with post-partum moms and educated other nurses to become proficient in placing PICC lines using a Sonosite machine.

Lori earned her Associate's degree in nursing from Trocaire College in Buffalo (1993) and her Bachelor of Science degree from Roberts Wesleyan College in Rochester (2009).

Lori's email address is lnedicey@ecmc.edu.

Please extend a warm welcome to Lori as she begins her new assignment.

Joe D'Amore appointed Assistant Supervisor, Cleaning Services

Joe D'Amore was recently appointed Assistant Supervisor of Cleaning Services. In this position, Joe will oversee the dispatch, transport and laundry departments. Joe has been an ECMC Senior Environmental Services Supervisor since April 2010 and played a key role preparing the department for a successful Joint Commission recertification.

Joe comes to ECMC with over 25 years of knowledge gained from managing multiple support service departments. He has adept experience in supervising employees, directing

quality improvement and enhancing customer satisfaction.

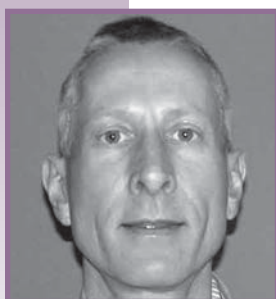
Joe's office is located in G-130 and he can be reached at 898-4973.

Please join me in congratulating Joe D'Amore on his promotion.

Juan T. Santiago
Assistant Vice President of Support
and Hospital Services
ECMC Corp



Richard Skomra appointed Chief CRNA



On January 31, 2011, **Richard Skomra** assumed the role of ECMC's Chief Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA). Rick has worked part time at ECMC since 1996 and left Roswell Park where he held the same title. ECMC has hired four full-time CRNAs since November 2010, and Rick now leads ten CRNAs and acts as the liai-

son between ECMC's collaboration with the University at Buffalo CRNA Program. With Rick's leadership we expect additional positive changes. Congratulations, Rick, on your appointment to your new role at ECMC!

WNY Nurses join effort to improve Quality of Health Care

The P2 Collaborative of Western New York and the Western New York Healthcare Association recently announced that teams of nurses from eight hospitals across the Western New York region are leading improvements in the quality and safety of patient care. The new nurse-led hospital program, called *Aligning Forces for Quality Transforming Care at the Bedside*, or AF4Q TCAB, is part of a nationwide program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF). AF4Q TCAB engages nurses and other frontline staff to identify areas where care can be enhanced and test ways to improve it.

Hospitals participating in AF4Q TCAB in Western New York are: Erie County Medical Center, Buffalo; as well as Brooks Memorial Hospital, Dunkirk; Jones Memorial Hospital, Wellsville; Kenmore Mercy Hospital, Kenmore; Mercy Hospital, Buffalo; Mount St. Mary's Hospital and Health Center, Lewiston; Roswell Park Cancer Institute (RPCI), Buffalo; Sisters of Charity Hospital-St. Joseph Campus, Cheektowaga.

The P2 Collaborative of Western New York was selected by RWJF to lead the local AF4Q alliance. One of 17 regions in the country, Western New York was targeted by RWJF with resources to test a range of efforts to help doctors, nurses and hospitals improve quality, as well as engage consumers to be better patients.

"Hospitals across Western New York are looking for models of reform, things that help local people get high-quality care and make the system work better for everyone," said Shelley Hirshberg, Executive Director of the P2 Collaborative of Western New York which is leading the AF4Q TCAB program. "The work of the nurses and other hospital staff participating in this program will result in proven methods for improving patient care. That means better quality and more satisfaction for everyone."

"We are excited to have hospitals in Western New York involved in the TCAB program," said Paul Sweet, Senior Vice President, Member Services and Finance at Western New York Healthcare Association. "Their participation will

be instrumental in developing innovative models for quality and measurement standards."

During the AF4Q TCAB program, nursing and other frontline staff at participating hospitals are working together to identify, pilot test and adopt new practices over an 18-month period that began January 2011. Participating nurses will then share their successes and lessons learned with other hospital staff across Western New York, New York State and the country.

"When patients and their families enter hospitals, they should have confidence that they will receive high-quality care that is responsive to their needs," said John R. Lumpkin, MD, MPH, senior vice president and director of the health care group at RWJF. "Since nurses work closest to the patient, they have the unique vantage point of knowing how to improve the system in order to provide safer, better quality care. Engaging nurses directly in quality improvement is a step in the right direction."

The P2 Collaborative of Western New York is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to educating and motivating people in Western New York to make lifestyle changes to prevent illness, and if ill, to help them become well again. The P2 Collaborative was hand-picked by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to participate in Aligning Forces of Quality, the Foundation's Signature initiative to life the overall quality of health care in targeted communities, reduce racial and ethnic disparities, and provide models that will help propel national reform.

The Western New York Healthcare Association (WNYHA) was founded in 1931 and is the regional advocate for hospitals and other health care organizations in the eight counties of Western New York. WNYHA serves as the center for health information in Western New York, and seeks to establish Western New York as the healthiest community in the United States, while maintaining an efficient, cost-effective, and high quality health care system.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) focuses on the pressing health and health care issues facing our country. As the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and health care of all Americans, the Foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful and timely change.

NYS-DOH Quality Award to ECMC for Rural HIV Program

The New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute has recently recognized ECMC for a unique and special model of HIV quality care delivery in rural, satellite HIV clinics in Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties with the *Medical Director's Discretionary Award*.

Despite many transportation barriers to both staff and patients, retention has been maintained in the ninety percent range. The rural care team works closely together to ensure HIV quality indicators are monitored and addressed. Congratulations to all involved in this quality care initiative!

Medical Research, Presentation, Publication News...

DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL MEDICINE AND NEPHROLOGY DIVISION RESEARCH/ACCOMPLISHMENT

Congratulations to the following ECMC/University at Buffalo Department of Internal Medicine and Nephrology Division physicians:

- **Rakesh Kumar, MBBS**, Department of Internal Medicine, University at Buffalo
- **Rabi Yacoub, MD**, Department of Internal Medicine, University at Buffalo
- **Talal Khan, MBBS**, Department of Internal Medicine, University at Buffalo
- **Jyoti Brar, MBBS**, Department of Internal Medicine, University at Buffalo
- **Mareena Zachariah, MD**, Nephrology Division, University at Buffalo
- **Rocco Venuto, MD**, Nephrology Division, University at Buffalo

Their research work pertaining to the abstract, **"Cardiovascular Risk Factors in Renal Allograft Recipients – Experience at University-based Transplant Clinic"** has recently been accepted for oral presentation at the **2011 American Transplant Congress**.

Research Objective: Evaluation of the effectiveness of control of hypertension (HTN), hyperlipidemia and diabetes mellitus (DM) in renal allograft recipients followed in a university affiliated transplant clinic.

The physicians' research presentation to the American Transplant Congress will take place during the Congress to be held April 30–May 4, 2011, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

GENERAL PRACTICE DENTAL RESIDENT RESEARCH/PRESENTATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

This year, we submitted two abstracts to the American Academy of Oral Medicine and both abstracts were accepted for presentation.

- **Dr. Soja** pertaining to: **"Dental complications due to Sarcoidosis"**
- **Dr. Jammal** regarding: **"Aggressive Squamous cell carcinoma super imposed by osteomyelitis"**

Congratulations to our residents and to our department!

Dr. Nour Masud
Assistant GPR Program Director

ECMC participation in promising Polycystic Kidney Disease research

The Erie County Medical Center is one of only approximately 30 centers in the United States and 100 centers worldwide that have been participating in a double-blind (neither patient nor doctor know if patient is receiving a drug or placebo) clinical trial using medication(s) known as vasopressin inhibitors.

Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD) is a genetic (inherited) disorder which results in multiple cysts being formed in the kidneys and sometimes other organs such as the liver and lungs. The disease is inherited in an autosomal pattern (implies that about half the children parented by a person with the disease will be affected). The progressive enlargement of cysts over time eventually results in the destruction of healthy kidney tissue. PKD is the most common cause of kidney failure in patients suffering from primary kidney disease. Although substantial progress has been made defining the genetics of the disease, an effective treatment is yet to be discovered to slow the progression of the development of cysts and loss of kidney function.

Over the last several years, studies undertaken in laboratory animals, which can develop diseases similar to the human condition, have shown that early treatment with compounds known as vasopressin inhibitors had a dramatic impact. Vasopressin is a normally occurring hormone that regulates the volume of urine produced. The development of cysts was halted or even entirely prevented if such medications were given very early in the lives of these animals.

Studies have been undertaken in humans over the last few years using a tablet form of a vasopressin inhibitor. Most centers enrolled 10-20 patients in such studies. About 1,400 patients were enrolled on a worldwide basis and more than 1,000 will complete the study. Preliminary results of these studies have shown a strong suggestion that the rate of cyst formation, growth and size—as determined by repeated assessment of the kidney using three-dimensional magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scan-

ning—is slowed or improved by the agent called Tolvaptan. Further, renal function as assessed using various biochemical estimates also appears to stabilize or improve. These preliminary results have stirred the manufacturer, Otsuka Pharmaceutical Company, to continue the study further in a non-blinded fashion so that both the patients and doctors know that the patients are receiving the actual medication. Nearly all of the Erie County Medical Center patients studied will go forward for another three years with the study.

Otsuka is also sponsoring an additional research project wherein patients who elect not to join or were excluded from the initial study can be followed sequentially with lab tests, MRIs and clinical observation while receiving only their current medications. These patients will benefit by having regularly scheduled imaging studies of their kidneys, periodic assessments, laboratory and clinical assessments provided free by the manufacturer. The company is also entertaining the possibility of another blinded study, in which the patients will be treated with the next generation of the medication. This preparation is long acting and needs to be taken only once daily and may have fewer side effects.

“We are pleased to participate in this important study to care for patients with PKD,” stated Rocco C. Venuto, M.D., F.A.S.N., Director, Renal and Transplant Services, ECMC, and Professor of Medicine, Director, Nephrology Division, State University of New York at Buffalo. “Participation in this study is part of the commitment of the Medical Center as it develops a Renal Center designed to be at the cutting-edge of such research and care for patients with this or other forms of kidney disease.”

In recognition of The National Kidney Foundation's Gift of Life Celebration!

THE ROCCO VENUTO AWARD: a prestigious new honor for an exceptional physician.

We are pleased to congratulate Dr. Rocco C. Venuto as the deserving recipient and namesake of the First Annual Rocco Venuto Award for Dedication and Commitment. We thank the National Kidney Foundation for recognizing Dr. Venuto for his many accomplishments and for establishing this prestigious award in his name. We join the Foundation in appreciation of his exemplary leadership and uncommon dedication to patient care.

We're proud to recognize all of tonight's honorees, who have given so much to our community. We applaud your continued commitment to achieving the highest standards of excellence in the medical professions.



Rocco C. Venuto, MD, FASN
Director, Renal and Transplant Services
ECMC

THE NATIONAL KIDNEY FOUNDATION'S 2011 GIFT OF LIFE HONOREES:

2011 PHYSICIAN OF THE YEAR
Muhammed Javed, MD

PEER NOMINATED CLINICIAN OF THE YEAR
Sue Novits, CSW

DIALYSIS CENTER OF THE YEAR
Suburban Dialysis at Gates Circle

JEFF STOLZENBERG MEMORIAL AWARD OF GRATITUDE
Upstate New York Transplant Services

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR
Daniel Tomczak, RN

THE ROCCO VENUTO AWARD
FOR DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT
Rocco C. Venuto, MD, FASN



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ECMC Renal Department staff members were present on February 1st to congratulate Dr. Venuto during an informal presentation of an all new award created in his name presented by National Kidney Foundation Serving WNY representatives Maria D. Batt (standing to the right of Dr. Venuto in photo at right) and Barbara Breckenridge (left of Dr. Venuto). The formal award presentation will be made to Dr. Venuto on March 24th during the National Kidney Foundation Serving WNY Gift of Life event.

Progress and Plans for a World-Class, Integrated Health System!

Growing Strong...

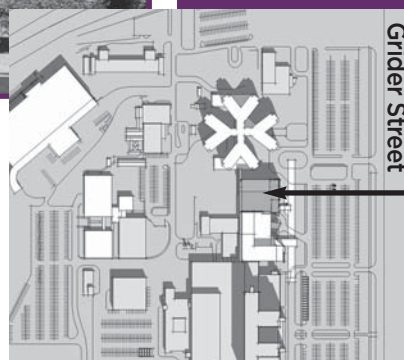


The Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation & Kidney Care (Outpatient Hemodialysis Building)

Description: This freestanding building will be located on the ECMC campus and will include 36 hemodialysis stations, outpatient education and community outreach offices, home dialysis training, and all associated clinical support spaces. Existing campus Building 4 (axial corridor) and Building 5E (carpenter shop) will be demolished to make room for this new building.

Estimated Completion Date:
4th Quarter 2011

Status: In Progress





The Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation & Kidney Care (10th Floor Renovations)

Description: This facility will provide a new Transplant Clinic, a vascular access center with two procedure rooms, ultrasound and holding / recovery areas, a dedicated Transplant inpatient nursing unit and a 6-bay inpatient dialysis center.

Estimated Completion Date:

Phase 1:	1st Quarter 2011
Phase 2:	3rd Quarter 2011
Phase 3:	1st Quarter 2012
Phase 4:	2nd Quarter 2012

Status: Completing construction documents; In progress



Inpatient Dialysis

Nurse Station



Family Lounge



Waiting Room



Patient Room Rendering



Recovery Area

Witness Project Breast Cancer education focuses on screening of African-American Women



Shown here at ECMC educating African-American women about breast health and scheduling breast screenings at ECMC is (standing left of registering patient) Dee Johnson, Project Director, Buffalo/Niagara Witness Project Office, Cancer Health Disparities Research, Roswell Park Cancer Institute. Other Witness Project staff shown here are: (sitting l. to r.): Nancy Spencer, Volunteer; Felecia Kelly, Program Navigator; and (standing far right) is Avrel Anderson, Program Coordinator.

ECMC in partnership with the Witness Project is collaborating to provide African-American women breast cancer screenings in an effort to reduce their mortality and morbidity from cancer. The Witness Project educates women regarding the benefits of early detection by providing a free education program that features breast cancer survivors and by going door-to-door to meet women and share the alarming statistics. After interfacing with the Witness Project, women complete a one page needs assessment and if they have indicated that they have not received a mammogram or clinical breast examination (CBE) in the past 12 months and are 40 years of age or older, they are encouraged to receive and schedule a mammogram. The Witness Project staff schedules the examination for them and actually arranges for transportation to and from examinations as well as childcare.

African American women are more likely to be diagnosed at later stages of the disease and are more likely to die from it. "This effort has been

organized to provide women in the area around and near the hospital with education and screenings," says Dee Johnson, Project Director, Buffalo/Niagara Witness Project. "As women, we need to take care of ourselves and prioritize these screenings so that we can enjoy our lives, our children and loved ones."

This year, just after Valentines Day, the Witness Project began referring these women to ECMC mammography services on February 16th. "This is an opportunity for women to say we love ourselves this Valentines Day and to focus on good health habits," says Rita Hubbard-Robinson, Director, Community Health Education and Outreach, ECMC. "We look forward to this community outreach partnership being successful and trust it will be the beginning of great things to come."

Additional education and screening dates will be scheduled. For more information about Breast Cancer education and/or to schedule mammography screenings, and/or to learn about upcoming dates, those interested in better breast health and wellness should call the Witness Project at 716-845-3383.

ECMC Lifeline Foundation Board Elects New Officers

Todd W. Brason re-elected as Board Chair

The ECMC Lifeline Foundation Board recently re-elected Todd W. Brason as Board Chair. Brason previously served as Vice Chair of the Foundation and as a Board member. Additional officers include: Jonathan A. Dandes, James F. Dentinger, and Robert P. Holliday, Vice-Chairs; David R. DiMatteo, Treasurer; Penny J. Morgante, Secretary; Patrick Casilio, Jr., Immediate Past Chair.



Foundation Chair Todd W. Brason is Chief Executive Officer at WILLCARE. Todd is an active member and a former Chairperson of the New York State Association of Health Care Providers (HCP), and has served as Executive Board Member of the American Association for Home Care. Brason is actively involved in community organizations in the Buffalo region. He has served as Chair of the Greater Buffalo Chapter of the American Red Cross, and is a member of the Buffalo State College Foundation Board. He is a past recipient of the Richard Z. Steinhaus Award given by HCP in recognition of outstanding contributions to the home care community. Brason is a distinguished alumnus and a graduate of the State University College at Buffalo and **lives in Buffalo.**



Foundation Vice-Chair Robert P. Holliday is the Vice President and General Manager of AT&T in Upstate New York. Holliday sits on the Board of Directors for the NYS Wireless Association (NYSWA) serving as Treasurer and Chair of the Marketing, Membership & Communications Committee. A former Chairman, he currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Better Business Bureau of Upstate New York, and the Boy Scouts of America. Holliday is Chair of the Nominating Committee for the Greater Niagara Frontier Council and was recently elected Executive Vice President of the Council. **Holliday lives in Orchard Park.**



Foundation Treasurer David R. DiMatteo, CPA, is a Partner in the accounting firm Brock, Schechter & Polakoff, LLP. DiMatteo is Past-President for the ECMC Lifeline Foundation Board of Directors; a committee member and past officer for the Knights of Columbus (Council 2220); and serves as a Committee Chairman and Adult Leader for the Boy Scouts of America. **DiMatteo lives in Hamburg.**

Foundation Secretary Penny J. Morgante is the Vice President and Project Manager for First Niagara Bank. **Morgante lives in Hamburg.** (Photo not available)



Foundation Vice-Chair Jonathan A. Dandes was appointed President of Rich Baseball Operations in 2001. He joined Rich Products in June 1986. Dandes is currently Chair of the Buffalo Niagara Partnership. He serves as Chair of the Donate Life (UNYTS) Foundation and is Vice-Chairman of the Buffalo Zoological Society. He is a Director of the National Kidney Foundation. **Dandes lives with his wife Marcy in East Amherst, New York.** His son Leo is a 2010 graduate of the University at Buffalo (U/B) Law School. Their Daughter Arin is a 2009 graduate of U/B with a BFA in Musical Theatre.



Patrick Casilio Jr.

Foundation Immediate Past Chair



Foundation Vice-Chair James F. Dentinger is the President at McGuire Development Co., LLC. Dentinger is currently serving as Chairman of the Buffalo Urban League; First Vice-Chair for the Renaissance Foundation and ESGR Boards; and he is an active member of the Amherst Police and Hospice Foundations. **Dentinger resides in Clarence.**

The Foundation also elected **Timothy G. DeZastro, MD**, Saturn Radiology, PLLC; and **Mark R. Zygaj**, Palladian Health as new Board members. Other current ECMC Lifeline Foundation "Directors" (board members) include: **Stephen Bell**, Eric Mower and Associates; **Clifton M. Bergfeld, Esq.**, The Exigence Group; **Adin Bradley**, Rural/Metro Medical Services; **Ryan M. Burke**, Buffalo Hospital Supply; **Michael E. Cain, MD**, University at Buffalo; **Patrick Casilio, Jr.**, Casilio Companies; **Shawn P. Connolly, CFP**, AXA Advisors, LLC; **John R. Fudyma, MD**, ECMC Corporation; **Kathy Greinert, RN**, ECMC Volunteer Board; **Sharon L. Hanson**, Time Warner Cable; **Joan F. Lillis, RN**, Community Volunteer; **Jody L. Lomeo**, ECMC Corporation; **Edwin L. Meyer**, El Meyer & Associates, LLC; **Brian M. Murray, MD**, ECMC Corporation; **James J. O'Neill**, James J. O'Neill Investigations; **Michael J. Sammarco**, ECMC Corporation; **Michael C. Straeck**, Buffalo Ultrasound; **Todd Voelkl**, Buffalo Pharmacies, Inc.; and **Joseph A. Zizzi Sr., MD**, Retired Cardiologist.

The ECMC Lifeline Foundation, Inc. is a not-for-profit, 501(c) (3) corporation whose mission is to assist ECMC Corporation in procuring the resources needed to be the medical center of choice through excellence in patient care and customer service.

Scott Danahy Naylon presents donation to ECMC



Scott Danahy Naylon, in concert with Chubb Insurance, participated in a golf outing and recently presented a check to ECMC. We salute Scott Danahy Naylon for selecting ECMC Lifeline Foundation as their charity of choice.

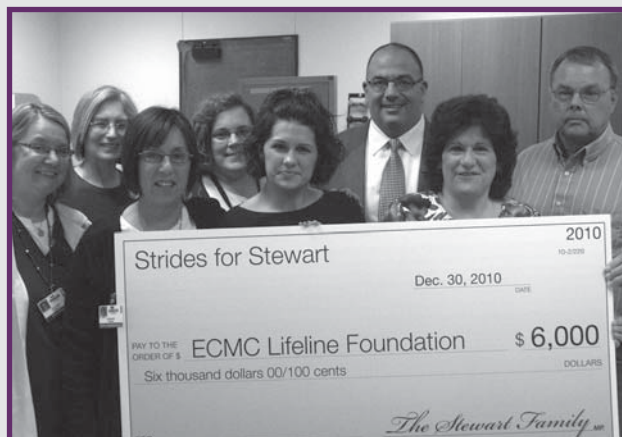
(l. to r.) Jody L. Lomeo, CEO, ECMC Corporation; William Scott, Jr., President, Scott Danahy Naylon; and Glenn Quackenbush, Managing Partner, Scott Danahy Naylon.

“Strides for Stewart 2 Benefit ECMC” Rehab

Amy Stewart was a 22 year old student at UB graduate school and enjoying an evening out with a friend when she was the victim of a hit and run driver on March 7, 2009. In a coma, she was rushed to the trauma center at Erie County Medical Center, where she was hospitalized for 75 days. Amy suffered a traumatic brain injury and needed rigorous rehabilitation for 9 months as an outpatient.

Amy's recovery has been miraculous, and she is now finishing her Master's degree in education with an emphasis on literacy. Amy's determination and indelible spirit, as well as the remarkable staff of ECMC played a key role in her recovery.

In the spirit of giving back, Amy wanted to do more than just thank the staff of ECMC, so Amy and her family held a benefit race called Strides for Stewart 2 Benefit ECMC, on Grand Island to raise funds to help the hospital that helped her so greatly.



Shown (l. to r.) are: Heather D'Errico Speech Language Pathologist; Clare Ganey, Physical Therapist; Barb Rosen, Director, Rehabilitation Department; Julie Buono, Physical Therapist; Amy Stewart; Jody Lomeo, ECMC CEO; parents Ann Marie Stewart and Robert Stewart.

Thanks to the success of the race, and with the support of her family and friends, Amy Stewart presented a check to the ECMC Lifeline Foundation and CEO Jody Lomeo in the amount of \$6,500 in appreciation for the care and support she received at ECMC, which will benefit both inpatient and outpatient Rehab.

ECMC

Nurse of the Month

Charmaine Kozlowski – March



Charmaine Kozlowski, RN, is the charge nurse in the Hemodialysis Unit. She is very intelligent with great clinical and leadership skills, and is a strong patient advocate. She has attended local and national conferences and is always seeking new knowledge and ways to make the Hemodialysis Unit more efficient. Charmaine consistently demonstrates the ability to adjust the staffing assignment and patient schedule to meet the needs of the unit. Charmaine is a great asset to patient care in the Hemodialysis Unit. Congratulations, Charmaine, on this well deserved recognition!

Tracy Steffan – February



Tracy Steffan, RN, works as a nurse on the 7th Floor, Zone 1. Tracy is an excellent nurse and preceptor (teacher). Tracy is patient and always willing to stay over when staffing is needed. She is professional, courteous, and conscientious to all the patients and staff. The new hires bloom under her guidance. Tracy is compassionate and competent in her care. She also possesses wonderful leadership qualities such as the ability to handle a difficult or challenging situation, approaching co-workers and doctors with professionalism, and she is an excellent educator. Tracy has participated in guiding the DEU students through their rotations here at ECMC and she is very much valued by everyone. Good work Tracy!

Daryl Ibbotson – January



Daryl Ibbotson, RN, has been employed in the Trauma Intensive Care Unit (TICU) since 2006. He has a positive relationship with his peers, patients, and their families. Daryl eagerly precepts (teaches) new nurses as well as student nurses in the ICU. Daryl is involved on numerous committees. He brings his extensive nursing experience to work on a daily bases and is always eager to share and learn new educational experiences. He leads his peers to get a job completed thoroughly. He is a team player and it is a pleasure to work with him. Congratulations Daryl!

ECMC

Employee of the Month

Awil Karshe – March



Awil Karshe, Housekeeper, Environmental Services, is very hard working and gives 100% in whatever he does. He is always willing to do more than his job entails. Awil always has a smile on his face and is very pleasant to all those he encounters. He is well aware of his surroundings and lets the staff know if there is a problem. He is greatly appreciated in the Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program (CPEP) and is missed when he is not there. Congratulations, Awil, and thanks for all your hard work!

Joseph Weber – February



Joseph Weber, Network Analyst, Hospital Information Systems (HIS/IT), consistently goes above and beyond what is expected. He will take on any task and see it through completion; such as the wireless network upgrade project. Not only is he taking on the project independently, but it is well ahead of schedule. Joe possesses a very high work ethic and is a great asset to his department and the hospital. Thanks for all your efforts and good work Joe!

continued

ECMC

Employee of the Month

continued

Pat Ciepiela – January



Pat Ciepiela, Principal Personnel Clerk, Human Resources, is very meticulous in her job functions, always engaged in her work. She goes the “extra mile” when necessary. She has a good working relationship with the

hospital personnel she serves as well as with each of the department managers and supervisors within the facility.

Pat’s position requires broad knowledge in the area of civil service law since she deals with a number of complicated details that would leave many a mind spinning. Whenever she is approached with questions about a human resource policy, she is very helpful and deals with the matter on a very professional basis. Her famous “card file” that archives the position histories of each employee is always up-to-date and maintained to perfection. If Pat ever leaves her position, the void would impact us all.

Pat is a wonderful example for her co-workers and the hospital benefits from her dedication, work ethic and knowledge in the areas of civil service rules and the hospital’s promotional policies. Pat has set a high standard in the area of job performance and easily meets the qualifications required to become an Employee of the Month at ECMC. Thanks for all your good work!

Mikel Hall – December



Mikel Hall provides the maintenance for School 84. The staff is delighted to have him working in their building. When requests are made for plowing repairs or other tasks, he not only takes care of them promptly, but always makes

sure that they are up to expectation. If he cannot accomplish a request, he further inquires to find out who and how the request can be addressed. Mikel’s personality is perfect for the environment of the school. He greets staff with a smile and greets the children by name. He is a treasured asset to School 84. Great work Mikel!

ECMC

Volunteer of the Month

continued

Marcia Vanderlinden – March



Marcia Vanderlinden has been a volunteer since 2006. She currently serves on both the Nominating and Sunshine Committees as well as helping out with various sales and wherever needed. She is very thor-

ough and exact. Marcia is also a former employee who worked as a Human Resources clerk for 25 years. She comes in with Elaine Connors on Mondays and together they help out in Fiscal. They have the tedious job of keeping up with the filing of paid invoices. Thanks, Marcia, for your time and the dedication you show toward ECMC!

Elaine Connors – February



After over 37 years of service to ECMC as the Senior Telephone Operator, **Elaine Connors** became an ECMC volunteer in 2005. She is currently on both the Sunshine and Nominating Committees of the Volunteer Board. She also volun-

teers on Mondays for Accounts Payable. Working together with Marcia Vanderlinden they help keep the office in order by handling mounds of filing. They organize and store paid invoices. Their work is never done. Elaine is a good and dependable worker. She also helps out with flower/plant sales and wherever else needed. Thanks, Elaine, for your hard work and dedication to ECMC!

Angie Burton – January



Angie Burton is a real asset to the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF). She visits our residents in their rooms daily and has had great success reaching residents who rarely come out of their rooms. Whether she offers kind words of encourage-

ment, a lending hand or a manicure to our residents, she always has a smile on her face. She also assists residents to and from recreational activities and outside during the nice weather. In addition, she assists the staff with fun programs like bingo, horseracing and special parties. We are very lucky to have her with us on the SNF. Thanks Angie, for all you do for SNF!

When is it time for Hospice?

Hospice brings compassion, dignity and hope to people nearing life's end

For some people living with a life-limiting illness, there comes a point when cure is no longer possible. While the possibility of a cure is gone that does not mean a patient and family must abandon all hope. Through hospice care, there is still hope for a peaceful death; hope to spend final months, weeks or days free of pain; and hope for quality time with loved ones in the familiar surroundings of home.

"While there isn't one specific point in an illness when a person should ask about hospice care, many hospice professionals would suggest that a person think about hospice long before he or she is in a medical crisis," advises J. Donald Schumacher, president and CEO of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization. "In fact, learning about palliative care and hospice as options is something that should happen early in the course of a serious illness and not just in the final days."

Hospices utilize a team of professionals and trained volunteers to provide expert medical care, pain-and-symptom management, and emotional and spiritual support to patients and family caregivers. All care is tailored to the patient's needs and wishes.

Hospice helps patients and families focus on living as fully as possible.

"Hospice professionals can be important resources for patients and families, they can help a person figure out what goals are important and help them get their arms around the fact that their life may be coming to a close," noted Schumacher.

Considered to be the model for high-quality, compassionate care for people nearing the end of life, hospice offers the services and support that Americans want when coping with life-limiting illness.

Last year, hospice cared for more than 1.56 million patients in the US. NHPCO estimates that 41.6 percent of all deaths in the US were under the care of a hospice program last year.

Facts about hospice:

- Most hospice care is provided in the home. Care is also provided in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and hospice centers.
- Hospice care is fully covered by Medicare, private insurance, and by Medicaid in most states.
- Hospice care is not just for people with cancer. Hospices serve those with advanced Alzheimer's disease, heart disease, lung disease, HIV/AIDS – anyone who is facing a life-limiting illness.
- The hospice benefit pays for medications and medical equipment related to the illness.
- Hospice care is available as long as a doctor believes the patient is eligible.
- Hospice care can include complementary therapies, such as music and art, to bring additional comfort.
- Hospice's offer grief support to the family following the death of a loved one.

"Ideally, an individual would receive hospice care for the final months of life – not just the final days," stated Schumacher. "One of the most common sentiments from families who have been helped by hospice care is that they wish they had known about hospice or been referred to hospice sooner."

A recent report from the Dartmouth Atlas Project looking at care for patients with advanced cancer at the end of life identified gaps between patient wishes and care received. This highlights the need for people to learn about all options available for care.

Additional research published in the Journal of Pain and Symptom Management found that Medicare beneficiaries who received hospice care lived on average 29 days longer than those who did not opt for hospice near the end of life.

For more information, contact Hospice Buffalo, serving Erie County, at (716) 686-8000 or visit www.HospiceBuffalo.com. Outside of Erie County, NY, contact NHPCO's Caring Connections website at www.caringinfo.org, or call the HelpLine at 1-800-658-8898.

Thank You ECMC

From: Lisa McNierney
Sent: Tuesday, February 01, 2011; 9:52 AM
RE: Please post in the next issue of PULSE
To: ECMC Staff Members

On September 1, 2010, my family was awakened by our smoke detectors. We were all able to escape the fire but our 2 dogs and 4 of our cats perished in the fire. On behalf of myself and my family, I would like to thank everyone at ECMC who extended themselves to us in many ways. Your words of comfort and concern were and still are much cherished.

As we were in the midst of planning a benefit for my granddaughter, Melody, who was born with hypo plastic left heart syndrome, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped to organize the benefit. Let me also thank all those who attended and those who made baskets for the raffle. A thank you also goes out to those who donated the bike, television, Wii game system, and the tour flights over Niagara Falls.

When things like tragedies fall upon a family, that is when you know who your true friends and family are. I know I have a very large extended family here at ECMC. Again, thank you all so much for your kindness.

Sincerely,
Lisa M. (McNierney) Delaney

ECMC Lifeline Foundation is charity of choice for...

World Boxing Council's "UNFINISHED BUSINESS" Youth Lightweight Title Championship

DATE: April 22, 2011
VENUE: Hamburg Fairgrounds Event Center
TICKETS: \$30, \$45, and \$65

A portion of each ticket sold will benefit the ECMC Lifeline Foundation and its mission to fund equipment and program needs at ECMC.

For more information/sponsorship opportunities on this event, please call 716-955-0038 or visit www.the-fairgrounds.com -or- www.tickets.com

MED-CENTER

Pulse

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

Editor: Joseph B. Cirillo

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

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

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

ECMC.EDU



462 Grider Street • Buffalo, New York 14215

ECMC Lifeline Foundation 2011 Events



SAVE THESE DATES!



Springfest Gala
Saturday, May 14, 2011
Adams Mark Hotel



Tournament of Life Golf Classic
Monday, August 15, 2011
Park Country Club



5K Runa and Healthwalk
Saturday, October 15, 2011
Delaware Park's Parkside Lodge and Ring Road

For more information please contact
our office at 716-898-5800