New Plastic & Reconstructive Department at ECMC

ECMC Corporation, the area’s leading hospital system in several primary and specialty care areas—including cardiac care, trauma care, burn treatment, traumatic brain and spinal cord rehabilitation, and renal transplant care—now offers a wide range of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, Specialized Head & Neck Cancer Care and Breast Care services to the Western New York community.

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Pulse is a publication of the Public Relations/Communications Department of ECMC Corporation. The article/photo submission schedule is listed below. All submissions must be received as follows:

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION* DUE DATES*
January-February-March February 15th
April-May-June May 15th
July-August-September August 15th
October-November-December November 15th

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

Editor: Joseph B. Cirillo
Contributing Editors: Casey Dunlap and Brianna S. Sanders

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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

The first quarter of 2012 has been a very busy one! In this first quarter, acute discharges were up 6.1% from the prior year and in March we had 1,003 acute discharges. This is the most discharges that we have had in one month since June of 2009. Also, inpatient surgical cases are above last year and ER visits are up 7% above the prior year. The strategy to build the ECMC Health Campus around new service lines and improve the patient experience is taking hold.

We have submitted a Certificate of Need to the Department of Health for approval of two additional operating room suites (with room for expansion to four suites) in the new building that presently houses outpatient dialysis. With our growth in Breast, Plastic and Reconstructive, Orthopaedic and Kidney Transplant surgeries in our present operating rooms, the need for this expansion is growing. Orthopaedics continues to be a driver for the quality and growth of elective care at ECMC and these new operating rooms will serve the growing need for outpatient orthopaedic surgeries and other outpatient services. You also will see on the cover of this issue of Pulse a great article about the growing new Plastic and Reconstructive Department at ECMC. We continue to be proud of the success of this program, the patient-centered and quality care this team delivers, and the way in which this nationally renowned group of physicians has embraced the ECMC culture and their colleagues.

We continue to work with our partners at Kaleida on a number of initiatives as well as collaborations. We are currently working with Kaleida on a partnership to bring the cardiac expertise and services of the Gates Vascular Institute (GVI) to ECMC. The goal of this service is to provide enhanced cardiac service to our Trauma program, Emergency Services, our Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation and Kidney Care, and our over 16,000 inpatients we serve every year. ECMC physicians will be integrated into the Gates Vascular Institute cardiac program. This single program will be under the umbrella of Great Lakes Health and ECMC and Kaleida. We will be operating one program at two sites and will be bringing the clinical leadership of both organizations together in terms of program oversight, quality outcomes and efficient operations. We will work together with our teams to develop the program and ensure quality of care at both ECMC and the GVI.

I am also pleased to report that Kaleida Health and BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York have partnered to create a new physician-led health care organization that will offer unique health insurance products to meet the needs of our community. Kaleida Health and BlueCross officials are working with the physician leadership council to develop a strong regional physician and hospital network. This regional network will include ECMC as well as Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Upper Allegheny Health System and the Center for Hospice and Palliative Care. The new network is designed to deliver care and services needed by patients that are provided by their physicians at lower costs and is supported by the partnership of the region’s largest health system and insurer. The partnership will align with nearly 500 physicians and other providers across the region to develop the network.

While we have had much good news to report in 2012, we had a sad loss in our ECMC family. Recently, we lost one of the best clinicians, patient advocates, and a true ECMC ambassador, Dr. Zale Bernstein. He was a friend and a colleague to many and his loss has been felt throughout the organization. We are continuing his legacy of providing medical oncology at The Jonah Center on the first floor of our Medical Center. His partner, Dr. Logue, as well as his physician assistants and exemplary staff, will continue to serve patients. We have also recruited another physician to provide additional patient care within the practice and we are in discussions with Roswell Park to assist us in providing clinical coverage to grow the practice.

I would like to thank those of you who once again are supporting the ECMC Lifeline Foundation and the upcoming events in May and August (please see the Foundation section in this issue). If you have not already done so, please consider attending or sponsoring our gala on May 12th. Our physician honoree is Dr. Philip Stegemann, Chief of Service, Orthopaedics and our nursing honoree is Rita Rivers, RN, BSN, CNOR, Nursing In-Service Instructor in the Operating Room. I cannot think of two better people to represent ECMC, our mission and the patients we serve. They are true professionals who provide the quality of care and compassion our patients have come to expect. I congratulate and extend thanks to Dr. Stegemann and Rita Rivers. I also look forward to seeing you on May 12th.

I would like to publicly thank all of our staff members for the outstanding work they perform to serve the patients of our community. I continue to hear from physicians, community leaders, former patients and others about how impressed they are with the patient-centered culture at ECMC.

Sincerely,

Jody L. Lomeo
Chief Executive Officer
ECMC Corporation
Consultation and Diagnosis: Patients who receive referrals for a head and neck specialist from their primary care doctor can schedule an initial consultation with an ECMC specialist. After a thorough examination, the specialist will deliberate with a multidisciplinary team—which may include specialists in oncology, endocrinology, radiology, pathology, oral surgery, deep inferior epigastric perforator (DIEP) flaps and reconstructive surgery—to determine an appropriate diagnostic study and then devise a safe and effective treatment plan to meet each patient’s particular needs. This team approach ensures that patients receive the best and most comprehensive medical care at each stage of diagnosis and treatment.

Head and Neck Oncology: Cancers of the head and neck commonly originate in the mucosal linings of the mouth, sinuses, or throat, causing symptoms that can seriously disrupt quality of life. Though potentially aggressive, cancers of the head and neck are highly curable if detected early, and are often treated by a combination of surgery, radiation therapy, and chemotherapy. ECMC utilizes advanced medical technology to help preserve vital biological processes and give you the best chance of survival.

Microvascular Reconstruction: ECMC surgeons are also highly skilled in the practice of microvascular reconstructive surgery, which relies on high-powered microscopic technology. This technology provides access to the tiny structures, blood vessels, and nerves that is required for complex reconstructive procedures, such as tissue transfers, bone grafts, and structure replantation.

Plastics and Reconstruction
Plastic surgery and reconstructive surgery are complementary medical disciplines that address the repair and restoration of both normal function and appearance to abnormalities of the body. These abnormalities may be congenital in...
nature or the result of trauma, infection, disease, or tumor. In the hands of professionals, plastic and reconstructive surgery can help reestablish a sense of normalcy in the lives of cancer and trauma patients.

At ECMC, nationally renowned plastic and reconstructive surgeons perform a variety of procedures to treat abnormalities and conditions of the head and neck, breast, and other body regions. These include:

- Breast reconstruction, utilizing both autologous (using the patient’s own tissue to restore the breast) techniques such as DIEP (Deep Inferior Epigastric artery Perforator) flaps as well as tissue expander / implant techniques, depending on each individual patient’s needs
- Microvascular free tissue transfer “Free Flaps” as well as a wide variety of local and regional flaps for improved functional and cosmetic outcomes in cancer and trauma patients
- Skin cancer management and reconstruction
- Restoration or improvement of form and function for cancer, trauma, and congenital abnormalities

The head & neck / plastic & reconstruction surgeons at ECMC are committed to offering world-class compassionate care from initial consultation through post-operative follow-up. They are sensitive to the emotional toll of cancer and traumatic defects and work to promote the restoration of form and function.

Those interested in scheduling an appointment should call: 716-898-3073. The Administrative Office can be reached at 716-898-3698.
Patients with breast problems can be thoroughly examined and treated by a breast specialist through ECMC’s Breast Health Services. All breast patients can be referred to these services for specialized care if a physician or other health care professional finds any area of concern during an exam or if a patient discovers something irregular during a self examination. Services are available to all patients regardless of whether or not they have a referring physician.

Treatment and services include:
- Evaluation and management of breast disorders
- Examinations by a breast surgeon
- Treatment for pain or mastitis
- Mammograms, ultrasound, biopsies and other diagnostic procedures

Patients (both women and men) may also be referred for breast health services by ECMC physicians or through a community clinic, Planned Parenthood, or other agency. Patients with any type of breast disorder—not just a concern about cancer—are encouraged to take advantage of these services. Dr. Vivian Lindfield is Director of ECMC Breast Health Services, a board certified surgeon and assistant clinical professor of surgery at UB.

“We want to extend breast health services to as many women and men as possible,” says Dr. Lindfield. “This is a resource to reach more people in need of attention for breast disorders.”

Those interested in scheduling an appointment should call: 716-632-7465.

Areas of Expertise
- Breast care
- Treatment of breast disease

Education & Training
- B. A. – Brock University, St. Catharine’s, Ontario
- M.D. – American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine
- Surgery specialty training – UB School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences

Vivian Lindfield, MD, Director
ECMC Breast Health Services
At the Jonah Center for Oncology and Hematology at ECMC, cancer specialists offer expert clinical care in a newly designed facility that emphasizes aesthetic principles in a healing atmosphere. A collaborative team of university-based and private physicians discuss 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 for Oncology and Hematology at ECMC is staffed by a dedicated team consisting of hematologists, oncologists, physician assistants, oncology nursing society-certified registered nurses, outreach coordinators, and a dedicated support staff.

Integrative approaches and cutting edge research

By integrating a range of approaches, established therapeutic modalities are explored and encouraged at the Center for Cancer Care. Throughout treatment, the patient’s well being is at the core of this program. Clinical research is also an important component. Through participation in numerous trials, cutting edge clinical therapies are offered. Specialized health care providers – including oncology trained physician assistants and registered nurses – are dedicated to this core aspect of the center.

For more information about The Jonah Center for Oncology and Hematology at ECMC or to schedule an appointment, please call (716)-898-3948.

Zale P. Bernstein, MD
10/1/48-3/21/12

A graduate of the George Washington University School of Medicine, Dr. Bernstein served as Medical Oncologist and Director of the Center for HIV-Related Malignancies at Roswell Park Cancer Institute and was Chief of the Hematology Oncology Section and Medical Director of the Center for Cancer Care and Immuno Blood Conditions at ECMC. He was a Professor of Clinical Medicine and the Program Director of the Fellowship in Hematology in the Department of Medicine at University at Buffalo, State University of New York, and was an attending physician at the Roswell Park Cancer Institute. Dr. Bernstein was certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine with subspecialty certifications in hematology and medical oncology, fellowship trained in transfusion medicine, and a specialist in the treatment of Gaucher’s disease, a rare blood disorder. He held a laboratory manager’s license in hematology and transfusion medicine from the State of New York. Dr. Bernstein was a well known national lecturer on a variety of topics related to hematology and oncology. He appeared frequently on radio and television programs to discuss various medical issues.

Dr. Zale Bernstein, hematologist, oncologist, poet

Dr. Bernstein died Wednesday March 21, 2012 in Hospice Buffalo, Cheektowaga, surrounded by family, after his 15-month battle with cancer. He was 63.

Dr. Bernstein loved getting a rise out of people, but patients and co-workers also knew his compassionate side. That’s why mourners at his graveside service in March could be seen both laughing and crying.

His son, Ezra, said his father used metaphors to help simplify the often-complex details of the disease.

A Brooklyn native, Dr. Bernstein earned degrees from City College of New York and George Washington University Medical Center before coming to Buffalo.

Besides Roswell Park, Dr. Bernstein worked at Erie County Medical Center, where he established the Jonah Center for Cancer Care. He also treated AIDS patients and did early research on the disease.

His passions, besides his family, were writing poetry and taking photos. After his teenage son Jonah died in an accident in 1998, Dr. Zale P. Bernstein channeled his grief into one of his lifelong passions, writing poetry. A couple of years later, he put the Jonah Poems onto a CD, accompanied by recorded music. That was one side of Dr. Bernstein, the creative and sensitive side of a man who spent his professional life working with cancer patients, as remembered by his wife of 30 years, Dr. Barbara Segal and his daughter, Rachel.

A memorial service will be held later, probably in late May.

Excerpts from the Buffalo News article by Gene Warner, March 27, 2012
ECMC, Kaleida to Create Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Care

Apply to state for new psychiatric and chemical dependency health facility

On February 13, 2012, Erie County Medical Center and Kaleida Health announced a joint state application for funding to help consolidate mental health and drug dependency treatment in one $35 million Regional Behavioral Health Center of Excellence at ECMC.

The new center, a physician-driven collaboration between ECMC and Kaleida, would create a state-of-the-art, comprehensive psychiatric emergency program and new inpatient facilities to serve mental health patients in the Western New York community. Steven L. Dubovsky, MD, Professor and Chairman of Psychiatry, School of Medicine, SUNY at Buffalo, has pledged his support of the application to create the Center of Excellence in Behavioral Health Services at ECMC. Dr. Yogesh Bakhai, ECMC Clinical Director of Psychiatry and Dr. Maria Cartagena, Medical Director, Buffalo General’s Department of Inpatient Behavioral Health & Psychiatry, at Kaleida will be the physicians leading this initiative.

“The region has needed a Center of Excellence in Behavioral Health for years,” said Dr. Yogesh Bakhai, ECMC Clinical Director of Psychiatry. “Not only do we need to expand our facilities to meet the growing demand, we need to bring together the talents of the region to focus on creating a better model for our patients.”

“This project is solely about the needs of patients. We recognize that creating exceptional quality care for our patients is not necessarily about a particular location, but about the dedication and expertise of the treatment team,” said Dr. Maria Cartagena, Chief of Psychiatry, Kaleida Health and Medical Director, Buffalo General’s Department of Inpatient Behavioral Health & Psychiatry at Kaleida. “As a regional center for psychiatric care, ECMC has the facility and the room to expand our comprehensive services. Additionally, this would allow us to bring the expertise of our physicians and staff together with ECMC’s experienced physicians and staff to create a true collaborative effort. The development of a center of excellence in Psychiatry would most definitely improve the quality of care for behavioral health patients for generations to come.”

The consolidated model will combine the resources of the ECMC and Buffalo General Medical Center behavioral health programs and will create one 180-bed inpatient psychiatric program, as well as continue ECMC’s current 22 detoxification beds and 20 inpatient chemical dependency rehabilitation beds. The plan also calls for continuing ECMC’s and Kaleida’s Main Street outpatient clinics, along with clinics in Lancaster and North Buffalo. The total cost of the Center, $35 million, would be supported largely by the request to the state for Healthcare Efficiency and Affordability Law-21 funding totaling $25 million. ECMC Corporation and Kaleida Health will fund the remaining $10 million. The new center, planned to open in March 2014, would expand ECMC’s current emergency behavioral health facilities from 6,500 square feet to 16,000 square feet.

“The vision for this collaboration is driven by a desire to help our patients by creating a Center of Excellence for treatment of the mentally ill and chemically dependent. This is precisely the sort of collaborative thinking that will advance this community,” said ECMC CEO Jody L. Lomeo. “It also provides an opportunity to develop cost-effective, consolidated programs of emergency, outpatient, and inpatient services with one focus: the patients. It will be state of the art, and will deliver the care the mentally ill in our community deserve.”

Mental health care in Western New York, like the rest of the state, is fragmented and costly to the state’s Medicaid payment system. In the last 20 years, the Buffalo Psychiatric Center went from 1,200 beds to 160 and the Gowanda Psychiatric and West Seneca Developmental centers closed. Other inpatient facilities have downsized or closed in recent years and while outpatient services exist, there is a lack of coordination among community providers. Psychiatrists are also in short supply throughout the region. It has created a crisis for mental health patients and their families in Western New York. Mentally ill and chemically dependent patients in crisis are, many times, forced to find care in crowded hospital emergency rooms, which leads to more costly episodic inpatient care and unsafe conditions for clinical staff.

“This important collaboration is a creative solution to delivering care that benefits patients and brings them the very best care,” said Kaleida CEO James Kaskie. “This is yet another tangible example of leveraging the talents, infrastructure, clinical expertise of both ECMC and Kaleida to benefit our community and the patients we serve. “

The integrated model will combine the current outpatient volumes of 44,300 annual visits at ECMC and Kaleida’s 68,829 annual visits with services provided onsite at ECMC and at their community-based locations.

Currently, ECMC has 132 licensed inpatient psychiatric beds with 2,297 annual discharges in 2011 and 57 inpatient rehabilitation/ detoxification beds with 1,621 discharges in 2011. Buffalo General Medical Center has 91 licensed inpatient beds with 2,307 annual discharges.

This consolidation represents the third major initiative of Great Lakes Health System of WNY to merge the services of ECMC and Kaleida Health. The first was the creation of the Gates Vascular Institute on the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus in collaboration with the University at Buffalo and the second being the Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation & Kidney Care on ECMC’s campus, both HEAL funded initiatives to restructure and right size health care in WNY.
Unyts and ECMC celebrate “Donate Life Month”

The Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation & Kidney Care at ECMC is a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to complete patient care. Unyts is WNY’s only organ, eye, tissue and community blood center. Together, Unyts and ECMC geared up to celebrate April as “Donate Life Month.”

During a news conference on Monday, March 26, speakers who addressed the audience to bring greater attention to the importance of organ donation included: Jody Lomeo, CEO, ECMC Corp.; Mark Simon, President and CEO, Unyts; Chris Jacobs, Erie County Clerk; Dr. Gale Burstein, Erie County Health Commissioner; and others encouraged Western New Yorkers to sign the National Donor Registry.

ECMC State of the Hospital Address of great interest to staff
Pulse
recognized Transplantation & Kidney Care

Henry’s overall mission is to build a nationally United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS).

Organizations (JCAHO), the Centers for Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare

standards of the Center.  He oversees and guides operating budgets, and directing capital

providing leadership to expand the department’s caliber talent into the organization, and

including soccer and hockey.  He also volunteers with his children’s local youth sporting groups including soccer and hockey.

Although Henry has lived in various areas of the country, he consistently returned to his home state of New York. Here he enjoys the seasonal changes that allow him to participate in hobbies such as sailing and skiing. He also volunteers with his children’s local youth sporting groups including soccer and hockey.

As Vice President, Henry’s scope of responsibilities include the clinical, educational, research, administrative and fiscal operations of the Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation and Kidney Care including allocation of resources and the development and management of clinical programs. John Henry provides leadership to expand the department’s clinical and research programs, recruit high caliber talent into the organization, and promote quality of care. He develops and oversees all strategic and operational aspects of the service line, reviewing and approving operating budgets, and directing capital standards of the Center. He oversees and guides the Center through preparation and interaction with the Department of Health, the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the United Network for Organ Sharing (UNOS).

Henry’s overall mission is to build a nationally recognized Transplantation & Kidney Care Center model that serves as a leader in delivering excellent clinical care with first-rate customer service.


Henry is originally from Skaneateles, NY. He and his wife, Melissa, a first grade school teacher, have five children (ages 9, 7, 5, 3, 1). Although Henry has lived in various areas of the country, he consistently returned to his home state of New York. Here he enjoys the seasonal changes that allow him to participate in hobbies such as sailing and skiing. He also volunteers with his children’s local youth sporting groups including soccer and hockey.

About The Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation and Kidney Care: The Regional Center of Excellence for Transplantation and Kidney Care includes 36 outpatient hemodialysis stations, outpatient education and community outreach offices, home dialysis training and all associated clinical support spaces. To effectively serve kidney care patients, the 10th floor of the hospital has been renovated to house a Transplant clinic, a six bay inpatient dialysis center, a vascular access center with two procedure rooms, ultrasound, and holding/recovery areas. Renovation is expected in the coming months and will include a dedicated Transplant inpatient nursing unit with 22 beds.

John Henry appointed VP Transplantation and Kidney Care

John B. Henry Jr., a seasoned health care executive with 20 years of diverse experience spanning the health care industry, joins ECMC Corporation as Vice President, Transplantation and Kidney Care.

The Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) Corporation Board of Directors recently selected as Chair, Kevin M. Hogan, Esq. As a seven year member, he has served on the ECMC Corp. Board of Directors since 2004. During this time, he served as Vice Chair of the Audit, Finance, and Ethics Committees.

Other Board of Directors Officers elected include: Vice Chair (and Immediate Past Chair) Sharon L. Hanson, Director of Government Relations, Time Warner Cable; Vice Chair Richard F. Brox, R.L.A., Landscape Architect; Vice Chair Michael A. Seaman, Director of Treasury and Collections, City of Buffalo; Treasurer Kevin Cichocki D.C., CEO, Palladian Church. The Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) Corporation Board elects new officers.

Kevin M. Hogan, Esq., is a partner at Phillips Lytle LLP located in Buffalo. Mr. Hogan served in a variety of leadership positions in Buffalo and Erie County. A former Trial Department Administrator and current Environment Practice Team Leader, he concentrates his practice in the areas of environmental law, intellectual property and litigation. An effective and efficient legal advisor, he counsels clients on environmental compliance at both the state and federal levels, with respect to investigations and enforcement proceedings by state and federal agencies, and on environmental issues arising in corporate and commercial transactions. Mr. Hogan is an experienced litigator with a track record of successfully resolving disputes, and he defends clients in environmental cost recovery claims, toxic exposure lawsuits, and engineering and professional malpractice claims. He also represents clients in disputes involving patents, licenses, trademarks and other intellectual property. Mr. Hogan is a skilled negotiator who also serves as a court-designated mediator in the Western District of New York.

Kevin Hogan has been listed in The Best Lawyers in America. He was selected for the Upstate New York Super Lawyers list (2007-2011). He was also named a Top 50 Lawyer (2010).

Hogan is a graduate of Vermont Law School, J.D., and was summa cum laude (1991). He also holds a B.S. in Mechanical and Metallurgical Engineering from the University of Connecticut (1983).

Hogan is a member of various professional associations that include: American Bar Association, Litigation, Natural Resources, and Energy & Environmental Law Sections; New York State Bar Association, Environmental Law Section; Bar Association of Erie County Environmental Law Committee, Federal Practice and Procedure Committee; Defense Research Institute; Western New York Trial Lawyers Association; and International Association of Defense Counsel.

Kevin Hogan is involved with a number of organizations in the community. He is a member of the: Buffalo Tennis and Squash Club, and serves on the Club’s Board of Governors (2008-2011); Delaware Soccer Club as a travel coach (2007-2011); Buffalo Squash Racquets Association as a high school coach (2008-2010), and the Pundit Club.

Hogan also serves as a court-designated mediator in the property. Mr. Hogan is a skilled negotiator who represents clients in disputes involving patents, licenses, trademarks and other intellectual property. Mr. Hogan is an experienced litigator with a track record of successfully resolving disputes, and he defends clients in environmental cost recovery claims, toxic exposure lawsuits, and engineering and professional malpractice claims. He also represents clients in disputes involving patents, licenses, trademarks and other intellectual property. Mr. Hogan is a skilled negotiator who also serves as a court-designated mediator in the Western District of New York.

Kevin M. Hogan, Esq.
Wound/Hyperbaric Medicine Expert Dr. Matthew Antalek joins panel of Physician Specialists with ECMC Wound Center

Matthew D. Antalek, DO

At approximately the one year mark of the anniversary of the Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine Center at ECMC, the service is now identified as a Center of Excellence with the well known/respected infectious disease specialist Matthew David Antalek, D.O., becoming a leading member of the clinical team.

Dr. Antalek previously served as Assistant Professor and Director of graduate studies in the Physician Assistant Department at D’Youville College and Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine within the Division of Infectious Diseases in the School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences for the University at Buffalo.

Dr. Antalek was formerly the Chief Medical Officer and Director of Medicine at Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital and previously served as Medical Director of EVERGREEN Health Services and Site Director of Infectious Diseases at Millard Fillmore Suburban. He is currently an Infectious Diseases Consultant in private practice.

Dr. Antalek earned a Doctorate of Osteopathy from the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine in Old Westbury, New York. He performed his: Fellowship in Infectious Diseases through the State University of New York at Buffalo; Internship at the Community Hospital of Lancaster, Lancaster, Pennsylvania; and Residency in Internal Medicine for the Millard Fillmore Hospitals, Buffalo, New York. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in General Biology from the State University of New York at Albany. Specializing in epidemiology, internal medicine and infectious diseases, Dr. Antalek is the recipient of numerous commendations and awards for teaching excellence in medical subjects.

“With Dr. Antalek’s arrival, we are now able to provide a patient with every aspect of wound care. ECMC’s wound care team includes the best specialists in vascular, surgical, podiatric medicine, and now infectious disease,” explained Elizabeth Engler, Program Director, Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine Center at ECMC. “As a comprehensive Center of Excellence, ECMC’s wound care service model is truly patient-centered with convenient patient accessibility and excellent care management enabling the best outcomes possible. We anticipate that this service structure will result in increased, responsive patient referrals so wounds can be healed before more serious complications arise.”

Dedicated in February of 2011, ECMC formally opened the Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine Center to speed healing for trauma, surgical, diabetes and other patients with slow-healing wounds in a unique facility for Western New York. The ECMC Wound Center, built in response to closure and consolidation of facilities at Millard Fillmore Gates Circle and ECMC, is a new, state-of-the-art center, currently with two hyperbaric chambers, expandable to house additional chambers as patient volume increases. The Center helps wound patients before ulcers and injuries lead to amputations. The 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.

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. 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 live healthier lives.

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

More information about the Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine Center at ECMC is available at 716-898-4800 and www.ecmc.edu/medicalservices/wound

About Diversified Clinical Services: The center, located on ECMC’s 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, FL, 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.

Janique Curry, Compliance Coordinator at ECMC, recently received an award from the New York State Association of Black and Puerto Rican Legislators, Inc., for her work in community service after being nominated by Assemblywoman Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes.

Janique is also being recognized by the Unlimited Possibilities Overcoming Poverty Ministry, Inc. On March 30, 2012, she was honored at a dinner along with 49 other women making a difference in the community. This dinner helped support young women in high school who plan to go to college or trade school this upcoming September.

Congratulations, Janique, on these accomplishments and your important impact on the community!
Cynthia Hakeem, a Benefits Analyst in ECMC's Human Resources Department, has been recognized by the Buffalo Niagara Human Resource Association (BNHRA) as "one of the best" in the human resource profession and has been nominated for HR Professional of the Year. Cindy is featured on BNHRA's website and was invited to the awards gala “An Evening with the Stars” on March 22. Congratulations Cindy!

Mayor Brown and Rita Hubbard-Robinson holding her award for Achievement in Health Care

Moving Beyond Health Disparity and Achieving Health Equity

On February 22nd, Mayor Byron W. Brown held a special celebration in honor of Black History Month which specifically focused on recognizing ten African American women who have contributed to the City of Buffalo.

"From the American revolution to the present, African American women have played a myriad of roles in the making of our nation, and our community," said Mayor Brown. "It is vital that women be recognized for the important part they have played throughout history. The community leaders honored... continually strive to make Buffalo a better place, and are deserving of this acknowledgement."

Rita Hubbard-Robinson, Director of Community Health Education and Outreach at Erie County Medical Center was awarded a Certificate of Achievement in Health Care by Mayor Brown who described her as being the "hardest working woman in health care." The theme of this year’s celebration was in keeping with the National Association for the study of African American Life and History for 2012, "Black Women in American Culture and History."

The New York State Department of Health convened an African American Health Disparities Symposium entitled "Moving Beyond Health Disparity and Achieving Health Equity: From Strategy To Action" on February 9, at the Graduate Center, The City University of New York. Rita Hubbard-Robinson, Director of Community Health Education and Outreach at ECMC Corporation made a well received presentation on programs and services designed to improve health equity offered at Erie County Medical Center. The event convened more than 200 individuals and organizations within and beyond the public health sector to foster statewide dialogue and planning on health equity. The symposium was designed to support the goals of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities and the National Stakeholder Strategy for Achieving Health Equity launched in April 2011.

(l. to r.): NYS DOH Symposium Presenters: M. Monica Sweeney, MD, MPH; Charmaine Ruddock, MS; Rita Hubbard-Robinson, JD; Carla Boutin-Foster, MD, MS; La Mar Hasbrouck, MD, MPH; Michelle Batchelor, MA
Transplant & Kidney Care 10th Floor, Zone 4. Open House March 8th
MWBE holds 1st Annual Women in Business event

On Friday, March 30th, 2012, the Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE) Compliance Office hosted their 1st Annual “Women in Business Celebration” in honor of National Women’s History Month. Minority and Women Business Owners were invited on campus for a “networking” breakfast to meet with representatives from ECMC’s Purchasing, Finance, Administration departments and the MWBE Compliance Office, to discuss business opportunities with ECMC. Among the presenters were Purchasing Supervisor Mike Roberts and consultant Karen Maricle. Comptroller John Eichner further explained and reinforced the process. Other administrators involved included MWBE Compliance Coordinator Janique Curry and Director of Patient Satisfaction and Cultural Awareness Donna Brown. Approximately 40 guests participated in this hugely successful event.

Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy Initiated

The concept behind Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy (CRRT) is to dialyze patients in a more physiological way, slowly over 24 hours, similarly to the way in which the kidneys function. It is a labor intensive nursing procedure which allows for gentle removal of toxins and fluid in patients with compromised renal function whose cardiovascular system may not tolerate other forms of dialysis.

This past fall, RNs throughout critical care volunteered to be part of ECMC’s CRRT initiative. On February 3, 2012, the CRRT program began in the Trauma Intensive Care Unit (TICU). Implementing CRRT in the TICU setting has not been a small undertaking. The initiative, directed by Dr. James Farry, has been an example of multidisciplinary collaboration. It necessitated a thorough needs assessment and thoughtful decision-making process about program requirements, as well as a strong commitment from clinical and administrative leadership. A core team of individuals from various departments including critical care, nephrology, hemodialysis, pharmacy and purchasing worked to make this patient treatment option a reality.

The enthusiasm and dedication of those who stepped up to share their clinical expertise during initial CRRT program implementation was remarkable. Thanks to all staff members involved in this initiative for your hard work and commitment!

What is HEALTHeLINK?

HEALTHeLINK, Western New York’s clinical information exchange, is a collaborative effort among the region’s leading health care organizations and private practice physicians to share clinical information in efficient and meaningful ways to improve the delivery of care, enhance outcomes, and help control health care costs throughout the region.

By providing access to your health records through HEALTHeLINK, physicians and approved medical staff members who are involved in your care, will have instant access to your most current health information. That access could improve the quality of your care and save money through the elimination of duplicate testing. Access to important medical information is also critical in emergency situations when your medical history can speak for you, even if you can’t.

Your HEALTHeLINK consent could save your life

Imagine you are lying unconscious in the emergency room and the attending physician has no knowledge of your medical history. In an instant your electronic medical record becomes your voice as the physician is able to access your clinical information and quickly treat you, avoiding harmful drug interactions or other complications.

While this is one extreme instance of the value of health information technology, HEALTHeLINK allows the physicians treating you to work together and to better coordinate your care. For example, when you visit your primary care physician office, they are able to immediately access any radiology reports, lab results or medications that may have been ordered by a specialist. In addition, with instant access to recent results, your physician may not need to send you for additional tests, saving time, money and potentially unnecessary radiation exposure.

In order for your information to be accessed by your treating medical professionals through HEALTHeLINK, a signed consent form must be on file. At your next doctor appointment ask for a HEALTHeLINK consent form or download one today at www.getlinkedwny.com.

Only you can authorize physicians to access your information by signing a consent form. At your next doctor appointment, ask for a HEALTHeLINK consent form or download one at www.getlinkedwny.com. To learn more about the patient consent process, please visit www.wnyhealthelink.com or call HEALTHeLINK at 716-206-0993, ext. 311.
Cleve-Hill Allscripts implementation

Cleve-Hill Family Health Center embarked on a monumental journey on August 2nd, 2011. On this day, Cleve-Hill, ECMC’s community-based Family Medicine practice, successfully went live with a fully provisioned Electronic Medical Record (EMR) called, Allscripts. Cleve-Hill was chosen as the pilot site because it is a self contained clinic with its own charts and patient scheduling.

To ensure success in this complex project, the Cleve-Hill implementation core team, led by the Project Manager, Rose Mammen, concentrated on the “three Ts” - Team, Technology and Tactics. Team refers to people and organizational issues; tactics refers to specific techniques and choices made in design and setup; and technology refers to the software, hardware and network choices made. This was a major roll-out of all modules in Allscripts including: Schedule (Meditech to Allscripts Interface), Problem Lists (compilation of clinically relevant physical and diagnostic concerns, procedures, and psychosocial and cultural issues that may affect the health status and care of patients), Computerized Physician Order Entry (CPOE), Structured Provider Notes, E-prescribing, Medication and Immunization Administration, Tasking, Call Processing, Worklists, Nursing Note, Discharge Process, Results Verification, Scanning/Document Management, Patient Check-In, and Meaningful Use – Stimulus Reporting (Centers for Medicaid & Medicare Services [CMS] requires ECMC to report for scheduled periods of time to ensure the EMR has been implemented correctly and mandated measures are utilized properly for better patient care).

The implementation team set out to first understand the capabilities of Allscripts and determined how it can be used to streamline and improve current paper-based clinic processes. Using Allscripts at Cleve-Hill required that changes be made in the way tasks are performed and the persons performing the tasks. The clinical lead, Therese Aquilina, R.N., was instrumental in initiating the changes necessary for the Allscripts implementation and for office efficiency. Excellent communication and an explicit decision making process promoted the success of the upgrade.

“Super Users” were engaged from the onset to prepare them for the workflow changes. These individuals then championed the cause through the rest of the clinic to ensure that the information was disseminated in the correct context. “Super Physician Champion” Dr. Smita Bakhai and “Site Physician Champions” Dr. Ranjit Singh and Dr. Khalid Malik were engaged to decide on Chart Structure (documents from the paper chart that were to be scanned) and CareGuides. The “Physician Champions” were instrumental in taking ownership of enterprise level decisions for workflow reconfiguration. The clinic was abuzz with the changes and workflows in anticipation of “go-live”. With that in mind, it was a unified effort among the Cleve-Hill staff, ambulatory administration, and Healthcare Information Systems (HIS).

HIS updated the infrastructure at Cleve-Hill to ensure success for this endeavor. Some of the updates included the installation of 10 GB dark fiber for faster connectivity, strengthening of the access points for wireless connectivity, installation of new data ports and a network bandwidth upgrade, among others. All of these efforts were to ensure that the Cleve-Hill staff members can quickly and easily access the information on their new laptops. Laptops were chosen to give the clinicians and other staff members, mobility and easy access to patient information while interacting with patients.

The Cleve-Hill implementation was a great success and this is mainly due to the end-users at Cleve-Hill who continue to use Allscripts the way it should be used. While all conversions like this are difficult, staff and physicians persevere every day to do the right thing using Allscripts. Their patience and tenacity during this transitional phase is quite inspirational. Since the Cleve-Hill staff members were first to bravely take on this conversion, their experiences are valuable lessons to learn from for the next clinics to “go-live” with Allscripts.

Cleve-Hill offers comprehensive care for the entire family, including newborns, children, adults, and seniors. The facility has its own draw station on site for blood work and urinalysis. The Cleve-Hill Family Health Center is located in the Cleve-Hill Medical Park at 1461, Kensington Avenue, in Buffalo, New York. The site is open five days a week, including evenings. For more information about the Cleve-Hill site call (716) 831-8612.
The ECMC Lifeline Foundation Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Stacy Roeder as Director of Development and Marketing. She most recently served as Director of Community Relations and Media for Alcohol Drug Dependency Services Foundation (Kids Escaping Drugs) for 13 years. She brings an expertise in marketing and communications to the Lifeline Foundation.

During her tenure at Kids Escaping Drugs, Roeder implemented and served as Director of the organization’s Face 2 Face program. Face 2 Face is a proactive educational program aimed at stopping drug and alcohol experimentation in its earliest stages. The program has a three prong approach: peers in recovery speaking to students about the consequences of their use; in-services for teachers and parents on signs and symptoms and current trends and an early intervention program for teens and young adults who are identified as at risk for substance abuse. Stacy was honored for her work by a number of school districts and the WNY region Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). She has spoken at local and national conferences about the program and trends in adolescent drug use. She was also instrumental in working with the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and local law enforcement in setting up prescription medication drop-off sites throughout Western New York, including one at ECMC last fall.

Previously, Roeder worked 18 years at WGRZ-TV, Channel 2, serving as News Director her last 6 years with the station. Stacy has a long list of accomplishments including being the recipient of two Emmy Awards for investigative reporting and political programming.

Roeder’s community involvement includes: Kelly for Kids advisory committee; Hunter’s Hope Foundation as a founding member of the Board of Directors; creator of the “Hunter’s Hope Bear” campaign; production manager for Hunter’s Hope Gala’s in Buffalo and Rochester; and the recipient of the Hunter’s Hope Legacy Award. She also is a Steadfast Foundation advisory member and production manager for Ryan Miller’s Catwalk for Charity and recipient of a Steadfast Foundation Award.

Check ecmclifeline.org for additional sponsors and auction items!
Lifeline Foundation’s single largest fundraiser supporting the lifesaving medical services of ECMC

Featuring gourmet dinner, auctions, and entertainment by, Motown Legends “The Commodores”, The Bobby Militello Quartet, and Lance Diamond and the 24K Band

Saturday, May 12, 2012
Buffalo Niagara Convention Center

Honoring
Dr. Philip M. Stegemann, MD
Chief of Service, Orthopaedics, ECMC Assoc. Prof. of Clinical Orthopaedics, School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences SUNYAB

Rita Rivers RN, BSN, CNOR
Nursing Inservice Instructor – Operating Room, ECMC

Black Tie

ecmclifeline.org
Dr. Philip Stegemann, Chief of ECMC Department of Orthopaedics, is widely respected as a leader in general orthopaedics and shoulder reconstructive surgery in Western New York and throughout New York State. He draws patients from all over the world seeking his opinion and expertise. While operating is his love, his greatest passion is teaching and training orthopaedic residents.

Dr. Stegemann grew up in Rochester, New York. His father, Robert, a World War II Veteran went to Union College on the GI bill. His mother, Barbara, an elementary school teacher, left her profession to raise their four sons and daughter. All male members of the Stegemann family attended Union College, beginning with his father in the class of ’47. Dr. Stegemann credits the work ethic, kindness and compassion that he learned from his parents at a young age for helping him become who he is today.

Dr. Stegemann attended the University at Buffalo Medical School. In 1984 he began his Orthopaedic residency in Buffalo. In June of 1988 he was asked to join the University Orthopaedic Department which has subsequently grown to include over 25 attending physicians. He’s proud that ECMC is considered home to SUNY Buffalo Orthopaedic Department and has long been a mainstay to our hospital.

Dr. Stegemann is a humble man, who is much more comfortable talking about ECMC than himself. He has worked at other hospitals but prefers the camaraderie he finds at ECMC. From administration, to nursing staff, support personnel, x-ray technologists, physical therapy, and plant operations, Dr. Stegemann describes an atmosphere of collegiality. He believes people like working here, are committed to ECMC, and that job satisfaction translates to patient satisfaction. His patients routinely comment on the excellent care they receive throughout the many departments in the hospital.

In addition to being a surgeon, Dr. Stegemann teaches and trains medical students and residents. He embraces this aspect of his profession, stating “I learn as much from my students as they learn from me.” The surgery he performs today is not the same as what he learned in medical school. Technology has improved his ability to perform surgery and have a more positive impact on patient lives.

Outside of ECMC or the UB Medical School, you’ll most likely find the doctor outdoors, on the golf course, doing home improvement projects, or spending time with his family. He met his wife Maureen, a nurse practitioner, while he was a medical student. Together they’ve raised three children; Andrew, Lauren, and Christopher.

When asked to reflect on the honor bestowed upon him by ECMC, Dr. Stegemann would rather reflect on four of the honorees that came before him. The 1989 recipient, Dr. John Border, his first mentor at ECMC; the 1992 recipient, Dr. Theodore Papademetriou, whom he credits with teaching him the skill of logical thinking; the 1995 recipient, Dr. Roger Seibel, who taught him commitment to patient care; and the 2004 recipient, Dr. Lawrence Bone, present Chairman of Orthopaedics and a close friend.

Congratulations Dr. Philip Stegemann. You’ve earned your place on our distinguished list of honorees for nearly a quarter of a century of excellence in Orthopaedics; and your dedication to the ECMC community.
Springfest Gift Giving Event Sees Great Turnout

Date: September 29, 2012
Location: Delaware Park

Salute WNY’s Heroes while supporting the lifesaving medical services of ECMC. Join us for WNY Runs for Heroes, including a Healthwalk or sanctioned 5K Run around Delaware Park. A family friendly party caps-off our salute to WNY’s Firefighting and Law Enforcement Professionals, Emergency Service Providers and ECMC Physicians & Nurses.

For more detailed information on ECMC Lifeline Foundation events and sponsorship information, please contact Stacy Roeder as 898-5881 or sroeder@ecmc.edu
The ECMC Lifeline Foundation invited all to join “The Hands of Our Caring Community” mural project event. At various times on March 6-8th, “caring" handprints were added to the mural on the First Floor curved wall, near the clinics. Many thanks go out to all who were involved in supporting ECMC and the ECMC Lifeline Foundation through this event.
Patient and Family Comforts Wish List
...the difference between healthcare and true care

The ECMC Lifeline Foundation is working to meet the needs of ECMC patients and their family members through the creation of a Lifeline Foundation Wish List. Items being requested will directly benefit the patient experience here at ECMC and serve as yet another demonstration of ECMC’s difference between healthcare and true care. Our exceptional healthcare providers have identified the sundries most often asked for by those receiving medical treatment and their family members who find themselves needing to stay overnight with a hospitalized loved one.

Community organizations, youth groups and schools may support our wish list initiative by hosting a group collection service project to assist with patient and family needs.

You can help support the true care difference by making a donation of an item(s) from our current list.

Nursing Unit Comfort Cart & Palliative Care Wishes include:
- Aromatherapy Lotion
- Bottled Water
- CD Players/CD’s
- Coloring Books/Crayons
- Decorative Paper/Markers
- Crossword Puzzle/Game Books
- Decks of Cards
- Decorative Wall Calendars
- Ear Buds/Ear Plugs
- Flameless Candles
- Hair Brushes & Combs
- Hard Candy

Items of a Religious Nature
- Journals
- Lap Blankets/Fleece Throws
- Lip Balm
- Magazines
- Nail Files/Buffers
- Notepads/Pens
- Socks/Peds
- Stationery
- Toothbrushes/Toothpaste

You may drop your donations in the Foundation office located on the ground level of the hospital in room G-1, Monday through Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. For additional information or to make arrangements for a group collection pick-up, please call the ECMC Lifeline Foundation at 898-5800.

Ten year old Madelyn Julyan is making a difference—a big difference in the lives of people recovering from serious accidents and injuries. The West Seneca East Elementary School students formed the “Bracelet Club” with Madelyn’s circle of friends, a circle that will soon expand to the 8th Floor Acute Rehabilitation Program at ECMC, where Madelyn’s mom, Erika, works as a Senior Occupational Therapist. Hearing from her mom how hard some patients have to work to regain basic skills, Madelyn set out to raising money to make the patients’ days in therapy a bit brighter. The girls began making, then selling, bracelets to classmates at East Elementary. The first portion of the proceeds were given to the ECMC Lifeline Foundation on March 12 at East Elementary.
Sade Preston, Sr. LPN, of the 8th Floor, North, is self motivated and professional. She is a mentor to the new staff and is always a team player. She is attending college to further her career as a Registered Nurse. Sade has a big heart, is very patient, and is kind to everyone she encounters.

Ann Rizzo worked for several years on the 7th Floor, South until 2006, when she then decided to continue her career in the Trauma Intensive Care Unit (TICU). Ann is a hard worker, well organized, a team player, and trained to take charge (as necessary). Ann is frequently a preceptor (teacher) for student and new TICU nurses. She strives to remain current in all nursing programs. Ann works well with staff, patients and their families. She eagerly participates with unit Quality Improvement (QI) initiatives. Ann is a wonder to have in the TICU!

Holly Hines, RN, has been a nurse on the 12th Floor, Zone 3, since 2006. Holly strives each day to give exceptional care to her patients while being accommodating to their families. Holly has received several positive commendations from patients and family members. She takes the time to explain things to patients and is a very compassionate individual. She loves what she does and exemplifies the difference between healthcare and true care. It is a pleasure to have Holly on the team. Thank you, Holly, for all you do each and every day!

Denise Pineau, RN, began her career at ECMC in 2006, as a general duty nurse. In 2008, she assumed a charge nurse position overseeing the 11th Floor, Zone 3, during the third shift. She epitomizes leadership. She is conscientious in all aspects of her job and has been a mentor to new staff. Denise has a calm demeanor which is an asset in behavioral health. During a recent code blue situation, she and her staff handled the emergency flawlessly, ensuring the patient received the highest quality of care. She is a team player, always willing to assist everyone in meeting each patient’s needs. Denise has also been integral in assisting her unit in meeting performance improvement goals.

Kathleen Coons, LPN, is a great asset to the 7th Floor, Zone 4 team. She is a hard worker and is always willing to help out. Kathy is attentive to detail and sets priorities. Every day she goes above and beyond for patient care. Kathy always comes in with a smile, is self-confident and patient.

When there is an issue with the computer system, Healthcare Information Services (HIS/IT) Database Administrator Marty Sprague listens to the problem and tackles it with ease and in most cases immediately. He has a way about him that is genuine, kind and respectful. A delight to work with, Marty’s ability to analyze a situation and come up with a valid solution to a problem is second to none.

Revenue Cycle Analyst Barbara Decker is very conscientious and understands what it means to “do the right thing” in relation to her job duties. Her conduct is consistent with the highest ethical, business and legal standards. She is also an honest and trustworthy individual. Working on outside regulatory agency audits, she is thorough in her investigation, documentation, and in responding to Corporate Compliance. Her knowledge in her field makes her a valuable asset to the ECMC.

Physical Therapist Wayne Burnett has an exceptional knowledge base on extensive orthopaedic conditions for the rehab medicine department. He will go out of his way to educate his patients on their condition and assist them thoroughly when they hit a road block. Wayne is always courteous and professional. He has a friendly caring demeanor that puts patients at ease. He is an exceptional role model to other therapists.
**ECMC Volunteer of the Month**

**January**
Donna Carducci

Since 1998, Donna Carducci has been a Volunteer and a member of the Volunteer Board at ECMC. She has held positions in flower sales, annual project requests and is currently our “plush buyer” for the Gift Shop. She works regularly in the Gift Shop, and assists with the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) workshops held monthly. Last fall, Donna did an excellent job as the chair of our annual Fashion Show. Not only did everyone have a good time, but the Board made more money for the hospital than at any previous fashion show. Donna is very outgoing and personable and is often working hard behind the scenes. She is always willing to help in whatever way she is asked to do. Thanks, Donna, for all your contributions and for being a “light” here at ECMC!

**February**
Reverend Garney Davis Jr.

Reverend Garney Davis Jr. is Chief Trauma Chaplain at ECMC. His work in ECMC Pastoral Care began in 2009. He is an ordained Elder for New Bethel Community Church and a licensed minister. He is a WNY Law Enforcement Chaplain as well as Colonel for the International Police and Fire Chaplains Association First Responders. Rev. Davis is a member of the Disaster Action Team for the American Red Cross. Rev. Davis has a love for missions and does ongoing work in Uganda, Africa, and Soweto and Johannesburg, South Africa. He has a wide range of experiences, which help enrich the quality of patient care. Keep up the good work, Rev. Davis!

**March**
Laurie Pyrko

Always willing to help and fill in wherever needed, Laurie Pyrko has been with the Volunteer Board since her retirement from ECMC in 2010. Laurie worked 30 years for ECMC and her last position was the second shift Environmental Services Supervisor. She currently works at our off-site Pediatric Educational and Diagnostic Services (P.E.D.S) office. Laurie also works in the Gift Shop and helps out with the plant and candy sales. Laurie was this year’s chairperson for the Easter Plant Sale in April 2012. She is both an efficient and caring person and she eagerly volunteers. Thanks so much, Laurie, for all that you contribute to ECMC!

**April**
Debbie Winkelman

Debbie Winkelman has been a wonderful addition to the Surgical Services waiting room. She greets all with a warm welcome and is eager to assist patients, staff, and visitors. Debbie has a very kind and reassuring manner which is greatly appreciated by those she interacts with, as this can be a very overwhelming time for patients and family. Debbie goes out of her way to keep patients and families connected and informed throughout the surgical process. We are happy to have her on our team.

**ECMC Employee of the Month**

**December**
Donald Naughton

Donald Naughton, Technical Specialist, continuously strives in exceeding departmental as well as customer expectations. When Healthcare Information Services (HIS) needed an interim technical support manager, Don provided exceptional skills in leading the department through a smooth transition. Don has the ability to take a problem situation and turn it into a pleasant customer service experience. One can always count on Don to be there as a co-worker, a friend and a mentor.

**November**
Kelly Parkhill

Recreation Therapist Kelly Parkhill is a vital part of each patient’s recovery, taking time to find out what will intrinsically motivate them. To fellow employees, Kelly is invaluable. She fully understands what it means to be a team player by helping out in all disciplines. She participates in Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy groups as well as assists the nursing staff. Kelly comes to work every day with creative ideas to suit each individual patient. She is totally present for them as well as her co-workers.

**October**
Katrina Schunke

Pharmacist Katrina Schunke is someone who can be counted on consistently for her experience, knowledge, willingness to help everyone, and her ever present positive attitude. She is valued for her ideas on improving pharmacy operations as part of the Pharmacy Standards Committee. Most of all, her dedication and her personable, sensible and friendly disposition when interacting with her co-workers is very much appreciated.

**March**
Donna Carducci

Since 1998, Donna Carducci has been a Volunteer and a member of the Volunteer Board at ECMC. She has held positions in flower sales, annual project requests and is currently our “plush buyer” for the Gift Shop. She works regularly in the Gift Shop, and assists with the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) workshops held monthly. Last fall, Donna did an excellent job as the chair of our annual Fashion Show. Not only did everyone have a good time, but the Board made more money for the hospital than at any previous fashion show. Donna is very outgoing and personable and is often working hard behind the scenes. She is always willing to help in whatever way she is asked to do. Thanks, Donna, for all your contributions and for being a “light” here at ECMC!
# Important Days to Know

## May

### Month-long Observances
- 1-31 Arthritis Awareness Month (National)
- 1-31 Better Hearing and Speech Month
- 1-31 Critical Care Awareness and Recognition Month (National)
- 1-31 Healthy Vision Month
- 1-31 Hepatitis Awareness Month
- 1-31 High Blood Pressure Education Month (National)
- 1-31 Huntington’s Disease Awareness Month
- 1-31 Lupus Awareness Month
- 1-31 Melanoma/ Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month
- 1-31 Mental Health Month
- 1-31 Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Month
- 1-31 Oncology Nursing Month
- 1-31 Osteoporosis Month (National)
- 1-31 Stroke Awareness Month (National)
- 1-31 Trauma Awareness Month (National)

### Week-long Observances
- 6-12 Corporate Compliance and Ethics Week
- 6-12 Hospital Week (National)
- 6-12 Nurses Week (National)
- 15-19 Nursing Home Week (National)
- 15-19 Women’s Health Week (National)
- 14-18 Medical Transcriptionist Week (National)
- 20-26 Biomedical/ Clinical Engineering Appreciation Week (National)
- 20-26 Emergency Medical Services Week (National)
- 20-26 Neuroscience Nursing Week

### Recognition Days/Events
- 2 Asthma Awareness Day on Capitol Hill
- 7 Melanoma Monday
- 9 School Nurse Day
- 12 Florence Nightingale’s Birthday
- 30 Senior Health and Fitness Day (National)

## April

### Month-long Observances
- 1-30 Alcohol Awareness Month
- 1-30 Child Abuse Prevention Month
- 1-30 Facial Protection Month (National)
- 1-30 Minority Health Month (National)
- 1-30 Occupational Therapy Month
- 1-30 Sexually Transmitted Infection Awareness Month
- 1-30 Sports Eye Safety Month
- 1-30 Women’s Eye Health and Safety Month
- 1-30 Relay for Life (American Cancer Society)

### Week-long Observances
- 1-7 Healthcare Access Personnel Week (National)
- 2-8 Public Health Week (National)
- 8-14 Himlich Maneuver Week (National)
- 9-15 Healthcare Patient Advocacy Week
- 15-21 Healthcare Volunteer Week (National)
- 15-21 Neuradiologic Week
- 16-22 Medical Fitness Week
- 21-28 Infant Immunization Week (National)
- 22-28 Healthcare Administrative Professionals Week
- 22-28 Medical Laboratory Professionals Week (National)
- 29-5/5 Occupational Safety and Health Week (North American)

### Recognition Days/Events
- 7 Alcohol Screening Day (National)
- 7 Health Day (World)
- 12 Radiology Nurses Day (National)
- 16 Healthcare Decisions Day (National)
- 16 Voice Day (World)
- 17 Hemophilia Day (World)
- 20-22 Youth Service Day (Global)

## March

### Month-long Observances
- 1-31 Athletic Training Month (National)
- 1-31 Brain Injury Awareness Month
- 1-31 Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month (National)
- 1-31 Kidney Month (National)
- 1-31 Nutrition Month (National)
- 1-31 Professional Social Work Month (National)
- 1-31 Save Your Vision Month
- 1-31 Workplace Eye Wellness Month

### Week-long Observances
- 4-10 Dental Assistants Recognition Week
- 4-10 Patient Safety Awareness Week
- 11-17 Health Care Human Resources Week
- 11-17 Pulmonary Rehabilitation Week (National)
- 12-18 Brain Awareness Week
- 17-24 Inhalants and Poison Awareness Week (National)
- 29-3/3 Root Canal Awareness Week

### Recognition Days/Events
- 14 Registered Dietitian Day
- 27 Diabetes Alert Day (American)
- 30 Doctors’ Day

## February

### Month-long Observances
- 1-29 Condom Month (National)
- 1-29 Heart Month (American)
- 1-29 Kids ENT Health Month

### Week-long Observances
- 1-7 Patient Recognition Week and Day (National)
- 5-11 Burn Awareness Week
- 5-11 PeriAnesthesia Nurse Awareness Week
- 12-18 Brain Awareness Week
- 17-24 Poison Prevention Week (National)
- 26-3/3 Eating Disorders Awareness Week (National)

### Recognition Days/Events
- 14 Registered Dietitian Day
- 27 Diabetes Alert Day (American)
- 30 Doctors’ Day

## January

### Month-long Observances
- 1-31 Blood Donor Month (National)
- 1-31 Cervical Cancer Screening Month
- 1-31 Cervical Health Awareness Month
- 1-3/31 Daffodil Days (American Cancer Society)

### Week-long Observances
- 15-21 Healthy Weight Week
- 22-28 Nurse Anesthetists Week (National)
- 23-27 Medical Group Practice Week (National)

### Recognition Days/Events
- 6 Find a Dentist Day
- 19 Women’s Health Weight Day
- 25 IV Nurse Day (National)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>LINE OF SERVICE</th>
<th>CURRENT STATION</th>
<th>RELATIONSHIP TO ECMC AND/OR TO ECMC STAFF MEMBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kyle J. Broginski</td>
<td>Meritoriously promoted to Corporal</td>
<td>United States Marine Corps. (Currently undertaking additional training) (Previously served as First Combat Engineer with the 1st Marines 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Platoon.)</td>
<td>Current location: Camp Pendleton, CA (Previous location: Afghanistan, Nov. 2010 – Summer/Fall 2011)</td>
<td>Son of Kevin J. Broginski, Electric Control Technician, Plant Operations, ECMC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shawn Drzyzga</td>
<td>Specialist</td>
<td>U.S. Army; Recently Honorably Discharged after four years of service</td>
<td>Fort Campbell, KY</td>
<td>Son of Laurie Drzyzga, Hospital Police Officer, ECMC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen Fay</td>
<td>Lieutenant Colonel</td>
<td>U.S. Air Force, 914th Aeromedical Staging Squadron (Niagara Falls Airbase) and 455th Expeditionary Medical Operation Squadron (Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan)</td>
<td>Niagara Falls, NY &amp; Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan</td>
<td>On military leave from ECMC Cardiac Care Unit as Charge Nurse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Kurt Von Fricken</td>
<td>Lieutenant Colonel (LTC)</td>
<td>U.S. Army</td>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>ECMC Cardiothoracic Surgeon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brett Harrison</td>
<td>Senior Airman</td>
<td>Niagara Falls 914th Security Forces</td>
<td>Kirkuk, Iraq</td>
<td>Son of Chuck Harrison, Plant Operations, and Rose Harrison, RN, ECMC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samantha Hoch</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>U.S. Army 277th Quartermaster Company</td>
<td>Niagara Falls, NY</td>
<td>ECMC Main Lobby, Prima Pizza General Manager and co-owner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin J. Kuhn</td>
<td>Platoon Sergeant</td>
<td>United States Marine Corps. 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit Military Police Detachment Combat Logistics Battalion</td>
<td>Camp Pendleton, CA</td>
<td>Son of Donna Carr, RN, Patient Safety, ECMC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas W. Liebel</td>
<td>Specialist</td>
<td>U.S. Army</td>
<td>Bamberg, Germany</td>
<td>Son of Bruce Liebel, Director of Reimbursement, ECMC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Payne</td>
<td>Marine</td>
<td>U.S. Marines</td>
<td>Honorably Discharged</td>
<td>Son of Shirley Csepegi, Unit Manager, Psychiatry, 4th Floor, Zone 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven Payne</td>
<td>Reenlisted Recruiter</td>
<td>U.S. Army</td>
<td>Long Island, NY; previously stationed in Ft. Gordon, GA</td>
<td>Son of Shirley Csepegi, Unit Manager, Psychiatry, 4th Floor, Zone 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tim Payne</td>
<td>Special Forces Member</td>
<td>U.S. Army</td>
<td>Injured in the line of duty in Kandahar, Afghanistan on July 3, 2011 (see separate article in this issue of Pulse)</td>
<td>Son of Shirley Csepegi, Unit Manager, Psychiatry, 4th Floor, Zone 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Payne</td>
<td>Specialist</td>
<td>U.S. Army</td>
<td>Vicenza, Italy (two deployments to Afghanistan)</td>
<td>Son of Shirley Csepegi, Unit Manager, Psychiatry, 4th Floor, Zone 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles D. Schroeder</td>
<td>Master Sergeant</td>
<td>U.S. Air Force Reserves 914th Aerial Port Squadron’s First Sergeant</td>
<td>Most recent deployment to Bagram Airfield Afghanistan, January 2010</td>
<td>ECMC MRI Staff Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank J.A. World</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
<td>United States Marine Corp. LAR Alpha Company, 2nd Marine Division, Infantryman</td>
<td>Killed In Action April 11, 2010, in Marjah, Afghanistan (while in 6 yr. of 8 yr. commitment)</td>
<td>Brother-in-law of ECMC Hospital Public Safety Assistant Eric Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph A. Zaccagnino Jr.</td>
<td>Master at Arms, First Class</td>
<td>U.S. Navy Stationed aboard the USS Paul Hamilton DDG-60</td>
<td>Pearl Harbor, Hawaii,</td>
<td>Son of Sandra Ruella Cutrona, Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT), Erie County Home</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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
Buffalo, New York 14215
ecmc.edu
ECMC Recognizes Doctors and Dentists on Doctors’ Day, March 30th

March 30th is recognized as Doctor’s Day nationwide, and at ECMC, we took the time to appreciate our doctors, dentists, and residents with breakfast that day.

ECMC Celebrates Black History Month

Students from Hutch Tech, Buffalo Visual and Performing Arts, East High, and DJ Brass show off their unique talents to celebrate black culture through music.

ECHRA donates new baby scale for Emergency Department use

On January 26, 2012, Erie County Hospital Retirees Association (ECHRA) treasurer Chester Walczak presented a new baby scale to Emergency Department nurses (l. to r.): Donna Oddo, Acquila Showers, Marchelle Connors, Jamie Zajac and Karen Beckman.

Police Dog “CJ” receives new protective vest from ECHRA

The Erie County Hospital Retirees Association (ECHRA) recently raised money for a new canine protective vest that was presented by Nancy Carriere to Officer Jerry Hoerner and canine Officer “CJ” on January 26, 2012.
ECMC Police Canine demonstration to Brownies

Hospital Police Officers Bryan Mayer and Dave Monk volunteer time to do demonstrations with the K-9 Unit. The ECMC Police Department offers these demonstrations to Girl Scout/Boy Scout troops and other area organizations. The K-9 Officers try to volunteer eight hours with their dogs each month.

Officer Bryan Mayer, along with his canine partner, “Grider,” and the assistance of Officer David Monk, presented a program to members of local Brownie Troop #31900 and Troop #31771 of the Girl Scouts of America.

The demonstration by K-9 “Grider,” showed how the ECMC Police Department’s K-9 Unit supports patrol and investigative functions, including: criminal apprehension, evidence detection, building searches, crowd control and narcotics location. “Grider” was acquired from Hungary and is now a New York State Certified Narcotics and Patrol K-9.

Almost 100 Girl Scouts, along with their parents and siblings have this demonstration, with the girls earning a K-9 patch to mark their learning experience.

For more information about K-9 demonstrations, please contact Officer Bryan Mayer at 716-898-3506 or bmayer@ecmc.edu.

Thank You ECMC for Your Help in a Difficult Situation

The Cantore Family from Spain (right to left: Gustavo, daughters Andrea and Paula, and wife Alicia) were planning to visit Niagara Falls on their way up from Virginia, but were involved in a head-on crash in Lockport. The staff at ECMC treated and provided care to the family.

Gustavo sent us this picture of the family just before Christmas 2011 with a thank you for the care and kindness they received. He also sent an update on the family and sent well wishes to everyone at ECMC...

“Thanks to you and everyone at ECMC, you were so kind in very difficult moments. I keep a thankful memory in my heart of everyone at the Hospital. Have a Merry Christmas with your family and the people that you love.”—Gustavo, Alicia, Paula, and Andrea Cantore.

St. Patrick’s Day Irish Dancing at ECMC
The difference between healthcare and true care™

ADULT REGIONAL
TRAUMA/BURN CENTER
TRANSPLANTATION & KIDNEY CARE
PLASTIC & RECONSTRUCTIVE
SURGERY
ORTHOPAEDICS
GENERAL/SAME DAY SURGERY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES
24/7 HEART CARE
PRIMARY/SPECIALTY CARE
LONG TERM CARE
REHABILITATION

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 customer service—
the difference between healthcare and true care.

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.

In various issues of ECMC Pulse, we’ll publish some of these predictions. One of these predictions is described below.

Doctors will be able to grow ‘spare parts’ for our organs as they wear out.
This will create a “human body shop.” We will never need organ donors and will never die of organ failure. Even the typical doctor’s visit will change. By mid-century, doctors and scientists may be able to construct an entire organism using its genome alone. As this genome science progresses, researchers may be able to carry a small kit around with them and, in mere minutes, sequence the entire genome of any life-form they encounter. We will then be able to resurrect extinct life-forms, such as the mammoth, dodo bird, and even the Neanderthal. (There are ethical concerns with the Neanderthal. As one scientist asked, “Do we put them in a zoo or put them through college?”) In the movie Jurassic Park, scientists extracted DNA from dinosaurs and inserted it into the eggs of reptiles. Although usable DNA from dinosaurs has yet to be found, there is evidence that in the future this dream might become a reality. That means by the end of this century, our zoos may be populated by creatures that ceased walking the surface of the earth millions of years ago.