

SUMMER 2021

VITESTONES

Monmouth
Medical Center
Foundation

RWJBarnabas
HEALTH



Judith W. Dawkins
BEAM SIGNING
FEATURE ARTICLE ON PAGE 6

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MESSAGE FROM ERIC CARNEY

As we welcome summer, the unmistakable signs that the COVID-19 vaccines are rapidly and dramatically reducing risk for all and the lifting of some public health restrictions are fostering a renewed sense of optimism in our communities.

While physical distancing and mask guidelines remain in place for us and other healthcare settings, New Jersey has moved to reopen much of the state, bringing hope that we are on a path that returns to wellness, and an undoubtedly sunny outlook on the summer season. Our COVID-19 journey has and continues to be a testament to the talent and dedication that

our caregivers bring to their roles each and every day, and I will forever be thankful for the tireless work of our healthcare heroes.

At MMC we have much to celebrate and look forward to as the remaining months of 2021 beckon. In this issue of Milestones, we spotlight the landmark \$50 million gift that will advance healthcare delivery in our community through the development of the state-of-the-art Vogel Medical Campus in Tinton Falls. The incredible investment in MMC by the late Anne Vogel, whose passing we mourned on April 24, and her beloved husband Sheldon will help us transform the delivery of care in Monmouth County and will advance medical innovation, expand access and ensure we deliver exceptional care for generations to come.

In addition to the exciting plans for the Vogel Medical Campus, we are also increasing access to outstanding care through the RWJBH Family Care & Wellness, a brand new, four-story facility expected to open this fall at Eatontown's Monmouth Mall. The Unterberg Children's Hospital at MMC will offer pediatric subspecialty practices, and Children's Specialized Hospital will provide both medical and therapy services. Additionally, the facility will offer women's health services and wellness and education resources, and an Urgent Care Center.

In April, we proudly congratulated our own Bill Arnold on his promotion to President and CEO of RWJ University Hospital in New Brunswick (RWJUH-NB). Our close alignment with RWJUH-NB and our partnership with Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey help us provide world class specialty care and access to advanced clinical trials and research close to home.

I was pleased also to recently announce that Caitlin Olson has been named Regional Vice President of Development for both MMC and our Southern Campus. As Interim Vice President of the MMC Foundation since February and on-site consultant since May of 2018, Caitlin has worked alongside our Foundation team to advance the capital campaign and has been actively involved in relationships with our major donors and prospect advancement. She is committed to expanding MMC's long legacy of fund-raising success, and her leadership skills will ensure the continuation of the outstanding collaboration that helped the Vogels shape the future of healthcare with their incredibly generous and record-setting gift.

As our supporters, your partnership and feedback continue to inspire our vision for the future of care in Monmouth County. As always, I thank you for your unwavering support of Monmouth Medical Center and your commitment to helping us evolve care to benefit our diverse community.

ERIC CARNEY

PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MONMOUTH MEDICAL CENTER AND MONMOUTH MEDICAL CENTER
SOUTHERN CAMPUS

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MISSION

As an RWJBarnabas Health facility, Monmouth Medical Center Foundation is a leader in identifying, cultivating and soliciting charitable gifts in support of Monmouth Medical Center's mission to deliver quality-driven, efficient and responsive healthcare services to the community.

VISION

Monmouth Medical Center Foundation, a charitable organization dedicated to supporting Monmouth Medical Center and its programs and services, has a fivefold mission:

- To develop and implement foundation programs that provide charitable financial support to MMC
- To demonstrate to the public at large how philanthropy benefits donors, patients and the community served by MMC
- To increase public awareness and enhance the community's positive perception of MMC by being an advocate of the center's commitment to the community
- To serve responsibly as the steward of contributed funds to MMC
- To develop candidates for leadership positions for MMCF and MMC



MESSAGE FROM BILL ARNOLD

When I read through the summer 2021 issue of Milestones, I felt sorrowful, grateful, happy and proud, all at once. This issue really showcases the ties that bind all of you as donors, supporters, and ambassadors of Monmouth Medical Center, and all of us as a team committed to constantly improving the health and well-being of our communities. Healthcare transformation is driven by a true spirit of deep generosity and caring, which was personified by our dear friend, Anne Vogel. I had the immense privilege of knowing Anne and as I think about how I've personally been changed for the better by that, I'm in awe of the countless patients who have, are and will be positively impacted as well. As proud and generous supporters of MMC, Anne and her beloved husband, Sheldon,

enthusiastically embraced the possibilities of the future. Our discussions around helping the community were always forward-thinking — what's new and how can we help you get it here, Bill? Their support helped MMC become the first hospital in the region to bring much needed advancements to the care of older patients, particularly during emergencies. Today, their vision is transforming how MMC delivers care that is superior in every way and it will set the standard, just as the Anne Vogel Geriatrics Emergency Medicine Unit did. I'm so thankful to have known Anne and so grateful that her selfless and kind spirit will live on at MMC in the care we provide to our older patients and in the innovation and excellence for which the future-focused Vogel Medical Campus in Tinton Falls will long be known.

Seeing Noel Mihalow on the cover of this issue signing the final beam bearing the Judith W. Dawkins Seal of Excellence at the RWJBarnabas Health Family Care and Wellness at the Monmouth Mall was really special. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to work alongside her mother, Judi, in the board room that bears her name. Judi's love for her own beautiful family was reflected in her commitment to the women, children and families served by MMC. Thanks to a multi-million dollar gift in memory of Judi by her family and friends, the Judith W. Dawkins Women's Health Program at MMC was formed and will serve patients for years to come at the new Eatontown location. I know Judi would be so proud of the partnership formed between MMC and Children's Specialized Hospital that will increase access to outstanding family care close to home.

The ties that bind us will be strengthened yet again at the Pink Luncheon on Monday, September 20th, when Brigadier General Pete Dawkins presents the Judith W. Dawkins Ambassador of Excellence Award posthumously to Anne Vogel. It's so fitting that this award will be accepted on Anne's behalf by her sister, Judy Ziegler, a 45-year employee of Monmouth Medical Center. Ann Unterberg, who was close friends with both Anne and Judi and the inaugural recipient of this award, perfectly summed up how we are all woven together through our mission at MMC. She said, "Health is a right for all of us. Good healthcare is the core of our community and as we can see here today, the power of a group can transform a community."

I thank all of you for always remaining strongly connected to MMC through all the twists and turns of the healthcare landscape and of course, the challenges of the past year. There is so much to look forward to at MMC and Eric and I couldn't be more thankful for your support.

BILL ARNOLD
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
OF ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL NEW BRUNSWICK
AND PRESIDENT, RWJBARNABAS HEALTH SOUTHERN REGION



Dear Friend,

As we reflect on all that has happened over the past year, we continue to find ourselves humbled by that which we have overcome and we remain steadfast in our commitment to Monmouth Medical Center. In this issue, you will learn about the resilience and recovery of an incredible patient, Francis Forino, who battled Covid-19 at MMC for 180 days. Still on his road to recovery, he shares stories of gratitude for the clinical team at MMC who saved him again, and again. You will also learn about a revered philanthropist, Anne Vogel, wife of Sheldon Vogel, who passed away this spring. The Vogels have committed the outstanding gift of \$50 million to name the future Vogel Medical Campus, which will be built in Tinton Falls. Anne will long be remembered not only through this gift but also for her kindness, compassion and dedication to many causes, including our annual "Power of Pink" event. As Chair of the Foundation Board of Trustees, I can attest that the dedication of service to our community at MMC has never been greater. I hope you enjoy this issue of Milestones and the stories about the excellence in care at Monmouth Medical Center.

CLAIRE KNOPF
CHAIR, MONMOUTH MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MESSAGE FROM FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP

From the team at the Foundation, we are so grateful for you – for your stories of inspiration, of community, of compassion and about the care you have received at Monmouth Medical Center. You were there for MMC, supporting the frontline staff when they needed it most. Now, we are excited to share stories of recovery and rebuilding.

On our cover and in this issue you can learn more about the brand new RWJBH Family Care & Wellness at the Monmouth Mall site. This spring we held a beam signing event at which we recognized the legacy of longtime philanthropist, Judi W. Dawkins, and the Seal of Excellence for women's clinical programs. Attended by her daughter, Noel Milhalow, and her family, the beam bearing the seal of excellence was hoisted into place to forever be a part of this new facility. Also featured in this issue is Meg Talk, a continuing series of community conversations that matter. Dr. Meg Fisher discusses mental health and wellness. Finally, we invite you to remember all that has happened over the last year and to look forward to a bright and exciting future of healthcare for our community.

CAITLIN OLSON
REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT
FOR MMC AND MMCSC





JUDITH W. DAWKINS BEAM SIGNING

On March 26th, Monmouth Medical Center (MMC), Children’s Specialized Hospital, and RWJBarnabas Health held a ceremonial beam signing at the site of the future home of the RWJBarnabas Health Family Care & Wellness, located at the Monmouth Mall in Eatontown.

This new location will cater to a variety of healthcare needs and medical services, focused on women’s and children’s health. The facility will offer comprehensive women’s services, including maternal/fetal medicine physician offices, a uro-gynecological practice, and a lactation center. The building will also serve as the new home for MMC’s Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders Center.

This beam signing was a moment to recognize and honor the legacy of the late Judith W. Dawkins, a visionary leader, philanthropist and trustee for MMC. The Judith W. Dawkins Seal of Excellence Award is the highest internal honor that can be awarded to a clinical team that demonstrates evidence-based quality care backed by a strong culture of patient safety. A replica of The Judith W. Dawkins Seal of Excellence Award was placed on the beam and Judith’s daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren signed the beam.

In 2018, Judi’s family and friends announced a multi-million dollar gift in her memory, and the formation of the Judith W. Dawkins Women’s Health Program at Monmouth Medical Center and the Seal of Excellence that bears her name.

“MY MOM WOULD BE EXCEEDINGLY PROUD OF THIS WONDERFUL BUILDING AND BEING ABLE TO BRING WOMEN’S HEALTH PROGRAMS TO MORE PEOPLE IN MONMOUTH COUNTY.”

—Noel Mihalow

“RWJBarnabas Health Family Care & Wellness is expanding access to women’s health, maternal care, and the Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders Center,” Eric Carney, President and CEO, MMC and MMCSC, said. “Judi was absolutely tireless in her quest to promote women’s health, and this program, which carries her name, provides a full spectrum of women’s healthcare services, built around our leading physicians, surgeons and healthcare professionals. Her influence and impact were felt in virtually every part of our clinical institution, and her husband, Pete, and her family made the gift to ensure that Judi’s legacy will continue — and, indeed, grow — as a pillar of Monmouth Medical Center’s commitment to women, and to the community.”



TOP PHOTO PICTURED FROM LEFT: Kevin Gonzalez, Eatontown Council Member; Danielle Jones, Eatontown Council Member; Bob Herrmann, Chairman, MMC Operational Board of Trustees; Eric Carney, President and CEO of MMC and MMCSC; Anthony Talerico, Eatontown Mayor; Mark Regan Jr., Eatontown Council Member

BOTTOM PHOTO PICTURED FROM LEFT: Joe and Noel Mihalow and family with Eric Carney, President and CEO of MMC and MMCSC; Bill Arnold, President and CEO of Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital New Brunswick and President, RWJBarnabas Health Southern Region; Claire Knopf, Chair, MMCF Board of Trustees; Ann Unterberg, MMCF Board of Trustees



LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

RWJBarnabas Health Family Care & Wellness at Monmouth Mall

Monmouth Medical Center (MMC), in collaboration with Children's Specialized Hospital, will open the 82,000-square-foot RWJBarnabas Health Family Care & Wellness Center in Fall of 2021. The home of this new site is located on the grounds at Monmouth Mall to provide the region with convenient access to comprehensive women's services, pediatric services, wellness education and resources, a laboratory and blood drawing station, and an Urgent Care Center.

The MMC Wellness Center will be located on the first floor and will be an open space designed to build healthy lives. Without entering the hospital, patients will be able to receive therapeutic services, engage in wellness education, and connect with community resources. Programming will include nutritional courses, prenatal yoga, lactation education, and cancer support groups.

The Wellness Center will house a demonstration kitchen equipped with state-of-the-art facilities, technology for filming video, and space for nutritional and educational programming. The kitchen initiative offers community outreach and nutritional education to children, students, underserved populations, cancer patients, postpartum families, and more. Dedicated space, professional expertise, and technology for virtual screening will be critical to executing these priorities.

The Wellness programming at the new RWJBH facility is a continuation of MMC's commitment to develop a comprehensive care delivery system in Monmouth County that meets healthcare needs through community partnerships and that provides access to the vast resources of the RWJBarnabas Health system. MMC will proactively scale up programming for this Center to increase impact and engage the community more broadly. To accomplish this plan, MMC will invest in the operational support, talent, and professionals needed to provide the best quality, nuanced care.

With the construction of this capital project, MMC has an incredible opportunity to deepen community impact, increase access to resources, and broaden the geographic reach of critical wellness programming. As a system, RWJBarnabas Health subscribes to the belief that healthcare is a social service organization that prioritizes keeping the community healthy at its foundation. MMC is committed to this mission, and through the Wellness Center will expand its opportunity to have a positive social impact on all people in our region.

RWJBarnabas Health
FAMILY CARE & WELLNESS
GRAND OPENING IN
LATE 2021

- ▮ Women's Services
- ▮ Pediatric Services
- ▮ Wellness Education
- ▮ Laboratory & Blood Drawing Station
- ▮ Urgent Care Center
- ▮ State-of-the-Art Demonstration Kitchen





IN MEMORY OF ANNE VOGEL

NOVEMBER 11, 1940 - APRIL 24, 2021

The Monmouth Medical Center family mourns the loss of Anne Vogel, a dedicated benefactor and cherished ambassador and friend.

A passionate supporter of Monmouth Medical Center, Anne's vision and generosity has and will long continue to help the hospital provide outstanding care to our

community. Through a generous \$1.5 million gift given with her beloved husband, Sheldon, the hospital unveiled the Anne Vogel Geriatrics Emergency Medicine (GEM) Unit in 2018. A separate and specialized unit within the Emergency Department, the Anne Vogel GEM Unit helps our team provide outstanding care that meets the unique and complex needs of older patients.

"WE WILL BE FOREVER GRATEFUL FOR ANNE'S INCREDIBLE GENEROSITY, COMMITMENT, VISION AND KINDNESS."

- Caittin Olson

Anne and Sheldon went on to support Monmouth Medical Center with a landmark \$50 million gift to advance the healthcare delivery through the development of the state-of-the-art Vogel Medical Campus in Tinton Falls. Announced in 2020, the Vogel's incredible investment in Monmouth Medical Center and Monmouth County marks the largest named healthcare donation in New Jersey.

These amazing gifts were only part of Anne's philanthropic and community involvement in Monmouth County. Her lifelong

love of animals culminated into the Vogel Spay and Neuter Clinic and the Vogel Veterinarian Care Center of the Monmouth County SPCA in Eatontown. The Vogels were also champions of conservation efforts as well as the performing arts. Their generosity made possible "The Vogel" performance venue at the legendary Count Basie Center for the Arts in Red Bank.

Anne's connection to Monmouth Medical Center and Long Branch spans generations. She was born at what was then known as Monmouth Memorial Hospital, and grew up in Long Branch. When asked, her fondest childhood memories always included a story about her father, Police Chief Joseph Purcell, who served Long Branch for over 30 years. She shared that growing up with a family so rooted and respected in Long Branch, she

was honored to carry on the legacy of serving the community. Additionally her sister, Judy Ziegler, was a longtime hospital employee, devoting 45 years of service to the Monmouth Medical Center Sleep Disorders Center.

We will be forever grateful for Anne's incredible generosity, commitment, vision and kindness. Her legacy will live on at our hospital, in our community and in our hearts.

Anne Vogel



OPPOSITE PAGE: TOP LEFT COUNTERCLOCKWISE: Anne and Sheldon Vogel at home; Anne and Hoda Kotb; Anne and Tamron Hall; Anne and Robin Embrey, MMCF Director of Donor Relations



"WE ARE THRILLED TO SUPPORT THE COLLABORATION BETWEEN MONMOUTH MEDICAL CENTER AND MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY TO BRING THE LINDA GRUNIN SIM LAB TO LIFE IN MONMOUTH COUNTY," SAID JAY GRUNIN. "IT'S TRULY THE FUTURE OF MEDICAL TRAINING AND HEALTHCARE INNOVATION – LINDA WOULD BE SO PROUD"

– Jay Grunin

THE LINDA GRUNIN SIMULATION LAB A PARTNERSHIP IN EDUCATION

In November 2020, The Grunin Foundation, Monmouth University and Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) held an official ribbon cutting for The Linda Grunin Simulation Lab and Learning Center.

Attendees enjoyed a tour of the 8,900-square-foot state-of-the-art simulation lab. Everyone was provided with the opportunity to see how the simulation environment functions, with high-tech manikins and real-life scenarios. The group toured four high-fidelity simulation suites with attached observation rooms for training and computerized manikins as well as six standardized patient exam rooms. The lab has the latest equipment and technology to provide simulation-based medical education. It also is a valuable resource to the community for training first responders, including local EMT and firefighters.

Jay Grunin, Co-Founder and Chairman, of the Grunin Foundation and husband of the late Linda Grunin, noted that the facility will not only positively impact healthcare providers and first responders, but will also increase the health of the community and economy at the Central Jersey Shore by advancing medical technology and emergency response.

The Linda Grunin Simulation Lab is located at the Monmouth Corporate Park in West Long Branch and is named in recognition of a gift from The Grunin Foundation, which also funded the renovation in the foyer leading to the hospital's main lobby. A portrait of Linda Grunin is featured in the foyer in honor of this amazing gift.



PICTURED FROM LEFT: Patrick Leahy, President, Monmouth University; Jeremy Grunin, President, Grunin Foundation; Jay Grunin, co-founder and chairman, Grunin Foundation; Eric Carney, President and CEO of MMC and MMCSC



PICTURED FROM LEFT: Meg Fisher, MD, FAAP, Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Special Advisor to the Commissioner of Health, Medical Director of Clinical and Academic Excellence, MMC; Dr. Victor Almeida, DO, FACEP, Associate Clinical Professor of Emergency Medicine, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Chairman, Department of Emergency Medicine; Eric Carney, President and CEO of MMC and MMCSC; Bill Cook, Vice President Major Projects, MMC; Sharmine Brassington, RN, MSN, Administrative Director of Emergency Services, MMC

THE UNTERBERG CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL **THE WhatSUP PEDIATRIC** **EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT** **WAITING ROOM & TRIAGE AREA**

In November of 2020, the leadership team at Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) celebrated the official opening of the newly remodeled WhatSUP Pediatric Emergency Department Waiting Room and Triage area in the Unterberg Children's Hospital. Breaking tradition of a formal, in-person ceremony, the leadership team came together to hold a virtual ribbon cutting. MMC also shared the celebration with donors and supporters online through a short documentary video.

The waiting room and triage area is a designated space that allows children and families to wait for care in an environment that is bright, inviting and specifically designed with children in mind. Paddleboards adorn the brightly colored walls and interactive games are projected on the floor. The soft seating and play area help children feel relaxed and special while they wait to be seen.

This new space was made possible by the WHATSUP committee and its leaders, Vic and Kari Rallo. Along with the hundreds of paddleboarders, Vic and Kari raced year after year on the Navisink to raise money for the smallest patients at MMC, committing themselves to the health and wellness of thousands of families. In 2019, the committee reached its goal and helped to make this beautiful and welcoming space a reality.

Creation of the WhatSUP Pediatric Waiting room and Triage area has established a safe, warm and imaginative space for children to wait with their families in a place where they can feel comfortable.



THE POWER OF THANK YOU

" I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF THE NURSES AND DOCTORS FOR THE EXCELLENT CARE THEY GAVE ME. A SPECIAL THANKS TO MAMA BEAR (MY WIFE) AND ALL MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR THEIR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT."

— Francis Forino

GRATEFUL PATIENT FRANCIS FORINO COMBATS COVID-19 AT MMC FOR OVER 180 DAYS

On May 8th, 2020, Francis Forino closed the door on one chapter of his life, looking forward to the next. After owning and operating his own bread delivery route for 17 years, he knew it was time for a well-deserved retirement. With his children grown, it was time for Francis and his wife, Georgiann, to take time they could never seem to find during their working years to travel and relax.

It was only one day later that Francis started to feel sick. The chills began, followed by a fever that left him unable to get out of bed. The next day he tested positive for COVID-19. His symptoms quickly worsened and his breathing became labored. A few days later, he knew it was time to go to Monmouth Medical Center (MMC). The seriousness of his illness deepened very quickly. The team at MMC decided to put Francis on a ventilator and then do an emergency tracheotomy to save his life.

Francis was in a coma for three weeks. The staff at MMC constantly communicated with Georgiann, providing her with updates multiple times a day. When Francis finally regained

consciousness, he awoke to a feeding tube, oxygen and the loss of the use of his legs.

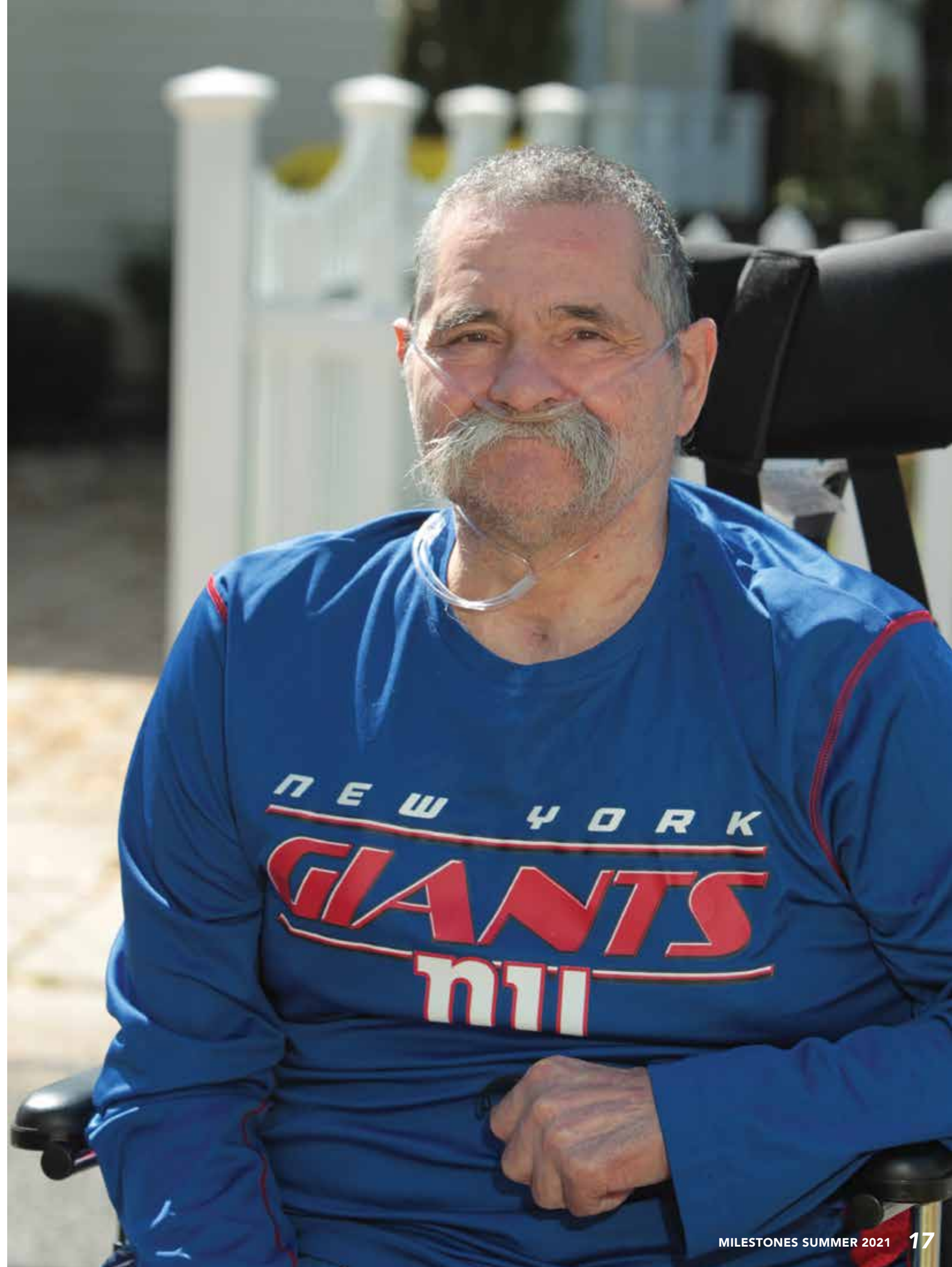
During his recovery, he suffered many setbacks. According to Francis, "I had a few close calls. They allowed my family in to visit a few times in July, but it was tough. Mentally, I was down, but the nurses held my hand and talked to me every day."

He remained in the ICU until October 6 at which time he was discharged to a rehabilitation center. MMC had a tradition of playing a song when a patient was discharged to go home after COVID-19 recovery. Francis requested one of his favorite songs, "Stronger" by Kelly Clarkson, which could not have been more fitting. The staff at MMC cheered and clapped as Francis was released. He remembers that moment well. "MMC is the best hospital I know."

Today, Francis is still slowly recovering at home, but his attitude is great as is his outlook on the future. Each day he gets stronger, just like his favorite song. He knows that one day he and Georgiann will take that vacation together.

To make a gift to the Grateful Patient Program, visit monmouthgiving.org

OPPOSITE PAGE: Francis Forino, Covid patient



THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROTECTS THE FRONTLINE



PICTURED FROM LEFT: Diann Johnston, MSN, RN, Chief Nursing Officer, MMC & Regional Chief Nursing Officer, Southern Region with Lauren Russo, MSN, RN, Director of Patient Care and the frontline team

Community support for Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) over the course of the COVID-19 health crisis has been humbling. Because of the tremendous generosity of donors to the Emergency Response Fund (ERF), MMC has been able to continue providing superior care to our patient community and appropriate support to our heroic frontline staff, and to prepare better for future health emergencies. During 2020, the hospital received over \$2.2 million in support of our emergency response effort and healthcare heroes. This includes \$1.9 million in cash gifts and \$300K in personal protective equipment (PPE) and other gifts in kind.

Every donation to the ERF allowed us to quickly respond to the crisis and to create an immediate impact. The financial support of our donors provided resources for necessary equipment, PPE, installation of additional Intensive Care Units and isolation rooms, a heated triage tent to safely handle the increased number of patients who came through the Emergency Department, and much more.

Importantly, the ERF has supported our healthcare heroes. The pandemic was extremely stressful and challenging for many of

our frontline staff. The ERF covered the costs for additional crisis clinical teams, housing for those unable to go home to their loved ones, and countless meals. This assistance brought out the best in our heroes as they continued to care for our community while everyone rallied around them.

Along with her team of nurses, Lauren Russo, MSN, RN, Director of Patient Care G5, a unit dedicated to the care of COVID patients worked tirelessly during the health crisis. She acknowledges that while so much has changed over the past year, the pandemic has presented her with the opportunity to take a step back and think about the community's collective support.

“ REFLECTION OF THE PAST YEAR BRINGS UP SO MANY FEELINGS AND THOUGHTS. WHILE THIS YEAR HAS BEEN DIFFICULT TO SAY THE LEAST, I TRY TO FOCUS ON THE POSITIVE ASPECTS. ABOVE ALL, I FEEL THE SUPPORT FROM OUR COMMUNITY, OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS AND OUR TEAM HAS BEEN THE MOST IMPACTFUL. THIS OUTPOURING OF LOVE AND SUPPORT GAVE US THE STRENGTH AND COURAGE TO HAVE A POWERFUL INFLUENCE ON OUR PATIENTS. THIS SUPPORT HAS RESULTED IN HUNDREDS OF PATIENTS IN THE MMC COMMUNITY THAT OUR FRONTLINE NURSES HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HELP AND HEAL.”

— *Lauren Russo*
MSN, RN, DIRECTOR OF PATIENT CARE





TOP PHOTO:
Members of the MMC
Frontline team pick up
dinner and dessert to go

**BOTTOM PHOTO PICTURED
FROM LEFT:** Diann Johnston,
MSN, RN, Chief Nursing Officer,
MMC & Regional Chief Nursing Officer,
Southern Region; Rick Kiernan,
Chief Human Resources Officer;
Michael Perdoni, VP Clinical Operations,
MMC and MMCSC; Lauren Simons,
Development Manager, MMCF;
Madison Lopez, Special Events
Manager, MMCF



STAFF APPRECIATION MMC ENDS THE YEAR WITH A HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

On December 22nd 2020, Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) held a holiday celebration to commemorate the MMC staff for their hard work and dedication to the community and families during what was a challenging year. In hopes of spreading a little holiday cheer, the Foundation transformed the MMC Lobby into a Winter Wonderland.

Incoming staff reporting to work were welcomed with the sound of cheerful holiday jingles accompanied by a live piano. The MMC staff were invited to take a to-go dinner and make a stop in the “sweet shop” for hot chocolate, cookies and sweets. Despite the ongoing pandemic, this was a special moment for the MMC frontline workers to have an opportunity to be celebrated for everything they have done.

THANK YOU TO OUR
GENEROUS DONORS
WHO MADE THIS
CELEBRATION SO SPECIAL!

- ▮ 600 Meals
Brennan’s Delicatessen, Rumson
- ▮ 500 Cookies
Peter Rocco Catering,
Bergen & Passaic Counties
- ▮ Assortment of Chocolates
Criterion Chocolates, Eatontown
- ▮ Assortment of Candies
Caramel Shop Inc., Ocean Township



1 YEAR LATER FRONTLINE WORKERS

“Being one of the first ER nurses to get Covid, I can see the patient’s anxiety on a different level. I now work with the testing of Covid and have many answers for my patients, but returning to hands-on in the ER is still rewarding to me.”

– *Linda Rij*
RN, EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

“The Covid pandemic has made nurses feel more proud to be nurses. There is so much appreciation in the community for the frontline workers. I have noticed a stronger sense of community in the hospital. People smile and greet each other, even those they don’t know, in the hallways. There is a deeper appreciation of one another as we honor the sanctity of life. Patients thank us daily in the Covid testing site for ‘doing what we do’.”

– *Loukia Lopresti*
RN, EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

“It was a wakeup call for everyone. It made us realize how vulnerable we are. It made me grateful for the simple things in life.”

– *Jessica Tamayo Travel*
RN, ICU

“When you hear about a pandemic you always think about a previous time in history when we had less technology, medicine and knowledge. I do not think anyone could have predicted what happened during this pandemic. Covid-19 struck the world by storm and made history... Being a charge nurse during this was an experience of a lifetime. Even though it was scary, the Emergency Department team was well equipped by Monmouth Medical Center to keep everyone safe.”

– *Nicole Vogel*
RN, EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

“Covid has made the ER staff work better as a team. Staff from each shift has been willing to stay and help during busy times. As a whole, we have become closer and supported each other, during one of the most influential times to be a nurse.”

– *Jeannie Avon*
RN, EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

“The highs outweighed the lows. We always had each other to pick us up when we were down. I am thankful for my co-workers. I couldn’t have gotten through this without them.”

– *Anonymous*
ICU

“A year later I have learned that I am more resilient than I ever thought I could be.”

– *Anonymous*
ICU

“Not many nurses can say they have been through a pandemic, but I can. There are many things that impacted me over the past year, but I would have to say the top two are bedside care and infection control. Being an ER nurse, I don’t have much time to spend with the patient. Since this pandemic began, patients’ family members were not able to be at their side, which made it that much more important for me to be there. Secondly, I am much more cognizant of infection and how it spreads. I believe all of us have to play a significant part in reducing the spread of this awful disease.”

– *Sabrina Rossiter*
RN, EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT



The Heroes Give Here Shop gifts employees with MMC swag when they give to the annual employee campaign

HEROES GIVE HERE **EMPLOYEE CAMPAIGN SHOP**

Honoring the theme of our heroes at Monmouth Medical Center (MMC), the Foundation launched a Heroes Give Here shop on the ground level of the hospital in October 2020. This shop was created for employees to visit to make a charitable donation to the 2021 Employee Campaign. The MMC Annual Employee and Physicians Charitable gift Campaign is an opportunity for associates to support their fellow employees. The funds raised through the annual campaign are disbursed to support the Emergency Assistance Fund, the Scholarship Fund, and Patient Comfort Funds. Many of our employees have been helped through the emergency assistance fund with family illnesses, funerals, house fires and other personal difficulties. MMC is a supportive place and the Employee Campaign is a great way to help other team members when they need it most.

Each year employees are rallied through department huddles, tabling events, and other venues for communication. This past year was unprecedented and the team decided to transform an old coffee shop into a safe place with social distancing to encourage employees to make their donation. Associates that came to the shop were greeted with free coffee, a warm chocolate chip cookie, and a Heroes Work Here pin. In return for their donation, employees were given a branded MMC item including: sweatshirts, water bottles, t-shirts, baseball caps, and tote bags. This new initiative brought big smiles and appreciation throughout the hospital.

"OUR HEALTHCARE HEROES' TRUE SUPERPOWER LIES IN THEIR EXTRAORDINARY COMPASSION AND ABILITY TO BE THERE FOR ONE ANOTHER. WHETHER IT'S HELPING DURING HARD TIMES OR SUPPORTING A COLLEAGUE'S BIG DREAM FOR THEIR FUTURE, THE EMPLOYEE CAMPAIGN ENABLES US TO HAVE A PROFOUND EFFECT ON ONE ANOTHER'S LIVES."

- Eric Carney

PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MONMOUTH MEDICAL CENTER AND
MONMOUTH MEDICAL CENTER
SOUTHERN CAMPUS



PAY IT FORWARD **GIVING BACK TO** **LOCAL BUSINESSES**

Monmouth Medical Center received tremendous support from our community throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. We received over \$200,000 in food donations from our local community. Many restaurants in our area donated countless meals to our frontline staff that lifted spirits during a challenging time. Some of these generous eateries doubled the meals even when they were struggling themselves.

As the community supported us through a difficult year, we wanted to return the favor and give back to our local restaurants by offering our gratitude and support to them. With that, MMC launched a Pay It Forward campaign to ensure that these restaurants would be recognized on behalf of our staff. The program kicked off by highlighting the several restaurant donors, advertising them and our initiative to associates. MMC's employees were encouraged to support the restaurants that supported them over the past year. They could also give Heroes Eat Here thank you cards to the restaurants they patronized. In addition, the hospital presented the businesses with a Heroes Eat Here plaque to display in public recognition of their support.

- Tuzzio's
- Zachary's
- Jersey Mike's
- Wave Resort
- Elbow Room
- My Kitchen Witch
- Joe Leones
- Surf Taco
- Nothing Bundt Cake
- Blonde Shallot
- Toast
- Steak Stand
- Blend



OPPOSITE PAGE PICTURED FROM LEFT:
Eric Carney, *President and CEO of MMC and MMCS*
presents Dave Brown, owner of Jersey Mikes Subs in West
Long Branch with a "Heroes Eat Here" plaque.

BOTTOM PHOTO: Cheryl Solon, *Director of Development, MMCF*
presents a "Heroes Eat Here" plaque to Nothing Bundt Cakes in Shrewsbury.



PICTURED ABOVE: Terry Ingram; Susan Kyrillos; Michele Karagianakis; Debbie Memmott; Stephanie Flynn and Claire Knopf raise a glass to Pink.



PICTURED BELOW: Power of Pink Ladies gather for a socially distanced luncheon.



POWER OF PINK GOES VIRTUAL

On November 18th 2020, the Leon Hess Cancer Center (LHCC) celebrated Power of Pink's 25-year milestone by hosting its first virtual event. The PINK virtual luncheon was born as the community raised their glass to toast 25 years of compassion, friendship, and making a difference. What would usually be a lunch under the famous POP tent or a morning of Swing Pink sports, the LHCC Council hosted a virtual luncheon for the community. The program honored leading LHCC Council members and MMC's notable oncology physicians. Grateful patients shared their impactful stories of great care and healing.

Because guidelines and precautions made it inadvisable to get together in person, over 100 meals were delivered to attendees, making it possible to lunch together virtually. During unprecedented times, we raised more than \$225,000 for The Leon Hess Cancer Center at MMC supporting the hospital's oncology service and its patients.

For more information on how to give, as well as watch the program, please visit MMCEVENTS.org.

**LHCC COUNCIL
CO-CHAIRS**
Claire Knopf
Terry Ingram

LHCC COUNCIL
Jessica Angstreich
Meredith Barber
Avery Brighton
Jen Cavise
Alexandra Conley
Stephanie Cupps
Caryn Elkwood
Jacklyn Esposito
Barbara Etter
Stephanie Flynn
Kim Giblin
Melissa Ginsberg
Lisa Goodwyn
Joyce Gulden
Pari Harrison
Anna Howie
Diana Kennedy
Michelle Kutsak
Gerri Lawrence
Laura McGuire
Debbie Memmott
Debra Menkowitz
Carol Ann Mireider
Elaine Monte
Sonya Moroney
Debbie O'Donoghue
Susan Olson
Ann Rossbach
Suzanne Rubin
Kara Short
Kim Smith
Maryam Spector
Gail Tobias
Molly Vates
Suzanne Veninata
Lauren Vernon
Sima Yakoby Epstein



MEG FISHER, MD, FAAP Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Special Advisor to the Commissioner of Health; Medical Director of Clinical and Academic Excellence, Monmouth Medical Center.



COLIN O'REILLY, DO, FAAP, FACOP, FCCM Assistant Vice President of Inpatient Medical Affairs, Children's Specialized Hospital



MOLLY KROON, Moderator, Emmy-nominated Journalist, former NY1 News Political Reporter



JONATHAN TEITELBAUM, MD, Interim Chair of Pediatrics, Monmouth Medical Center



KRISTEN KUHI, Certified Child Life Specialist, The Unterberg Children's Hospital at Monmouth Medical Center



CHARLES KATZ, PHD, Clinical Psychologist, Monmouth Medical Center

MEG TALK **COMMUNITY** **CONVERSATIONS** **THAT MATTER**

On September 22nd, 2020, our community gathered virtually for Monmouth Medical Center's first virtual event, MEG Talk. The first installment of what would become an ongoing series, MEG Talk featured our very own Dr. Meg Fisher, a pediatric infectious disease expert, and Dr. Colin O'Reilly, an administrator at Children's Specialized Hospital. Focusing on the community's concerns about their children re-entering schools during the ongoing pandemic, both physicians addressed virtual attendees during a live Q&A session. MEG Talk was able to provide our families with an educational forum during unprecedented times.

The MEG Talk series continued on May 13, 2021. We hosted a virtual panel discussion on children's mental health, and the impact that COVID-19 has on children. A panel of pediatric experts and specialists addressed questions and concerns from the community concerning the impact of virtual schooling on children's mental health, and the tools that could promote their emotional well-being.

Thanks to the commitment and support of our community, we were able to raise over \$200,000 through virtual programming to support The Unterberg Children's Hospital at MMC.

For more information on how to give, as well as watch the program, please visit MMCEVENTS.org.

VIRTUAL PANEL
DISCUSSION ON
CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH:
PEDIATRIC SPECIALISTS
DISCUSS THE IMPACT OF
SOCIAL ISOLATION ON
CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

Meg Talk 2020 Committee

- Meghan Del Priore**
- Liz Toolan**
- Nora King**
- Molly Kroon**



The Leon Hess Cancer Center Council
presents

pink

Save the Date

MONDAY • SEPTEMBER 20 • 2021

Navesink Country Club

The Leon Hess Cancer Center Council

Monmouth Medical Center
Foundation

RWJ Barnabas
HEALTH

www.mmcevents.org/Pink to register



SAVE THE DATE

MONMOUTH MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION'S

INVITATIONAL
GOLF CLASSIC
& **TENNIS**
TOURNAMENT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

RAINDATE: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28
HOLLYWOOD GOLF CLUB, DEAL, NJ

Golf Classic

10:00 am	Registration
10:00 am - 11:30 am	Brunch
11:30 am	Shotgun Start
4:30 pm	Cocktail Buffet Reception (Hollywood Golf Club)
5:30 pm	Awards Ceremony

Tennis Tournament

9:30 am	Registration
10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Play
12:00 pm	Lunch & Award Ceremony

RESERVE EARLY... SPACE IS LIMITED!

GOLF SPONSORSHIPS INCLUDE
PLAYER'S GIFT • CART, GREENS FEES • FORECADDIE
PRIZES • LUNCH • COCKTAIL BUFFET

THE CALAWAY SYSTEM will be used to determine the prizes.

COCKTAIL BUFFET TICKETS are available for \$100 each.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE, CONTACT
MONMOUTH MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION OFFICE

732.923.6886

REGISTER NOW AT

www.rwjbh.org/golfandtennisclassic

Monmouth Medical Center
Foundation

RWJ Barnabas
HEALTH

GO FAR...
GO PLACES
& WIN!



CAR RAFFLE
THURSDAY
OCTOBER 21

2021 JEEP WRANGLER
UNLIMITED SPORT "S" 4X4 w/Power Top

All pictures shown are for illustration purposes only and may not be an exact representation of the actual product.



\$100
PER TICKET

Only
1,500 tickets
will be sold.
Drawing to be held at
Hollywood Golf Club
7:00 PM



CALL FOUNDATION OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION
732.923.6886