

Monmouth  
Medical Center

Foundation

RWJBarnabas  
HEALTH

WINTER 2022

# MILESTONES



Anne Vogel Family Care and Wellness Center

**THE WEforum  
DEMONSTRATION KITCHEN**

FEATURE ARTICLE ON PAGE 6



# WIN ME, DRIVE ME TAKE ME HOME

## CAR RAFFLE

## WEDNESDAY DEC. 14

Drawing to be held at Monmouth Medical Center

2022



## DISCOVERY SPORT P250

COLOR *Byron Blue* | INTERIOR *Light Oyster* | *Black Rims*

# \$100 PER TICKET

## ONLY 2,000 TICKETS TO BE SOLD



Call Foundation Office for Information  
**732.923.6886**

Winner need not be present to win. Winner responsible for all taxes and registration. No substitution of the offered prize may be made and no cash will be given in lieu of the prize. Car valued at \$53,541.54.

License #2022-010 ID #266-4-31486

2 MILESTONES WINTER 2022

Monmouth  
Medical Center

RWJ Barnabas  
HEALTH

# MILESTONES CONTENTS

Message from Leadership	4	Cranmer Legacy Society	12 - 13
Message from the Foundation	5	The Kiely Family	14 - 15
WEforum Demonstration Kitchen	6-7	Events	16 - 27
Grateful Patient	8-9	Employee Appreciation	28 - 29
The Gift of Giving	10-11	In Kind Donation	30 - 31

## 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

## OFFICERS

Claire Knopf, Chair  
 Jay Grunin, Vice Chair  
 Bonnie Klein, Vice Chair  
 Dennis M. Kelly, Campaign Chair  
 Mario Monello, Treasurer

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Andrea Aikins  
 Bill Arnold, Ex-officio member  
 Virginia S. Bauer\*  
 Eric Carney, Ex-officio member  
 Gary Chropuvka  
 Carolyn DeForte-Wasserfall, DMD  
 Meghan Del Priore  
 Michael Del Priore\*  
 Carolyn C. DeSena  
 Warren Diamond\*  
 William Downs, D.O.,  
 Ex-officio member  
 Samuel Fromkin\*  
 Terry Ingram\*  
 Bruce M. Meyer\*  
 Kerry O’Brien  
 Michael O’Neill\*  
 Robert Patton\*  
 Joseph J. Romanowski\*  
 Patrick P. Scire  
 Anil Sharma, MD  
 Karen Siciliano\*  
 Carol Stillwell\*  
 William E. Thygeson, Jr.  
 Vincent Tizzio  
 Ann Unterberg\*  
 Daniel W. Whalen  
 Dr. Yesmeen Shariff  
 Maurice Zekaria

\* ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER

## HONORARY TRUSTEES

John Archibald  
 Alan Davis, Esq.  
 Lewis M. Eisenberg  
 Shelley D. Schultz  
 Alexis Tucci, Esq.



## MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP



### ERIC CARNEY

President and Chief Executive Officer  
Monmouth Medical Center and  
Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus

This fall, we have an exciting announcement regarding the future expansion of Monmouth Medical Center.

We have received all necessary county and town approvals to begin construction on The Vogel Medical Campus at Tinton Falls, which will bring world-class care to an easily accessible location. We anticipate breaking ground next May on a state-of-the-art outpatient care center that will include surgical and imaging services, physician offices and comprehensive cancer care provided in partnership with Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, the state's only National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center.

The development of the Vogel Medical Campus is a part of our mission to create an integrated outpatient network that helps patients maintain wellness and meet their care needs today and in the future. It is also supported by RWJBarnabas Health's expansive primary and specialty care provider network throughout the region. Like our recently opened Anne Vogel Family Care & Wellness Center, the campus will be designed to provide an outstanding patient experience.

We are so incredibly grateful to the Vogels for their record-breaking support, and proud of the confidence they placed in us to transform healthcare in Monmouth County. And while we embrace all of this exciting change, one thing that remains constant is our unwavering commitment to the highest quality, safest patient care. This is evidenced by the most recent national recognitions that continue to distinguish us as the health care provider of choice in our region, including our most recent "A" Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade. Announced in November, the Leapfrog score was our unparalleled 16<sup>th</sup> consecutive A.

The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade is a national distinction that recognizes our achievements in patient safety, and our latest "A" comes on the heels of our being named among just 148 U.S. hospitals included on the digital platform *Money's* inaugural list of the Best Hospitals in America. Created in partnership with The Leapfrog Group, the list identified hospitals that consistently deliver the safest care for patients and excellence in hospital experience. *Money* and Leapfrog also teamed this fall to announce its list of the Best Hospitals for Maternity Care, with MMC among just 259 U.S. hospitals to receive the award.

We have long been the provider of choice in our region for maternity care, and this award followed our recognition by Healthgrades for excellence in women's care, receiving the 2022 Obstetrics and Gynecology Excellence Award and Labor and Delivery Excellence Award. We have received these two Healthgrades' distinctions for seven consecutive years, ranking us among the top 5% of hospitals evaluated for both obstetrics and gynecology, and for labor and delivery.

We are also proud to share we are one of 34 U.S. hospitals honored with the Emergency Nurses Association's 2022-2025 Lantern Award, which recognizes Emergency Departments that demonstrate exceptional and innovative performance in leadership, practice, education, advocacy, and research. It is yet another recognition that serves as a visible symbol to our community that excellence is valued, and that exceptional care is provided here.

All of these national recognitions are designed to inform communities how well their hospitals perform in providing the highest quality care in a safe and compassionate environment. Each one is a testament to our staff's unwavering commitment to our patients, our communities and each other.



### BILL ARNOLD

President and Chief Executive Officer of  
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital  
New Brunswick and President,  
RWJBarnabas Health Southern Region





“ Monmouth Medical Center is forging a path to support healthy families for generations to come.

— CLAIRE KNOPF

What a pleasure it was to see so many of you at events hosted by the Foundation these past few months! There is nothing quite like the energy in the room (or under the tent, on the golf course, or on the tennis court!) as when our community comes together to support the families served by Monmouth Medical Center. A terrific Golf Classic kicked off our summer calendar of events. The Leon Hess Cancer Center Council inspired with its incredible fundraising efforts, and both July’s “Power of Pink” Luncheon and September’s “Swing Pink” events were no exception. August brought the much awaited news of the Tinton Falls Planning Board’s approval of our plans for the Vogel Medical Campus. It is exciting to look toward the year ahead when we will break ground on a state-of-the-art outpatient care center. Monmouth Medical Center is forging a path to sustain the health of families for generations to come, and we are doing it together as a community. Thank you for your continued dedication to MMC’s success!

*Claire Knopf*

**CLAIRE KNOPF**

Chair, Monmouth Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees

## MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION

Here at the Foundation, we bring together leaders from across the community to support the families who rely on Monmouth Medical Center. Last spring, we celebrated the opening of the Anne Vogel Family Care and Wellness Center, including the dedication of the building to Anne Vogel, and the presentation of the Judith W. Dawkins Ambassador of Excellence Award to the wonderful Anne Evans Estabrook. It’s incredible to think about all the people benefiting from the services in that building, from programs in the LiveWell Center and WEforum Demonstration Kitchen, to the many families who have received compassionate care on the Judith W. Dawkins Women’s Services Floor, at Children’s Specialized and on our Pediatric Floor. I look forward to more events featuring the visionaries bringing our hospital into the future, like our Tree of Life Celebration introducing Dr. Richard S. Lazzaro. Collaborating with our donor community to innovate philanthropic strategies to support MMC’s expansion continues to be a source of inspiration. I am so grateful for the fantastic team here at the Foundation, who have worked tirelessly to return us to a record-breaking event season and prepare us for another successful year to come. Please reach out to one of us anytime if you would like to be more involved.

*Caitlin Olson*

**CAITLIN OLSON**

Regional Vice President of Development for Monmouth Medical Center and Monmouth Medical Center Southern Campus

“ Collaborating with our donor community continues to be a source of inspiration.

— CAITLIN OLSON









## Anne Vogel Family Care and Wellness Center The WEforum Demonstration Kitchen

A large and beautifully equipped demonstration kitchen is the “heart of the home” in the newly opened, 82,000-square-foot Anne Vogel Family Care and Wellness center in Eatontown. Thanks to a generous naming gift, the state-of-the-art kitchen is named for WEforum, an organization led by women in the community whose mission is to build a culture of healthy living. The WEforum Demonstration Kitchen is part of the LiveWell Center, a 5,600-square foot portion of the Vogel outpatient facility.

LiveWell Center programs, all free, help community members prevent disease and live healthier lives through multiple pathways, including nutrition education. The programs supplement and reinforce a wide range of services now available for adults, families and children at the Anne Vogel Family Care and Wellness Center. “Working closely with our clinical experts and collaborating with a variety of community partners, we’re able to help people prevent or manage chronic conditions like diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer and weight or obesity related issues,” says Abigail Thompson, Program Director, LiveWell Center.

“The LiveWell Center has given me more knowledge, understanding and a deeper love for food, fellowship and life. We are born and called to live our best lives; that is just what The LiveWell Center does for us.

— CAROL A. JONES,  
Tinton Falls

Kitchen programming has been named for Dorothea and Jon Bon Jovi, who also made a generous gift. The LiveWell Center’s efforts align with the couple’s nonprofit work to address issues such as food insecurity, nutrition education, mental health and homelessness. “We’re happy to be part of such an innovative, forward-thinking program,” says Dorothea.

The WEforum kitchen features commercial-grade amenities such as induction stovetops and stainless appliances. It is equipped with audiovisual equipment that provides different views during cooking classes and demonstrations.

Ideas for new initiatives include family cook-alongs; cooking classes for kids; nutrition or cooking programs to supplement other services in the building such as the Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders Center; and workshops on topics such as heart-healthy nutrition or plant-based diets. “We know that a healthy diet is among the keys to good health, and are proud to help educate our community that leading a healthy lifestyle is a life choice—and that the benefits are immeasurable,” says Carolyn DeSena, WEforum founder and MMC Foundation Trustee.

“LiveWell is a happy place to go to. The classes are interesting and informative. The people who work there are awesome. They are wonderful and very knowledgeable and are extremely helpful. It is an asset to Monmouth Medical Center

— EILEEN MCDERMOTT,  
Long Branch

To make a donation or to learn more about the ways you can be involved, please contact us at 732.923.6886 or go to [monmouthgiving.org](http://monmouthgiving.org)

“ My husband, my kids, my mom and my friends were so loving, and I could not have gotten through this without them.

— DEBORA EDWARDS



FROM LEFT: Melissa, Matthew, Steven and Debora Edwards with Harisios Tjionas, MD.



## Grateful Patient

### Debora Edwards

At 48 years old, with no known heart or health concerns other than migraines, the last thing Debora Edwards expected in September of 2019 was to have a heart attack.

Debora remembers every detail of that fateful afternoon, and she truly believes that she had many angels looking out for her on that day. After a late lunch, she was planning to go out with her mother. When she began to feel very lethargic and light-headed, Debora decided to sit down to collect herself. A few hours later, a friend stopped by Debora's house and noticed how pale she looked. At this point, Debora said she was having neck, shoulder and back pain, but was attributing the pain to back spasms. Thankfully, her friend decided to call 911. When EMS arrived, Debora felt as though she was going to pass out any moment and told them that she wanted to go to Monmouth Medical Center (MMC). "I had a family member who was a nurse and she always spoke so highly of the staff and the care they provide at MMC, and that really resonated with me," Debora said.

Debora was transported to the Emergency Department where she was met right out front by Dr. Harisios Tjionas and the MMC team. The moment Debora entered the hospital, she coded and went into cardiac arrest. She is extremely grateful for how promptly the doctors and staff acted in that moment, preventing her from losing any oxygen to her brain and ultimately saving her life. She said, "I was never scared because everyone stayed calm and never panicked. I knew I had the best care and they knew what they were doing."

She gives tremendous credit to Dr. Tjionas for working so quickly to perform CPR and intubate her which kept her alive; as well as cardiologist Dr. Peter Farrugia for performing an immediate procedure to place stents in her heart. She was told that the type of heart attack she experienced is commonly known as "a widow-maker." According to the American Heart Association, only about 12% of people who suffer this type of heart attack away from a hospital setting survive.

Since her lifesaving experience at MMC, Debora has learned more about her rare Spontaneous Coronary Artery Dissection (SCAD), which is believed to have been caused by Fibromuscular Dysplasia (FMD). She remains active, healthy, and appreciates every day with her husband and two children. Debora said, "Every day when I look at them, I remember that without these wonderful professionals, I would not be here to raise my children." She feels incredibly blessed and is beyond grateful to have this opportunity to thank the doctor who saved her life in person.

Dr. Tjionas remembers every detail from that day. "I am so happy to hear that Debora is doing well as I often do not get the opportunity to hear from patients again after they leave the hospital. The reason I specialize in emergency medicine is for really critical cases like this and to make an impact on their lives."

Their reunion, three years later in September of 2022, was equally meaningful for both of them.

To make a gift to the Grateful Patient Program, visit [monmouthgiving.org](https://monmouthgiving.org)



FROM LEFT: Eric Carney, *President and CEO, MMC and MMCSC* and on right, Caitlin Olson, *Regional Vice President of Development, MMC and MMCSC* with members of the Kassin family



## The Gift of Giving The Kassin Escalator

Jack and Joyce Kassin, their children and grandchildren gathered in July at Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to dedicate the Kassin Escalator. This moving staircase links the hospital's main lobby with the first floor of the Todd building, providing convenient access to Pre-Admission Testing Services.

The Kassin family announced this gift at the start of the 2021 Tree of Life event in Deal. The gift inspired so many other community members to give to MMC during that event and to continue giving at the 2022 event.

At the ribbon-cutting, Jack Kassin spoke directly to his family, especially his children and grandchildren about the importance of giving back. "It is important to help your community, in any way that you can." Jack is an inspiration to not just his family, but everyone in the community.

“The Kassin Family very much appreciates Monmouth Medical Center and its entire staff for the wonderful medical care they provide the community.

— JACK KASSIN

To make a donation or to learn more about the ways you can be involved, please contact us at 732.923.6886 or go to [monmouthgiving.org](https://monmouthgiving.org)







# Retired Science Teacher and Grateful Patient Plans to Leave a Legacy

## Cranmer Legacy Society

### Barbara Pietrucha

Retired Monmouth County teacher Barbara Pietrucha dedicated 32 years of her life to teaching earth and environmental science to middle school and high school students. She loved her job! Barbara is also very dedicated to taking care of her health and well-being and has come to Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) over the years, always trusting the special care the hospital has provided to her.

In February 2016, Barbara had just moved into her new home. Because of her busy schedule, she was four months late in scheduling her annual mammogram at the Jacqueline M. Wilentz Breast Center at MMC. Unfortunately, at her February mammogram appointment, a small tumor was discovered and she was diagnosed with breast cancer. "It was somewhat of a shock but not unexpected. My mom was diagnosed with breast cancer, and for that reason, I started going to the Wilentz Breast Center when it opened years ago for annual mammograms," said Barbara.

She noted that everything after the diagnosis happened very quickly, including a biopsy, a meeting with breast surgeon Dr. Sumy Chang, and then surgery to remove the small tumor. During this uncertain and stressful period, she says the clinical team was always so professional, calm and relaxed, adding that her medical oncologist Dr. David Sharon and radiation oncologist Dr. Sang Sim guided her through the decisions she had to make and answered every question she had completely. "Everything the clinical team did for me was completed efficiently, quickly, and with as little stress as possible," Barbara said. "All of the doctors and nurses were phenomenal. I never had to think about anything, all I had to do was take care of myself, focus on following my treatment plan and getting well. They took care of it all."

Over the past six years, Barbara has received wonderful treatment from a variety of team members at MMC, including Dr. Sumit Talwar, the medical oncologist who took over her care after Dr. Sharon's retirement in

**“I’ve been the recipient of great care and treatment at MMC and they have a wonderful team. I am fortunate and my experience has been remarkable. I want to reciprocate and pay it forward.**

— BARBARA PIETRUCHA

2020. She feels that the doctors, nurses and technicians sincerely cared about her. Barbara is happy to report that she is now a proud breast cancer survivor. She realizes how lucky she is that her small tumor was found early. She is also very grateful for the advanced care she received.

In her time of need, Barbara knew that MMC would provide her with both quality and compassionate care. Her retirement from teaching provided her with an excellent health care plan that covered her treatments completely at MMC. In gratitude for her care, she recently decided that she wants to leave a legacy to help others less fortunate. Barbara intends to leave her house to the Jacqueline M. Wilentz Comprehensive Breast Center at MMC. Her desire is that all funds generated from the sale of her home be used to assist financially challenged patients in need of breast services, including women who do not have insurance or women whose insurance will not fully cover the cost of necessary procedures. "Knowing that early detection and treatment for breast cancer saves lives, I want all women to have the same opportunities both my mother and I had," Barbara stated.

By thinking forward with a planned gift to MMC, Barbara has ensured that a legacy of care and compassion will be available to Monmouth County residents far into the future. She is thankful and feels strongly about paying her good fortune forward. Her planned gift will have a great impact and will make a difference in the lives of others for generations to come.

**Please consider creating a planned gift of your own for the hospital. For more information, please call 973-322-4302 or email [Gregory.Ellmer@rwjbh.org](mailto:Gregory.Ellmer@rwjbh.org) or visit: [rwjbh.org/monmouthplanned](http://rwjbh.org/monmouthplanned).**



FROM LEFT: Mary Kiely, Kaitlyn Kiely, Robin Arzon, John Kiely and Tarin Kiely



## Power of Pink Hosts The Kiely Family

The Kiely Family has operated their family business known as Kiely Family of Companies since 1952, with its original location in Long Branch. Their core values are based on empowering team members, partnering with customers and advancing the vitality of the communities they serve.

In accordance with these values, the Kiely family has donated time and capital to Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) for seven decades beginning with the company's founder John F. Kiely Sr. He served as a board member to the hospital prior to 1966. His son Jack Kiely Jr. and his wife Carolyn participated directly with MMC and through the Long Branch First Aid Squad, the Long Branch Fire Department and the Ronald McDonald House well into the 1990s. John M. Kiely, Jack's son, and his wife, Mary, have continued their family's multi-generational philanthropy through their support of the Power of Pink program over the last several years.

The long-standing relationship between MMC and the Kielys led to John and Mary hosting this year's Power of Pink at their home in Rumson, where they graciously welcomed over 400 people to their property overlooking Oyster Bay. "Leaving things better than when we found them is something my family truly believes is important for our and future generations. Partnering with MMC has made our efforts a huge success," said John M. Kiely.

The Kiely Family of Companies is celebrating its 70th year in business and the Kielys believe that family success, corporate success and community success are all possible through the value of philanthropy.



Carolyn Kiely and Jack Kiely Jr.

“Leaving things better than when we found them, is something my family truly believes is important for our future generations. Partnering with MMC has made our efforts a huge success.”

— JOHN M. KIELY

To make a donation or to learn more about the ways you can be involved, please contact us at 732.923.6886 or go to [monmouthgiving.org](https://monmouthgiving.org)



1\_ Keynote speaker, Robin Arzón, VP of Fitness Programming at Peloton

2\_ FROM LEFT: Grateful Patients Shawna Dempsey, Meg Burke, Erica Herbst, and Kelly Thomas with Robin Arzon

3\_ FROM LEFT: POP 2022: Jessica Buchner, Boutique Co-Chair; Michelle Kutsak, Boutique Co-Chair; Robin Arzón, VP of Fitness Programming at Peloton; Debbie Menkowitz, POP Co-Chair; Sima Yakoby Epstein, DMD, POP Co-Chair

4\_ FROM LEFT: Claire Knopf, The Leon Hess Cancer Center Council Co-Chair and Chair, MMCF Board of Trustees; Terry Ingram, The Leon Hess Cancer Center Council Co-Chair and Foundation Advisory Board Member; Robin Arzón, VP of Fitness Programming at Peloton

5\_ FROM LEFT: Eric Carney, President and CEO, MMC and MMCS; Caitlin Olson, Regional Vice President of Development, MMC and MMCS; and Dr. Seth Cohen, Regional Medical Director of Oncology Clinical Research



## The Leon Hess Cancer Center Council Power of Pink

The Leon Hess Cancer Center Council came back full force on July 21 as they celebrated their annual Power of Pink (POP) Luncheon in Rumson. Gracious hosts, Mary and John M. Kiely opened their home to a capacity audience on a sunny summer day as the community gathered in person for the first time for this event in two years.

At this flagship event, over \$485,000 was raised to enhance the care delivered to oncology patients. Our dedicated volunteers have raised over \$6 million to benefit The Leon Hess Cancer Center, making it the region's only facility designated as an Academic Comprehensive Cancer Program by the American College of Surgeons' Commission on Cancer. This year proceeds from the event will benefit the development of innovative cancer services at the new Vogel Medical Campus in Tinton Falls.

Keynote speaker Robin Arzón, Vice President of Fitness Programming at Peloton, stressed that movement is medicine. She encouraged everyone to focus on what you can do rather than on your limitations. "Instead of calling someone out, call someone in to this community," she said in her concluding remarks. "And let us ask ourselves these three questions: What is my why? Why not me? And what decision would we make if we were twice as strong and twice as confident? When we are able to invoke the heroism in ourselves, our communities are unstoppable."

“Robin’s powerful and positive message is in keeping with the RWJBarnabas Health mission to ensure people of all ages have the means and ability to live healthier, more fulfilling lives.

— CAITLIN OLSON,  
*Regional Vice President of Development, MMC and MMCS*

For more information on how to get involved,  
visit [www.mmcevents.org](http://www.mmcevents.org)

### THE 27<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL **POWER of pink** COMMITTEE

#### COUNCIL CO-CHAIRS

Terry Ingram  
Claire Knopf

#### POP CO-CHAIRS

Sima Yakoby Epstein, DMD  
Debbie Menkowitz

#### BOUTIQUE CO-CHAIRS

Jessica Buchner  
Michelle Kutsak

#### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jessica Angstreich  
Alexandra Conley  
Barbara Etter  
Jacklyn Esposito  
Stephanie Flynn  
Joyce Gulden  
Pari Harrison  
Anna Grace Howie  
Casey Kegelman  
Diana Kennedy  
Gerri Lawrence  
Laura McGuire  
Debbie Memmot  
Elaine Monte  
Sonya Moroney  
Debbie O'Donoghue  
Susan Olson  
Ann Rossbach  
Suzanne Rubin  
Kara Short  
Kim Smith  
Linda James Smith  
Gail Tobias  
Suzanne Veninata  
Lauren Vernon  
Tiz Ziman

#### ADVISORY MEMBERS

Donna Crosson  
Judy Eisenberg  
Beliza Ann Furman  
Susan Doctorian Kyrillos  
Bonnie Levin\*  
Mary Ann Martin  
Gloria Nilson  
Leah Soltas  
Ann Unterberg

\*Founder





FROM LEFT: 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; Sheldon Vogel; Caitlin Olson, Regional Vice President of Development, MMC and MMCSG; Eric Carney, President and CEO of MMC and MMSC



## Anne Vogel Family Care and Wellness Center Opening Event

On May 11 the community gathered for the grand opening of the Anne Vogel Family Care & Wellness Center located in Eatontown.

Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) and community leadership celebrated the opening of this transformational new center devoted to wellness education, women's services, and pediatrics.

Attendees included philanthropist Sheldon Vogel. Vogel has donated \$10 million to MMC to name the new facility for his late wife Anne, who passed away last April. This generous gift came on the heels of the Vogels' record-breaking \$50 million donation in 2020 to establish the Vogel Medical Campus in Tinton Falls, which is under development three miles away.

Bill Arnold, President and CEO of Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital New Brunswick and President, RWJBarnabas Health Southern Region, presented the Judith W. Dawkins Ambassador of Excellence Award to Anne Evans Estabrook, Trustee of Monmouth Medical Center and RWJBH. The award exemplifies visionary guidance, exceptional leadership and commitment to MMC.

After the program, guests were invited to tour the 82,000 square-foot medical and wellness facility.



FROM LEFT: Anne Evans Estabrook, Trustee of Monmouth Medical Center and RWJBH; Bill Arnold, President and CEO of Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital New Brunswick and President, RWJBarnabas Health Southern Region

To make a donation or to learn more about the ways you can be involved, please contact us at 732.923.6886 or go to [monmouthgiving.org](https://monmouthgiving.org)





Golfers visit the driving range before play



FROM LEFT: Eric Carney, *President and CEO MMC and MMCSC*; Kenneth Granet, *MD, Chief Medical Officer, MMC*; Joseph Jaeger, *PHD, Chief Academic Officer, MMC*; Mike Perdoni, *Vice President, Clinical Operations, MMC and MMCSC*



FROM LEFT: Luke Fromkin, Greg Fromkin, Bill Arnold, *President and CEO of Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital New Brunswick and President, RWJBarnabas Health Southern Region*, and Jon Arnold



## 2022 Invitational Golf Classic

The annual Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) Invitational Golf Classic was held on Thursday, June 16th, at Hollywood Golf Course in Deal. The event supports the initiatives that strengthen and sustain MMC industry-leading advances in facility innovations, medical services and patient care.

A perfect afternoon to play golf, this year's event sold out and raised over \$250,000. Attendees enjoyed a cocktail party to celebrate the successful day.



Bill Thygeson, Committee Chair

### INVITATIONAL

# GOLF Classic

#### GOLF CHAIR

William E. Thygeson, Jr.

#### COMMITTEE

Bill Arnold  
Bill Boglioli  
Eric Carney  
Scott Coleman  
William Cook  
Chris Dieterich  
William Downs, MD  
Doug Forsyth  
Joe Hill  
Todd Katz  
Barbara Mihelic  
Michael Perdoni  
Judy Polgardy  
Douglas Powell  
Alyssa Ruby-Mako  
Sndrew Sun, MD  
Doug Wells

For more information on how to get involved, visit  
[www.mmcevents.org](http://www.mmcevents.org)





FROM LEFT: Kelly Thomas, *previous Grateful Patient Swing Pink Speaker*; Terry Ingram, *Swing Co-Chair and Advisory Board Trustee*; Eric Carney, *CEO and President, MMC and MMCSC*; Caitlin Olson, *Regional Vice President of Development, MMC and MMCSC*; Claire Knopf, *Chair, MMCF Board of Trustees*; and Erica Herbst, *this year's Grateful Patient*



## The Leon Hess Cancer Center Council Swing Pink

**O**n September 19, The Leon Hess Cancer Center Council (LHCC) hosted the eighth annual women's Swing Pink sporting event at the Navesink Country Club in Middletown. Funds raised from the event will be used to support breast cancer services at the Monmouth Medical Center's Vogel Medical Campus in Tinton Falls.

The group of women, dressed in pink, gathered in the morning to participate in tennis, paddle ball, golf and pickle ball, followed by a celebratory luncheon outdoors on the poolside patio. Attendees were inspired by Grateful Patient Erica Herbst, who shared her breast cancer journey and how she is surviving and thriving.

This year's event was co-chaired by longtime and steadfast supporters of The LHCC, Terry Ingram and Debbie O'Donoghue. The event raised \$90,000 for breast cancer services, the most in the history of Swing Pink.

**For more information on how to get involved, visit [www.mmcevents.org](http://www.mmcevents.org)**

*Swing Pink*  
COMMITTEE

### EVENT

Terry Ingram  
Debbie O'Donoghue

### GOLF

Ann Rossbach  
Maggie Weikel  
Kristen Hoey

### PADDLE

Alex Conley  
Casey Kegelman

### PICKLE

Susan Olson  
Kim Smith

### TENNIS A

Stephanie Flynn

### TENNIS B

Jessica Angstreich  
Sonya Moroney



FROM LEFT: All sports Co-Chairs Alex Conley, Casey Kegelman, Jessica Angstreich, Sonya Moroney, Terry Ingram, Kristen Hoey, Debbie O'Donoghue, Maggie Weikel, Susan Olson, Kim Smith, and Stephanie Flynn



FROM LEFT: Jen Borenius, Clarie Broderick and Carolyn Desena WEforum

## WEforum Beach Crawl

**W**Eforum held its signature Fit Crawl with an outdoor twist. On September 22, the Fit Crawl became the Beach Crawl, taking place alongside the beach at the Wave Resort.

Similar in nature to a pub crawl, fitness studios throughout Monmouth County set up on the beach in front of and at the Wave Resort. The day featured a full morning of workouts with some sun and sand with express style classes. Participants had a choice of up to three classes per session, a total of five back-to-back sessions in various fitness tracks and styles.

When classes were complete, all attendees were invited to shop and snack on some samples of the best local retail and food establishments.

WEforum is an organization led by women in the community. It's mission is to strengthen the health and wellness of communities within New Jersey. WEforum has a long partnership with Monmouth Medical Center in an effort to enact positive changes in community health outcomes.





“ The partnership between WEforum and Monmouth Medical Center continues to provide the community with options for healthy outcomes.

— CAITLIN OLSON,  
Regional Vice President of  
Development, MMC and MMCSC



WEforum Beach Crawl participants enjoy a yoga class at the Wave Resort





FROM LEFT: Sam Haddad, Alice Adjmi, Maurice Zekaria



## Deal Community Tree of Life Event

The annual Tree of Life fundraising event was held at the Haddad home in Deal on June 24th. This year, the unique event helped to surpass \$3 million in total fundraising efforts over the past five years. The funds raised were due to the leadership, creative ideas and incredible efforts of community leaders Sam Haddad and Maurice Zekaria.

Eddie and Lydia Haddad, Sam and Milo Haddad, and Norma and Michael Cohen hosted this year's event. More than 100 community members attended. Prior to the event, Maurice and Sam worked with local businesses to help support the event, kicking off fundraising before the day of the event. On the day of the event, community members came together to support programs and services at Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) by pledging over \$1 million.

The community heard from RWJBH leadership Bill Arnold, President and CEO of Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital New Brunswick and President, RWJBarnabas Health Southern Region; Eric Carney, President and CEO of MMC and MMCSC; and Dr. Richard Lazarro, Chief of Thoracic Surgery, Southern Region who discussed the importance of the connection that the community has with MMC.

Before the program ended, there was a special moment to recognize a community member that advocates for her community. Sam and Maurice presented Alice Adjmi with a community leadership award for her outstanding commitment to helping others. Alice shared her story and why it is important for her to dedicate her life to helping people, especially with their healthcare needs.

“It gives me great emotional feelings to support our local medical institution, Monmouth Medical Center. They are there for us and therefore, we should be there for them.

— ALICE ADJMI

**We hope that you will join those who support MMC by considering adding your name to the Tree of Life. You may donate online at [www.rwjbh.org/MMCTreeofLife](http://www.rwjbh.org/MMCTreeofLife)**







## Stronger Together Employee Appreciation

**Stronger Together.** Two simple words that embody Monmouth Medical Center (MMC). Two simple words that reflect the incredible kindness, compassion, resilience, and spirit of MMC employees.

Every year, MMC associates show tremendous pride and generosity toward their fellow colleagues through the annual Employee Campaign. This program funds the availability of compassionate assistance and supports a thriving environment for our MMC family. Donations to the Employee Campaign are reserved specifically for the Employee Emergency Assistance Fund, scholarships, and patient programs.

In 2022, the Foundation received the most applications ever submitted for the Employee Scholarship program at just over 75 applications. The Foundation was proud to award 43 scholarships to MMC employees and their spouses and children. Full-time students were awarded \$2,000 and part-time students were awarded \$1,000. Funded by the Employee Campaign, the scholarship program helps many employees and their families to further their education. MMC is proud that employees support the campaign that truly makes a positive impact during hard times and supports their colleague's big dreams for the future.

**“WHY I GIVE!**  
You never think it can happen to you, but through no fault of your own, sometimes you find yourself without means to pay for necessities. It is because of fellow colleagues who give every year to the Employee Campaign that I made it to the other side. I am beyond grateful to have had assistance from the Monmouth Medical Center Foundation and this is my way of paying it forward.

— ANONYMOUS RECIPIENT  
OF EMERGENCY EMPLOYEE  
ASSISTANCE

To make a donation or to learn more about the ways you can be involved, please contact us at 732.923.6886 or go to [monmouthgiving.org](http://monmouthgiving.org)

OPPOSITE PAGE: Eric Carney, *President and CEO, MMC and MMCSC*, Caitlin Olson, *Regional Vice President of Development for MMC and MMCSC*, Cheryl Solon, *Assistant Vice President of Development, MMCF*; Cara Zimmermann, *Development Associate, MMCF* and Claire Knopf, *Chair, MMCF Board of Trustees* join the 2022 scholarship recipients



“ Robin was gracious with her time and her heart and she genuinely cared about others.

— SARI SHAMAH  
Patient Satisfaction Representative, MMC



The Ashkenazi family delivers self-care totes to MMC



## Honoring a lifetime of Giving to Others

Robin Ashkenazi

**R**obin Ashkenazi would have celebrated her 60th birthday this past August. To honor her memory, her family wanted to do something impactful to celebrate her life and the lessons she has passed on to them. "Robin dedicated her life to giving to others and her story deserves to be told," said her mother Sylvia Hamowy.

Robin always gave back and derived great joy from helping others. Her need to give back is what made her decision, as a young mother, to go to school at night to become a Registered Nurse. She worked as a Clinical Nurse Liaison at Monmouth Medical Center (MMC) from 2007-2014, until her untimely passing at the age of 52.

Sylvia remembers, "My daughter brought me to MMC to show me where she worked, because she was so proud to be a nurse. She never complained about the long hours, or the commute to and from Brooklyn and often on weekends, she would visit anyone that asked for help."

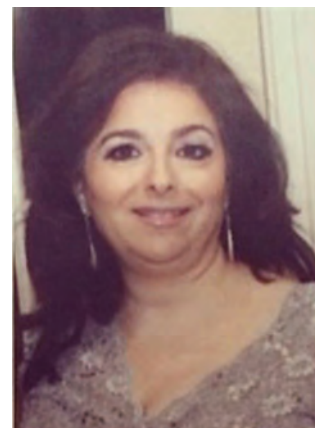
Since her passing in 2014, her family has learned of the many random acts of kindness that Robin performed quietly on her own, her willingness to always help a friend or a total stranger.

Sylvia, Robin's three sisters and Robin's three daughters all share Robin's commitment to giving and they will pass that tradition on to the grandchildren. The family came together to design a special logo and donated the most beautiful, heart-felt, self-care tote bags filled with "Robin's favorite things" to give to 50 lucky nurses at MMC. They assembled the self-care bags and included a note that reads, "In loving memory of our mother Robin Ashkenazi's 60th Birthday. She dedicated her life to nursing, 24/7, no matter what time of day, just like all of you. Inside you will find a few of her favorite things. Thank you for all you do!"

Rose Polasky, Regional Director Employee Experience, was onsite to accept these tote-bags. She said that "self-care is an invaluable practice for everyone, especially for those who are caregivers at work or at home."

Sari Shamah, Patient Satisfaction Representative, who personally knew Robin, had this to say about her. "I remember many times that Robin would call me up and say that we needed to help someone. She didn't care if she was tired or had no time for herself, if there was another person in need, she wanted to help. She was gracious with her time and her heart and she genuinely cared about others."

Sylvia said that recognizing her daughter was a gift, and helps her move through her grief. By giving these gifts to MMC's nurses, the family hopes the nurses feel seen and appreciated for all they do.



“Each person that I have helped has helped me to establish my goals and values towards my own life.

— ROBIN ASHKENAZI

To make a donation or to learn more about the ways you can be involved, please contact us at 732.923.6886 or go to [monmouthgiving.org](http://monmouthgiving.org)



The MMCF Team at  
THE 27<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
**POWER**  
*of pink*  
JULY 2022

FROM LEFT: Eileen Dupey, *Development Manager*; Cheryl Solon, *Assistant Vice President of Development*; Madison Lopez, *Director, Special Events*; Lauren Simons, *Director of Development*; Caitlin Olson, *Regional Vice President of Development for MMC and MMCS*; Evelyn Nitis, *Regional Director, Special Events for MMC and MMCS*; Robin Embrey, *Principal Gifts Officer*; Kate Ford, *CCS Consultant*; Cara Zimmermann, *Development Associate*; Vincenzo Spanola, *Development Coordinator*

