Monmouth Medical Center expands its Maternity Unit to Meet Demand

The Birth of a Child is one of life’s most wonderful and truly remarkable experiences, and for decades, Monmouth Medical Center has made the experience a happy and healthy one for countless families. For expectant parents, preparing for a baby requires making many important decisions, including choosing a hospital for the birth of the baby. In Monmouth and Ocean counties, more parents turn to Monmouth Medical Center—where 4,500 babies are expected to be delivered in 2013.

To keep up with the demand, Monmouth Medical Center recently completed an ambitious project to expand The Eisenberg Family Center to include a new unit featuring additional expansive private postpartum rooms for new mothers recovering from childbirth. “We believe that this project fosters our family-centered care philosophy and promotes mother/baby care as we prepare new families for the journey home,” says Kathleen Windram, R.N., M.S.N., BSHA, administrative director, Unterberg Children’s Hospital and Women’s Services. “While we make those exciting changes, the focus of The Eisenberg Family Center always will remain on the mother, baby and family together.”

The new postpartum pavilion includes private patient rooms that, like the existing postpartum unit, provide hotel-like amenities such as flat-screen televisions and WiFi Internet access for women recovering from childbirth, as well as a comfortable environment to welcome family and friends. The new pavilion also houses a newborn nursery with the latest technology to support the highest quality infant care.

“The new postpartum pavilion is an ‘as-needed’ basis. Monmouth Medical Center has provided this level of care well ahead of today’s public demand and government mandates simply because it is the right thing to do,” Dr. Graebe says. "The quality and strength of our department is mirrored in the quality of its members and has for decades been the supporting expertise that has helped Monmouth Medical Center become a national model for excellence in obstetrics."
August 30 to treat uterine cancer. She was discharged after just one night in the hospital, and called the care she received from Dr. Hackett and Monmouth Medical Center excellent.

“The surgical procedure as well as the post-operative recovery has been relatively seamless, and the care I received throughout my entire stay, from admission to discharge was excellent,” she said. “A nurse by profession, I certainly can speak to excellent care, and I feel that my surgery and the outcome as well as the care I received from the entire staff are two mutually important aspects of the excellence of the care at Monmouth. I know folks who default to New York City for their surgery based on the reputation of a surgeon, but they may or may not receive the best bedside care in that hospital.”

Initially concerned surgery would prevent her from traveling to Europe in October, she notes that she was back to feeling like herself in days and looks forward to accompanying her husband, Daniel Goldberg, M.D., a refractive surgeon who is a partner of LASIK surgery and as accomplished ophthalmologist and cataract surgeon, to a lecture he will deliver in Amsterdam.

Dr. Hackett notes that patients who choose robot-assisted hysterectomy over traditional surgeries are released from the hospital sooner, experience less pain, blood loss and scarring, return to their regular routine quicker and have fewer infections and other post-surgery complications.

The Chief of Gynecologic Oncology for Monmouth Medical Center, Dr. Hackett is a recognized expert in the field of robotic surgery.

Monmouth Medical Center is the only hospital in the region to employ two surgical robots and the latest technology for minimally invasive complex procedures in adult and pediatric urology, gynecology and general and thoracic surgery. Its highly skilled experienced team of surgeons utilizes groundbreaking robotic technologies to perform innovative procedures and yield better results than traditional surgery. Robotic surgery offers patients many benefits, including quicker healing time, less blood loss, lower risk of infection and shorter hospital stays.

“This is a significant milestone, as we’ve seen firsthand how patients are benefiting from this minimally invasive alternative to traditional surgery,” said urologist Michael Schwartz, M.D., a board-certified general surgeon at Monmouth Medical Center. Using a single incision, robotic technology successfully detaches and remove the gallbladder. Following the procedure, the patient had a barely visible scar coming out of her belly button. Traditional surgery would have required a six-inch incision just below the rib cage, as well as a much longer recovery period and more scarring.

Robotic assisted lobectomy was performed to remove part of the lung on 75-year old Red Bank woman with early stage lung cancer. She resumed normal activities two weeks following surgery. The surgery was performed thoracic surgeon Laki Skydkard, M.D., Chief of Thoracic Surgery, Director of Minimal Invasive and Robotic Thoracic Surgery and Director of the Thoracic Surgical Oncology Program. The robotic system allows surgeons better visualization and improved fine motor skills in a very small space, whereas traditional surgery to treat lung cancer – thoracotomy or Video-Assisted Thoracoscopic Surgery – requires one large incision or several incisions and exposes a large portion of the lung.

The robotic lobectomy may result in significantly less pain and trauma for patients.

Urologist Pierre Mendoza, M.D., performed the first partial nephrectomy in New Jersey for a patient with kidney cancer using a new near-infrared fluorescence imaging guided system available on the da Vinci Si Surgical System. The specially designed camera and endoscopes enable surgeons to capture images of tissue and surrounding blood vessels by injecting a unique fluorescence dye that is activated by near-infrared light. Monmouth Medical Center is among a select group of hospitals in the country to first utilize this revolutionary technology.
A GARDEN OF HOPE BLOOMS WITH MESSAGES OF HOPE AND HEALING

MONMOUTH MEDICAL CENTER TAKES ITS ROLL OUT THE RIBBONS CAMPAIGN INDOORS THIS FALL

MONMOUTH MEDICAL Center’s Promenade of Hope—the focal point this past summer for the hospital’s Roll Out The Ribbons cancer awareness campaign—has blossomed into a Garden of Hope.

The hospital launched Roll Out The Ribbons, a unique awareness campaign designed to strengthen the fight against cancer and honor courageous individuals who have and are fighting the battle, on July 4 at Long Branch’s Oceanfest celebration to raise awareness of cancer in all its forms and educate the public about the importance of early detection and prevention. The Promenade of Hope—a half-mile stretch of railing along the boardwalk in Long Branch—enabled residents from local communities to dedicate multi-colored ribbons along the rail with messages of hope and healing to symbolize a united front in the fight against cancer.

Shortly after Labor Day, more than 2,000 Ribbons of Honor were successfully removed from the promenade and attached to a seven-foot-tall ribbon sculpture. Currently on display on the upper level of the Monmouth Mall in Eatontown, the sculpture is surrounded by colorful flowers in the Garden of Hope, which was made possible by Flowerful Events in Eatontown.

Like the Promenade of Hope, the Garden of Hope provides a beautiful visual reminder of the fight against all cancers and a soothing place where mall guests can reflect and hope for a future without cancer, according to Frank J. Vozos, M.D., FACS, President and Chief Executive Officer of Monmouth Medical Center. “The sculpture was designed specifically to hold thousands of ribbons to accommodate the ribbons inscribed at community events held in observance of Prostate and Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month in September, Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October and Lung Cancer Awareness Month in November,” Dr. Vozos says. Mall patrons can submit ribbons at the nearby kiosk as well as text in their ribbon messages, and ribbons will continue to be added to the sculpture through mid December.

It’s free and easy to submit a Ribbon of Honor:
• Electronically via the mall kiosk or at www.rollouttheribbons.com.
• Fill out a form in person at a participating retailer or fill out a ribbon at a community event as listed on www.rollouttheribbons.com.
• Text ROR <space> then your message (up to 60 characters) to 84444 from your mobile device.

Optional donations benefit patients of the Leon Hess Cancer Center and the Valerie Fund Children’s Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at Monmouth Medical Center.

The Roll Out The Ribbons tent was on hand as the Valerie Fund Children’s Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders, as part of The Unterberg Children’s Hospital at Monmouth Medical Center, hosted a special Tree-Lighting Ceremony and Reception honoring Make Some Noise: Cure Kids Cancer Foundation in September in front of the Sea Bright fire house. A part of the Go Gold for Pediatric Cancer Campaign, a joint effort between Make Some Noise: Cure Kids Cancer Foundation and Monmouth Medical Center, the campaign is designed to raise awareness of childhood cancer and the need for critical research funding during the month of September, which is recognized nationally as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CANCER SERVICES AT MONMOUTH MEDICAL CENTER, OR TO LEARN ABOUT UPCOMING CANCER AWARENESS COMMUNITY EVENTS, CALL 888.724.7123.