When it comes to healthcare, there is no compromising. You want the very best. The very best care team; the very best technology and treatments; the very best facilities; and, of course, the very best patient experience.

An emblem of commitment to all of those things and more, the much anticipated affiliation between Winthrop-University Hospital and NYU Langone Health became official on April 1, 2017. NYU Langone is now the corporate parent of the Hospital, creating a clinically integrated healthcare network between the two organizations.

With this new affiliation also came a new name for Winthrop, which is now NYU Winthrop Hospital.

“This affiliation has paved the way for the establishment of an integrated health network on Long Island that is enhancing healthcare across the region and enabling the residents we serve to access a broad array of outstanding health services,” said John F. Collins, President & CEO of NYU Winthrop Hospital. “We are confident NYU Winthrop Hospital will be a major force in our region’s healthcare landscape, and we look forward with great optimism to this new chapter in our Hospital’s storied history.”

“This new relationship reflects our joint dedication to providing the highest standards of clinical care, supported by the advanced technologies and sophisticated research and teaching programs that will enhance our collective institutions,” said NYU Langone Dean and CEO Robert I. Grossman, MD.

As a result of this affiliation, NYU Winthrop has gained access to capital to develop a long-term master plan, characterized by growth and expansion that will benefit scores of individuals who turn to the Hospital for care for generations to come. This includes an expansion to the Hospital’s Emergency Department to accommodate the tremendous growth in patient volume it has experienced over the years. The expansion entails making room for additional beds and reconfiguring the Department to make way for larger rooms for patients.

Plans for a two-floor expansion to the Hospital’s bustling New Life Center, which will add 26 new single-unit maternity rooms as well as expand the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, are also underway.

“We’re embarking on an exciting new chapter in our history that will enable us to offer more patients in the New York metropolitan area enhanced access to world-class, compassionate, and comprehensive care,” said Dr. Grossman. “I’m enthusiastic about combining our talent and expertise with that of NYU Winthrop Hospital.”

John F. Collins, President and CEO of NYU Winthrop Hospital, (left) and Robert Grossman, MD, Dean and CEO of NYU Langone.
The Board of Directors of NYU Winthrop Hospital is a committed group of community and professional leaders who are charged with supporting the mission of the Hospital and setting the direction for its continued growth and expansion. Recently, six new members were elected to serve as part of this group, whose generosity and dedication carries on a legacy of commitment begun by the Hospital’s first Trustees in 1896. As of June, they included:

Kenneth G. Langone
Kenneth G. Langone is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of Invemed Associates LLC, a New York Stock Exchange member firm specializing in healthcare and high technology companies. He received a BA from Bucknell University and an MBA from New York University’s Stern School of Business; he remains active with both institutions currently serving on the board of overseers of the Stern School and on the board of trustees of New York University as well as chairman of the Trustees of NYU Langone Health. In April 2008, the Medical Center was renamed NYU Langone, reflecting a major gift provided by the Langones.

Michael T. Burke
Michael T. Burke, Senior Vice President and Vice Dean, Corporate Chief Financial Officer, joined NYU Langone Health in 2008, assuming responsibility for the hospital and medical school finance departments. Since joining the Medical Center, he has initiated a finance transformation process which entails a complete assessment and overhaul of the existing business processes, systems and organization of NYU Langone. He has also been instrumental in transforming the financial performance and profitability of the Medical Center, increasing funds for capital investment, and raising the investment grade by all rating agencies.

Richard J. Donoghue
Richard (Rick) J. Donoghue, Senior Vice President for Strategy, Planning and Business Development at NYU Langone Health, is responsible for the strategic initiatives of NYU Langone – which includes both NYU Langone Hospitals and NYU School of Medicine. He is also responsible for the medical malpractice program and managed care contracting at NYU Langone. Since his arrival in 1990, Mr. Donoghue has worked in a variety of positions including Chief Financial Officer, Chief Information Officer and head of the Merger Office, responsible for the integration of NYU Langone Hospitals with Mount Sinai Hospital and the subsequent dissolution of that union.

Joseph J. Lhota
Joseph J. Lhota is Vice Dean, Senior Vice President and Chief of Staff for NYU Langone Health. He is responsible for aligning and integrating patient care, research, and education at NYU Hospitals and NYU School of Medicine. Mr. Lhota assists the Dean in managing the day-to-day activities and the strategic direction of this globally renowned academic Medical Center.

Mr. Lhota brings more than 35 years of managerial and policy-making experience to the position.

Thomas S. Murphy, Jr.
Thomas S. Murphy, Jr. co-founded Crestview Partners – a mid-market private equity firm based in New York City – in 2004. He is a Partner of the Firm and a member of the Investment Committee. Prior to starting Crestview, Mr. Murphy was a partner at Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC. He has served on a wide variety of corporate boards and serves as a Trustee of The Inner-City Scholarship Fund and NYU Langone Health. Mr. Murphy received his AB from Princeton University and his MBA from Harvard Business School. While at Harvard, he co-founded the Mass Bay Brewing Company.

Karen A. Wiley
Karen A. Wiley is Co-Owner and Vice President of Word Power Unlimited, Inc., a family business she co-founded 35 years ago which provides mailing services and database development for corporations, nonprofits, and municipalities. Co-Founder and Co-President of the Wings of Winthrop (a community based fundraising group) since 2004, Ms. Wiley now serves as President of the Auxiliary of NYU Winthrop.

In addition to her important service and contributions to NYU Winthrop, Ms. Wiley is a past president of the Rotary Club of Williston Park, where she has received the prestigious Paul Harris Award and Rotarian of the Year award for her many fundraising and service initiatives.
Despite the warm temperatures, there are many who did not show off their legs this summer because of their unsightly varicose veins. Now, there is unparalleled care available to diagnose and treat all vein-related problems in one convenient location.

NYU Winthrop’s new Vascular Surgery facility, located at 200 Old Country Road, Suite 120 in Mineola, offers patients the convenience of consultations, vascular testing, and surgical procedures all under one roof. Boasting state-of-the-art equipment and a friendly and knowledgeable staff, the facility includes a Specialty Vein Center – a one-stop facility for evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of varicose vein procedures previously only performed in the Operating Room.

“Our Vein Center offers the latest minimally invasive treatments, a majority of which do not require a Hospital stay, general anesthesia, or lengthy surgery – allowing patients to return to work and normal activities immediately after treatment,” said Reese Wain, MD, Chief of NYU Winthrop’s Division of Vascular Surgery. Dr. Wain’s vision and leadership has helped grow a team of vascular surgeons that has enabled the highly regarded NYU Winthrop Vein Center to offer treatments for venous insufficiency, malfunctioning dialysis accesses, peripheral artery disease, and the placement of ports for chemotherapy, among other procedures.

Millions of Americans suffer from venous disease, and the disease can affect both men and women of all ages. Age and pregnancy are among the most common reasons for varicose veins, which can develop as a result of weakened valves in the veins that impede the normal flow of blood back to the heart. With innovative and minimally invasive treatments such as Endovenous Laser Therapy (EVLT), Stab Phlebectomy, and Sclerotherapy all available at NYU Winthrop’s Vein Center, patients no longer need to suffer.

“The NYU Winthrop Vein Center is a comprehensive facility that allows our surgeons to assess, diagnose, and treat patients with a full spectrum of venous disease. The new facility and compassionate staff make it possible to offer patients streamlined care in a comfortable and safe environment,” said Christine Chung, MD, RPVI, Attending Vascular Surgeon in the Division of Vascular Surgery at NYU Winthrop Hospital.

NYU Winthrop Hospital also boasts one of the few vein centers on Long Island with

You may be a candidate for vein treatment if you have one or more of the following:

- A family history of varicose veins
- Large, bulging veins
- Discoloration, pain, swelling, tiredness, burning, itchiness of your legs, ankles, or feet
- No symptom relief with compression stockings, weight loss, or exercise alone
- Sores or wounds on your legs

New Center Offers State-of-the-art Treatments for Varicose Veins

“Working for the United Parcel Service, I am on my feet all day. Recently, my leg really began to bother me, and I decided to take matters into my own hands to get the care I needed. From the moment I walked into NYU Winthrop’s Specialty Vein Center – from the staff at the reception desk to the nurses to the doctor who treated me – it was an absolutely wonderful experience. After just one (virtually painless) visit, I was back to work the very next day. I’m so glad that I finally had this done! I tell everyone I know about the wonderful care I received at NYU Winthrop’s Vein Center.”

— James Atkinson, who recently underwent left leg endovenous laser therapy, phlebectomy, and sclerotherapy.

“I came to the NYU Winthrop Specialty Vein Center after a family member raved about the care, and I am nothing short of blown away by the experience I had. The level of care and knowledge put my mind at ease and gave me a sense of comfort that I never experienced elsewhere. As a mother of an active six year old, I want to be able to move and grow with my child. Dr. Chung and the entire team at the Vein Center provided me with a service to enable me to do just that.”

— Dianne Marchese, who underwent endovenous laser therapy on her left leg in July 2017.
It was at the bedside of a close friend who was battling a serious medical condition that 74-year-old Russell Miller made a vow that he would make his health a priority. The then 289-pound Mr. Miller began his journey at NYU Winthrop Hospital in 2009, and today, the Mineola resident, who is now close to 100 pounds lighter and has overcome a host of cardiac medical issues, is grateful for the revolutionary medical care he has received at the Hospital to make that possible.

"I attribute my good health today to the doctors at NYU Winthrop, and following their orders to live healthfully as a senior citizen," he said.

His journey simply began with a visit to NYU Winthrop Internal Medicine Specialist, Anthony Calio, MD.

"Dr. Calio spent over three hours with me that day," recalled Mr. Miller. "I thought to myself, 'Does this man do this with everyone?' He demonstrated a level of attention and care unlike anything I had experienced before."

Follow-up appointments and tests with various Hospital specialists ensued, and in time, Mr. Miller found himself calling upon the experts in the Hospital's Division of Cardiology, under the leadership of Kevin Marzo, MD, Chief of Cardiology, to address medical issues related to coronary artery disease and Atrial fibrillation (AF). AF is an irregular and often rapid heart rate that can increase the risk of stroke, heart failure and other heart-related issues.

Though he was able to manage his AF with medication, Mr. Miller wondered if there were any other options for treatment. Traditional medications for AF are anticoagulants, or blood thinners, which also carry the increased risk of bleeding. (Mr. Miller has severe arthritis that requires medications that cannot safely be taken in conjunction with these blood thinners).

He read an article about a state-of-the-art technology offered at NYU Winthrop - The WATCHMAN™ Left Atrial Appendage Closure Device – and was instantly intrigued. The WATCHMAN is designed to reduce AF patients’ risk of stroke while providing an alternative option to long-term anticoagulation medications (blood thinners) or open heart surgery.

After careful consideration, Mr. Miller met with his doctor, Joseph Germano, DO, Director of NYU Winthrop's Atrial Fibrillation Center, to determine if he was a candidate. Dr. Germano had previously operated on Mr. Miller, implanting a pacemaker/defibrillator to treat Mr. Miller's cardiomyopathy (weakened heart) and congestive heart failure.

"For patients with atrial fibrillation, preventing a stroke is a top priority, since blood clots can form as a result of the irregular heartbeat," said Dr. Germano. "With the WATCHMAN device, we now have a minimally invasive way to target and eliminate blood clots where they start."

The WATCHMAN, which lasts a lifetime once it is implanted, is delivered to the heart through a catheter that is fed through a femoral vein in the leg. The parachute-like device is then deployed in the area of the heart that tends to develop blood clots (the left atrial appendage), and the self-expanding frame seals off the appendage, effectively closing off the site where the clots can form. The procedure lasts about an hour and a half, and most patients can expect a one to two-day hospital stay while recovering.

NYU Winthrop has been a leader in the implantation of this technology. In fact, the Hospital was selected as a "WATCHMAN site" by Boston Scientific Corporation (the manufacturers of the device) because of its exceptional and comprehensive cardiac care program and experience with similar procedures in the upper chambers of the heart.

To implement the program, NYU Winthrop assembled a highly skilled team that includes cardiac electrophysiologists including Dr. Germano and Sameer Parekh, MD, as well as cardiac imaging specialists, Bevash Ray, MD, and Todd Kerwin, MD. In addition, a dedicated team of electrophysiology nurses and technicians, cardiac anesthesiologists, cardiac surgeons, and coordinators each play a vital role in the evaluation, treatment and recovery of patients who undergo the procedure. The NYU Winthrop team was recently joined by Erik Altman, MD, another experienced WATCHMAN implanter.

"WATCHMAN represents a paradigm shift in how we are managing stroke prevention in patients with AF," said Dr. Parekh. More than 50 patients have been treated with the WATCHMAN since launching the program in 2016.

Since undergoing the procedure, Mr. Miller has been able to successfully come off one of his blood thinner medications, and the former swimmer is now looking forward to returning to the pool to resume aquatic physical therapy, which he finds helpful in relieving everyday knee pain. Grateful for the WATCHMAN and for all those at NYU Winthrop who have helped him in his pursuit of good health, Mr. Miller couldn’t be happier with the outcome of his care at NYU Winthrop.

"WATCHMAN was a godsend," he said, adding, "And I have NYU Winthrop to thank for that."

Individuals with AF who wish to explore alternatives to long-term blood thinners should ask their cardiologist if they are candidates for the WATCHMAN device. For more information about cardiac care at NYU Winthrop, call 1-866-WINTHROP or visit www.nyuwinthrop.org.
Thanks to an unprecedented gift from one Garden City family, NYU Winthrop Hospital’s emergency entrance has a new name – The Phyllis and Nathan J. Mistretta East Campus Emergency Entrance. A beautiful new sign over the emergency entrance to the Hospital, as well as a special plaque in the Main Entryway, now greets the tens of thousands of patients and visitors who come to the Hospital’s Emergency Department (ED) each year.

“We are deeply appreciative of the Mistretta family’s continued support of our great institution,” said John F. Collins, President and CEO of NYU Winthrop Hospital. “The demands on our Emergency Department continue to increase, and the Mistretta's commitment to making sure our patients have the very best facilities and resources have played a vital part in our success.”

Volume in the ED at NYU Winthrop has grown steadily over the years, with more and more patients turning to the Hospital for top-notch, emergency medical care. Under the leadership of Barry Rosenthal, MD, MPH, Chairman of Emergency Medicine at NYU Winthrop Hospital, an initiative began last spring to provide care to patients before a bed or chair was available inside the ED. The initiative, which began with Dr. Rosenthal as the Waiting Room physician, accompanied by ED nurses Rousselande Jean Charles and Michele Ahlers, has since become standard practice in the ED.

"With a limited amount of space in the department, we wanted to do something to meet the demands of our increasing volume, so we brought the physicians, PAs and NPs to patients in the waiting room, effectively expanding the size of our Department," said Dr. Rosenthal. "It is here that we can begin evaluating patients, order appropriate studies, administer medications, and obtain consults. Some patients are actually treated and released from the waiting room."

This is something that resonated strongly with Mr. Mistretta, prompting him and his wife to give back once again.

"My wife and I have long believed in supporting initiatives that help reduce wait times for families in crisis," said Mr. Mistretta. "We know volume is a challenge in the ED – but a good challenge to have. When the doctors, nurses, and even the Chairman himself rolls up his sleeves and gets involved in the care of patients outside of the physical walls of the Department, there really is no greater commitment than that."

This is the third momentous gift that NYU Winthrop has received from the Mistrettas. In 2008, the Hospital dedicated the Phyllis & Nathan J. Mistretta Emergency Diagnostic Imaging Center within the Emergency Department. And in 2006, the Hospital named its dedicated emergency cardiac care facility the Mistretta Chest Pain Unit.

"The Mistrettas have been long-time, loyal supporters over the years. The longevity of their giving is really significant in demonstrating their belief in a Hospital that continues to uphold the highest standards of healthcare when serving the community in their time of need," said Lynn Drucker, Assistant Vice President, Development at NYU Winthrop.
National Recognition
Once Again for The
Children’s Medical Center

The Children’s Medical Center at NYU Winthrop has been named to U.S. News & World Report’s 2017-2018 Best Children’s Hospitals rankings for demonstrating excellence in the specialties of pediatric diabetes and endocrinology, pediatric pulmonology and pediatric urology.

"It’s quite an accomplishment that, year after year, our Children’s Medical Center has been named among the Best Children’s Hospitals in the nation, and that this year, we were just one of two Long Island hospitals to make the list," said Leonard Krilov, MD, Chairman of Pediatrics. "This prestigious designation is just one example of our Hospital’s commitment to providing the very best care to pediatric patients across all clinical specialties."

More High Accolades from U.S. News & World Report
NYU Winthrop was also named one of the Best Regional Hospitals in the New York Metro Area for 2017-18 by U.S. News & World Report. In addition, NYU Winthrop has been recognized for 14 high performing types of care, which include seven high performing specialties and seven procedures and conditions of common care.

The seven high performing specialties include Diabetes & Endocrinology; Gastroenterology & GI Surgery; Geriatrics; Nephrology; Neurology & Neurosurgery; Orthopedics; and Urology. The seven procedures and conditions of common care include Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Repair; Aortic Valve Surgery; Heart Bypass Surgery; Heart Failure; Colon Cancer Surgery; Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and Lung Cancer Surgery.

"NYU Winthrop is proud to be recognized once again among the best hospitals in the region by U.S. News & World Report," said John F. Collins, NYU Winthrop’s President and CEO. "These impressive rankings are a testament to the high quality care that is delivered each day across a range of specialties by our superior clinical team."

For more information about the breadth and depth of services at NYU Winthrop, call 1-866-WINTHROP or visit www.nyuwinthrop.org.

NYU Winthrop Earns HBOT Accreditation with Distinction

NYU Winthrop Hospital is pleased to announce that its Hyperbaric Unit has received accreditation with distinction from the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society (UHMS). This is the highest honor that the UHMS council can bestow upon an organization. UHMS accreditation means the NYU Winthrop Hyperbaric Unit, which is equipped to provide hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT), has met or exceeded the highest standards of care and patient safety through rigorous evaluation of operations, including equipment, staff education, and specialized training to ensure that the utmost quality is maintained within the specialty of undersea and hyperbaric medicine.

"This accreditation demonstrates NYU Winthrop Hospital’s commitment to providing the highest quality of patient care to all those who utilize the Hyperbaric Unit," said Scott Gorenstein, MD, FACEP, Clinical Director of Regenerative Medicine at NYU Winthrop Hospital. "Our team is very proud of this significant milestone, especially as our program celebrates 10 years of service to the community."
Recently, NYU Winthrop Hospital was selected by Forbes Magazine as one of “America’s Best Employers” for 2017. Out of the nation’s 500 top employers, NYU Winthrop was ranked 18th overall, and was the only Long Island employer to earn its rightful place in the top 100.

This recognition highlights the Hospital’s commitment to building a culture that enables every employee to leverage their unique talents to eliminate the barriers between ideas and outcomes for patients.

“We are honored to be recognized by Forbes. It has always been our philosophy that if our physicians, nurses, entire medical staff, and all of our other valued employees are happy and proud to work at NYU Winthrop, that this will translate into the highest quality medical care possible,” said John F. Collins, President and CEO of NYU Winthrop. “We consider all who work at NYU Winthrop to be family, and this recognition underscores that the workplace environment that has long existed here has allowed each and every employee and medical professional to achieve their personal best. NYU Winthrop personnel respect each other and take care of each other, which has created an environment that allows us to treat our patients like family. Patients sense this, and often remark about the unbelievable ‘caring’ they experience at NYU Winthrop.”

Working with online statistics provider Statista, Forbes asked more than 30,000 U.S. workers to determine, on a scale of zero to 10, how likely they were to recommend their employer to someone else. Further, how did they feel about the other employers in their industry? The employees who took part in the survey were consulted anonymously through several online access panels. Their scores were analyzed using the net promoter score theory — and involved highly-selective criteria — to determine the company’s eligibility and rank as one of America’s Best Employers.

Gold Standard for Inpatient Diabetes Care

When an individual with diabetes enters the hospital for any reason, it is essential that staff understand how to manage that patient’s special medical needs. NYU Winthrop has once again earned The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval™ for Advanced Certification for Inpatient Diabetes Care, attesting to the fact that every department and specialty, including non-clinical departments, participate in and contribute to the Hospital’s diabetes initiatives.

There are only 88 programs in the United States that have achieved this advanced certification and only a handful in large teaching hospitals. This hospital-wide, patient-focused initiative is led by NYU Winthrop’s Diabetes and Obesity Institute, under the direction of Virginia Peragallo-Dittko, RN, BC-ADM, CDE, FAADE, Executive Director.

More “Bests” for NYU Winthrop, CEO

Earlier this year, The Long Island Press published its annual winners of the Bethpage Best of Long Island 2017 awards, and NYU Winthrop was honored to have been named both the Best Hospital on Long Island, and for having the Best Maternity Ward. Furthermore, Long Island Business News readers recently voted NYU Winthrop as the Best Hospital in Nassau.

“It is an honor to be recognized by the Long Island community,” said John F. Collins, President & CEO of NYU Winthrop, adding, “the awards are a tribute to our fantastic staff members, who work hard every day servicing patients and the community.”

In April, Mr. Collins was also recognized as one of the “most influential” Long Islanders, as determined by the writers and editors of the Long Island Press.

NYU Winthrop Hospital’s detailed financial assistance policy and application form are available in multiple languages on our website (www.nyuwinthrop.org/financial-assistance) and at all registration locations, or you may call our Credit & Collection Department at (516) 576-5600, option #3 for more information or to obtain a hard copy version of these documents at no cost.
Selfless, heroic actions, both throughout her career and in the days and weeks following 9/11, have left 52-year-old retired New York City Transit Police Officer Carol Paukner with a host of medical conditions. Among these is chronic knee pain resulting from injuries sustained during rescue and recovery efforts that ultimately led her to receive the NYPD’s Medal of Valor in recognition of her extraordinary acts of courage.

Eager to find a minimally invasive therapy that could offer her some relief from the knee pain she endures each day, Ms. Paukner was excited to learn about an innovative technique called PRP therapy, offered by her pain management specialist, Edward S. Rubin, MD, a board-certified anesthesiologist and the Director of Chronic Pain Medicine at NYU Winthrop Hospital.

Dr. Rubin has extensive experience in pain management, having completed a fellowship in Pain Medicine at Weill Cornell Medical College and training at Columbia University, the Hospital for Special Surgery and Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Often working in collaboration with NYU Winthrop’s orthopedic surgeons to help patients manage their pain, Dr. Rubin specializes in the treatment of pain in the joints and spine, chronic pain of the lower back and neck, and muscle pain related to sports injuries. He emphasizes the use of non-narcotic techniques when appropriate.

“PRP, or Platelet Rich Plasma, is a regenerative technique whereby your body’s own healing substances are separated from your blood and injected back into your body at the point of the tissue damage that is causing you pain,” said Dr. Rubin.

“Typically, patients begin to see improvement in two to three weeks. Additional treatments may be warranted, occasionally for up to three total treatments,” said Dr. Rubin. “Relief can last upwards of three years and beyond in our experience.”

The effects of Ms. Paukner’s first PRP injection earlier this year were evident rather quickly.

“It gave me the relief I needed to function,” she said. “I can walk up and down stairs without pain and just lead a normal daily life.”

Dr. Rubin says that PRP is competing with cortisone shots or visco supplement injections in the joints, as PRP doesn’t have the same potentially negative effects such as elevated blood sugar and weight gain. Patients don’t have to endure other forms of treatment and can begin PRP therapy as a first line of treatment for their pain.

“PRP therapy is an ideal treatment for sports injuries and sprains. It has been used by professional athletes because there are no steroids involved. It will not work, however, in a joint replacement patient as there is no tissue to regenerate,” added Dr. Rubin.

Ms. Paukner anticipates undergoing a second injection in the weeks ahead and feels confident that PRP therapy is just what she needed at this point in her life.

“Instead of having to undergo an invasive surgery, I am using my own body to heal itself. What could be better?”

For more information about pain management services at NYU Winthrop, call 1-866-WINTHROP or visit www.nyuwinthrop.org.
Hope, camaraderie and inspiration were abundant during NYU Winthrop Hospital’s 19th Annual Cancer Survivors Day event held on June 14, 2017, at the Cartun on the Park in East Meadow. Attended by more than 400 cancer survivors, their loved ones and Hospital staff, the inspiring event provided all with the opportunity to join together for the annual heartwarming “Celebration of Life.”

The evening included a cocktail hour, three-course dinner, music, raffle prizes, and inspiring reflections from two honorees. The event celebrates the resilience of survivors and advances in treatment, recognizes the loving support of caregivers, and demonstrates that there is life after a cancer diagnosis.

Guests were welcomed by Eva Chalas, MD, Physician Director of NYU Winthrop’s Cancer Center, and Palmira M. Cataliotti, CPA, Senior Vice President & Chief Financial Officer. Both speakers reaffirmed the Hospital’s commitment to the cancer program and expressed their gratitude for seeing so many people in attendance.

Jim Johnson, patient speaker, was optimistic and exuberant: “I’m the luckiest guy in the room,” he said. Last year, an annual physical with his primary care physician was postponed by about a month. During this delay, a small, seemingly insignificant bump appeared on the side of his neck. When he had his appointment, Mr. Johnson offhandedly mentioned the bump to his physician, who suggested that he get it checked out. “Had I kept my original appointment, it would not have been there and I may have ignored it,” he said.

Ultimately, Mr. Johnson was referred to Jeffrey Schneider, MD, NYU Winthrop’s Chief of Oncology/Hematology, who diagnosed him with head and neck cancer, but assured him he would “be okay.” Mr. Johnson’s year-long treatment was challenging, but today, he is doing well. “Some days, you will need the light from others; other days you will be the light for them. As long as there’s light, there’s hope!”

Guests also heard from Janet Shehata, MSN, RN, OCN, NEA-BC, Administrative Director of Cancer Services at NYU Winthrop, who spoke both from the unique perspective of a provider and a two-time cancer survivor. Diagnosed with Hodgkin’s lymphoma at age 14, she battled the disease successfully for about a year, and revealed that this experience inspired her to become an oncology nurse: “I wanted to help people the way they helped me,” she said. Twenty-seven years later and well into her successful career as an oncology nurse, she was diagnosed with breast cancer. Yet today, she is doing well. Both of these experiences have only strengthened her resolve to help provide the best cancer services possible for patients. “Since the day I was diagnosed, I go into work each and every day putting myself ‘in the patient’s shoes,’ as I am the cancer patient,” she said.

In addition to praising the outstanding care they received from NYU Winthrop, both speakers expressed gratitude for the loving support they received from their families and friends during their journeys. Acknowledging the significant role of caregivers in fighting the disease, Mr. Johnson asked all caregivers to rise as he and Ms. Shehata toasted them.

NYU Winthrop’s Cancer Survivors celebration also included an educational workshop held on June 22. Topics included the importance of exercise and managing expectations after surgery and treatment, in addition to a question and answer session with members of a multi-specialty panel – "Casual Conversation: All you wanted to know about Cancer Survivorship."

The annual Cancer Survivors celebration is coordinated by the Cancer Survivors Day Committee, which is enthusiastically chaired by Jeffrey Schneider, MD, Chief of the Division of Oncology/Hematology, and includes Hospital staff.

NYU Winthrop’s Cancer Center is an award-winning place of healing and hope, certified by the American College of Surgeons’ Commission on Cancer, as well as the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers. With all of the resources of a world-class, patient-centered facility, the Center delivers exceptional, highly specialized care for virtually every type of cancer. For information about NYU Winthrop’s Cancer Services, visit www.nyuwinthrop.org or call 1-866-WINTHROP.
A Mission and Vision

NYU Winthrop Hospital’s Development Office has been spending much important time educating our “natural constituency” – our patients – and the general public as to both the reason and need for philanthropic support. We all know that this country’s nonprofit organizations, such as major healthcare institutions like NYU Langone Health, not only by IRS code, but also because of need, seek and generate significant sums of charitable support. In fact, last year, $390.05 billion was contributed in the United States, with 8% or $33.14 billion of it going to healthcare.

The Need for Philanthropy

By E. Ramone Segree, Vice President, Development at NYU Winthrop Hospital

For many years since our founding in 1896, Nassau Hospital, later known as Winthrop-University Hospital, and today, NYU Winthrop Hospital, had not been as forthright about seeking private funding like many other nonprofit organizations in the country. We are now doing so more assertively and comprehensively through 12-month efforts such as the Annual Fund, major gift and planned gift initiatives, and major campaigns such as a Gateway to New Discoveries, which helped make the building of the new Research and Academic Center possible, and which continues to address the Hospital’s research and research endowment needs.

The new NYU Winthrop Hospital
This is an exciting and dynamic time for NYU Winthrop Hospital. We are benefitting from successful dedication to mission and care and attention to vision, resulting in accelerated but measured growth to a $1.4 billion academic health center that has led to our recent affiliation with NYU Langone Health. This exciting new partnership elevates our presence as an expanded and major healthcare hub on Long Island and in the New York region.

As many more will turn to our great hospital for their healthcare needs in the years to come, there is an important need for increased support for expansion of our institution to meet the increasing demand for services. With NYU Winthrop’s growing focus on philanthropic support, coupled with that major focus and effort at NYU Langone Health, philanthropic needs and an expanded pool of supporters will join and build upon those who have and continue to support our great hospital.

These supporters include key friends and organizations, our esteemed Board of Directors, medical staff and Hospital staff.

Major Campaigns
Consider that the Gateway to New Discoveries Campaign for the Research and Academic Center, research and research endowment, which began in 2010. It has generated more than $26 million from 1,307 donors to date, with more than $5 million contributed by 331 medical staff and more than $1 million contributed by...
664 Hospital staff. Those two populations and their numbers are notable as they mark the Hospital’s first internal campaign and exemplify extraordinary “family” giving.

Their support continues to be an endorsement and motivation for other potential donors, and their support has legacy acknowledgement with the continuing number of contributor names, adding to the 937 current names on the glass panes in the Research and Academic Center’s Employee Recognition Gallery.

With the continuing Campaign to generate support for research and research endowment, a second donor wall to complement the current prominent Center lobby donor wall (page 10, bottom) is planned. To date, that giving represents $1.8 million from 26 contributors.

The need and opportunity for giving at NYU Winthrop continues to grow. In addition to research and research endowment, particularly for diabetes, obesity and cardio-metabolic research, NYU Winthrop is planning to expand and renovate its Emergency Department as well as expand its New Life Center, where approximately 5,000 babies are born each year. Increasing the Emergency Department’s space and bed capacity, coupled with renovation enhancements, will improve patient flow and enable a more efficient and effective experience for our patients. What’s more, the addition of several private maternity rooms and new bed space for surgical and medical patients in an expanded New Life Center will greatly enhance the Center as well as the patient and family experience.

Philanthropic need will continue

Often nonprofit organizations are judged as not needing philanthropic support because of their success or even their size. This is a misconception as the balance of earned and contributed revenue is critical to the nonprofit and provides both necessary sustained revenue as well as the margin of difference needed for growth and excellence. It also provides an important opportunity for the internal and external communities to be represented and to demonstrate endorsement for their organization. In this way, those contributors take the lead and provide a level of confidence for others to follow with their giving.

NYU Winthrop will continue to remain focused on mission and vision, provide the highest level of management, planning and service, and work to be the strong and vital new regional NYU medical hub. NYU Winthrop can accomplish this with the sustained, increased and new philanthropic support of a growing number of contributors.

We invite you to learn more about ways to contribute by visiting www.winthrop.org/giving-to-Winthrop, calling the Office of Development at (516) 663-3398, or emailing development@nyuwinthrop.org.
On May 15, 2017, NYU Winthrop Hospital celebrated its 32nd Annual Golf Tournament at the Meadow Brook Club in Jericho and Wheatley Hills Golf Club in East Williston. This highly anticipated annual event attracted 350 golfers, 250 attendees at the evening reception and awards ceremony, and raised over $560,000 to benefit the expansion and renovation projects in the Hospital’s Emergency Department, which will impact scores of patients for generations to come.

Pivotal to the success of the day was the generous support of Title Sponsor, Group PMX, and the leadership of Michael Giaramita, CEO/Managing Principal, who chaired the event.

Individual Low Gross winners were Tim Schmitt and Samet Jason. Placing first in the Low Gross Team category at Meadow Brook were Michael Rafferty, Dan Rothschild, John Schmitt and Tim Schmitt. Allan Sacks, Bill Van Horn, Jeffrey Brown and Ben Markham took Low Gross Team at Wheatley Hills. Physician Low Gross scores were earned by Richard McGraw, MD, at the Meadow Brook and at Wheatley Hills, Michael Moskowitz, MD.

For information about next year’s 33rd Annual Golf Tournament, please contact the Office of Development at (516) 663-8275.

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Veronica (“Ronnie”) B. Renken has dedicated her life to the service of others. Motivated by the Irish nun Catherine McAuley’s vision to give back and give forward, and parents who instilled in her a spirit of gratitude at a young age, Mrs. Renken has devoted countless hours to volunteering and fundraising at NYU Winthrop Hospital.

“When you really believe in the organization you are volunteering for, it becomes very much a part of you. You become very close to the organization and to the people there,” she said.

For all that she’s done for NYU Winthrop since she first began volunteering in the 1970s at what was then known as Nassau Hospital, it was the distinct honor of the Hospital’s Board of Directors to recently present Mrs. Renken with the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award.

“Receiving a lifetime achievement award obviously has to be the most special thing that could ever happen to a plain, every day volunteer. On the other hand, you don’t volunteer for the award. You volunteer because in your heart, you want to be a part of people’s lives,” she said.

In addition to having served as the Auxiliary President, Mrs. Renken has been a long time, valued member of the Hospital’s Board of Directors, as well as an asset to the Hospital’s Patient Relations Department, where, for many years, she volunteered her time, fielding inquiries and assisting patients and their families in their time of need. Deeply valued and treasured by all those who have had the privilege to work with her, both at NYU Winthrop and within the various community organizations for which she has volunteered, Mrs. Renken has demonstrated that she is truly one-of-a-kind.

A Lifetime of Service:
Board of Directors Honors
Veronica B. Renken

Veronica (“Ronnie”) B. Renken has dedicated her life to the service of others. Motivated by the Irish nun Catherine McAuley’s vision to give back and give forward, and parents who instilled in her a spirit of gratitude at a young age, Mrs. Renken has devoted countless hours to volunteering and fundraising at NYU Winthrop Hospital.

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“It is our privilege to bestow upon Veronica B. Renken the ‘Lifetime Achievement Award’ with our profound gratitude for her tireless commitment and support in giving back to NYU Winthrop Hospital, and for having a positive and lasting impact on the lives of our staff, patients and their families,” said Charles Strain, Chairman of the Board of Directors at NYU Winthrop, during a special reception held in her honor on June 6.

Mrs. Renken’s tenure at NYU Winthrop began when she made a decision to volunteer feeding patients who were unable to feed themselves. Dedicating countless hours of her personal time to patient care units enabled Mrs. Renken to experience first-hand the compassion of the staff as well as the healing that takes place at the Hospital. Motivated to become more involved, she soon joined the Hospital’s Auxiliary – a dedicated group of volunteers who collectively support the general welfare of the Hospital through their goodwill and fundraising.

In 2001, Mrs. Renken was elected President of the Hospital’s Auxiliary, which includes two volunteer fundraising groups, the Twigs and Wings of Winthrop. Under her leadership, the group has financially supported the establishment of several programs, services and facility enhancements at the Hospital over the years including: the establishment of the Pastoral Care Program; improvements to the Emergency Department; the creation of the 15,000 square-foot Hagedorn Pediatric Inpatient Center; two pediatric testing suites in the Research and Academic Center; and the funds to help staff the Hospital’s STAR program with a dedicated coordinator, among other initiatives.

In addition to having served as the Auxiliary President, Mrs. Renken has been a long time, valued member of the Hospital’s Board of Directors, as well as an asset to the Hospital’s Patient Relations Department, where, for many years, she volunteered her time, fielding inquiries and assisting patients and their families in their time of need. Deeply valued and treasured by all those who have had the privilege to work with her, both at NYU Winthrop and within the various community organizations for which she has volunteered, Mrs. Renken has demonstrated that she is truly one-of-a-kind.

“Receiving a lifetime achievement award obviously has to be about the most special thing that could ever happen to a plain, every day volunteer. On the other hand, you don’t volunteer for the award. You volunteer because in your heart, you want to be a part of people’s lives,” she said.

Mrs. Renken is joined by professional colleagues and friends (back row, l-r.) Theresa Regnante, President & CEO, United Way of Long Island; Michael Stafford, Esq., Farrell Fritz; and Jean Zebroski, Director of Patient Relations and Volunteer Services at NYU Winthrop Hospital (seated, left).
Local Foundation Gives Back to Pediatric Patients

Standing in a patient’s room, watching him enjoy his favorite video game on a brand new flat screen television, equipped with an X-box One, Josephine Pedone feels something very special. Ms. Pedone, who has come to NYU Winthrop’s Hagedorn Pediatric Inpatient Center, is witnessing a long-time vision to honor the memory of her son, Nicholas, an avid gamer who tragically lost his battle to stage 3 neuroblastoma in 2013, come to fruition.

“A part of Nicholas is now here,” she said. After Nicholas’ passing, Josephine and Nick Pedone founded the Nicholas Pedone Foundation in their son’s honor, and its mission is clear – to deliver smiles to courageous kids who are fighting cancer and encourage them to always Fight Hard, Smile Big.

Wanting to give back to the local Hospital where Nicholas, a patient of NYU Winthrop’s Cancer Center for Kids (CCFK), spent many of his days during treatment, the Foundation decided to fund its first project at NYU Winthrop. Now, their generous donation of $25,000 towards the “Game on” Project has helped to complete a major television and gaming system upgrade in each of the private rooms within the Hospital’s Hagedorn Pediatric Inpatient Center, where CCFK patients like Nicholas, spend their time during hospital admissions. This includes eight 46-inch flat screen televisions, equipped with Xbox One game consoles, new wiring for the systems, as well as an extensive game and video equipment library.

“Nicholas loved his video games so much that often, when staff knew he was being admitted, they made sure to have the then-transportable TV stand and gaming system ready to go in his room,” said Ms. Pedone. “We wanted to make sure that every patient undergoing treatment at the Hospital had the opportunity to enjoy playing video games and watching movies in the comfort of their own room, as we know first-hand just how much of a difference that can make.”

The Foundation’s generosity has no doubt made a lasting impression on both the staff and patients. “I continue to be amazed by families like the Pedones,” said Nicholas’ doctor, Mark Weinblatt, MD, Chief of Pediatric Oncology/Hematology at NYU Winthrop, and Director of the CCFK. “There is no doubt in my mind that this extraordinary example of selflessness and love will brighten the days of countless patients as they fight hard and smile big.”

Furthermore, Ms. Pedone remarked that she even learned of a friend whose family member got to enjoy the new items during a recent Hospital stay.

“We are a local foundation, supported by so many members of the local community,” said Ms. Pedone. “It is rewarding to know that those who have supported us are also among those who are being impacted by this project.”

For more information about the Nicholas Pedone Foundation, visit www.fighthardsmilebig.org. For more information about pediatric cancer care at NYU Winthrop, call 1-866-WINTHROP or visit www.winthrop.org/cck.

Mark Weinblatt, MD, Chief of Pediatric Oncology/Hematology, and Director of the CCFK (left); Josephine Pedone, Founder of the Nicholas Pedone Foundation (second from left); and Michelle Capobianco, Board Member, Nicholas Pedone Foundation (right); join with a patient, who enjoyed playing hockey with Xbox One on a brand new flat screen television, thanks to the generous donation made by the Nicholas Pedone Foundation.
Grand Opening of NYU Winthrop Primary Care Clinic

Members of the NYU Winthrop Hospital staff gathered recently to celebrate the grand opening of the Hospital’s new Primary Care Clinic, located at 222 Station Plaza North, Suite 104 in Mineola.

A comprehensive healthcare resource for all Medicaid, Medicaid Managed Care/HMOs, and self-pay patients of all ages and medical conditions, the new Clinic welcomes patients who don’t currently have a designated primary care provider or who need care on an urgent basis.

“The NYU Winthrop Primary Care Clinic provides a host of comprehensive services from diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic illnesses, to physicals, well child checkups and vaccinations,” said Francis Faustino, MD, Medical Director, who oversees the Clinic. “Our program is supported by a variety of specialists who are well equipped to provide the highest level of quality care to every patient that steps through our doors.”

For more information about the Primary Care Clinic, call 1-866-WINTHROP.

Unique “Stop the Bleed” Course Offers Lifesaving Techniques

A person who is bleeding can die from blood loss within five minutes, even before the arrival of emergency medical personnel. “Stop the Bleed,” a national awareness campaign, aims to educate community first responders to administer life-saving aid that can prevent deaths due to trauma bleeding injuries. As part of this initiative, more than 20 young lifeguards and instructors from four Long Island sailing groups recently completed a trauma first aid course organized by NYU Winthrop’s Level One Trauma Center Team. The course, led by Trauma Surgeon and Stop the Bleed Educator, Richard Bagdonas, MD, taught participants how to apply tourniquets, appropriate airway control techniques, and other strategies for controlling hemorrhage.

Plans for future educational sessions are underway. “Everyone should be prepared to perform basic hemorrhage control to help prevent deaths from blood loss. You never know when you could become a victim or bystander to a tragic bleeding injury or mass causality event,” said Dr. Bagdonas.

Varicose Veins

(continued from page 3)

an Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IACIC) accreditation, which is granted to facilities providing quality patient care in compliance with national standards. The Center also holds accreditation from the American Association for Accreditation of Ambulatory Surgery Facilities (AAAASF), dedicated to maintaining the highest quality of patient safety in an outpatient setting. These prestigious accreditations are a testament to the quality of care that is delivered each day by the Center’s world class team.

The Center also includes an on-site vascular lab staffed with dedicated technologists, and a fully-equipped procedure room. “Everything a patient needs to treat their varicose veins can be found right here at NYU Winthrop,” said Dr. Wain.

For more information about the wealth of services available at NYU Winthrop’s Vein Center, please call 1-866-WINTHROP or visit www.nyuwinthrop.org.

NYU Winthrop’s Vein Center includes a highly trained staff of board-certified vascular surgeons who are experts in the latest vein treatments and are actively involved in clinical research and education. The physician team includes Reese Wain, MD, Chief of NYU Winthrop’s Division of Vascular Surgery; Christine Chung, MD, RPVI, Jonathan Rubin, MD, and Georgios Spentzouris, MD, Attending Vascular Surgeons in the Division of Vascular Surgery at NYU Winthrop Hospital; and George Hines, MD, FACS, a Board Certified vascular and cardiothoracic surgeon.
Every body is different. So NYU Winthrop offers the most weight loss options.

Obesity causes more serious health issues than smoking, drinking or poverty. NYU Winthrop Hospital is responding with the widest choice of safe and effective treatment options in the tri-state area.

NYU Winthrop, a leader in bariatric weight loss surgery, was the first hospital in New York State to use advanced minimally invasive daVinci Robotic Surgery to reduce discomfort and speed recovery. NYU Winthrop is the only hospital in New York that offers the HMR Diet, named 2017’s Best Diet for Fast Weight Loss by US News & World Report. The HMR Diet is a medical weight loss program managed by endocrinologists, dietitians and nurse practitioners. And NYU Winthrop is among the first in the nation to offer revolutionary VBLOC Therapy. VBLOC uses a pacemaker-type device to block nerve signals to control appetite and eating patterns.

To learn more about NYU Winthrop’s full range of medically supervised weight loss programs, call 1-866-WINTHROP or go to nyuwinthrop.org. NYU Winthrop is a proud affiliate of NYU Langone.
The lobby of NYU Winthrop Hospital’s Hagedorn Pediatric Inpatient Unit has a brand new, cheerful look, thanks to a generous grant from the Encourage Kids Foundation. Recently, staff joined with representatives from the Foundation to celebrate the completion of the beautiful artwork that now lines the walls of the lobby – a true masterpiece created by local artists, Sal and Nancy Moccia.

"The new look truly helps to lift the spirits of all the families and patients who enter the Unit," remarked Nicole Almeida, CCLS, Director of the Child Life Program at NYU Winthrop Hospital.

"The Encourage Kids Foundation, a long-time, valued supporter of the Hospital, is a champion for children, especially those who are hospitalized," added Lynn Drucker, Assistant Vice President, Office of Development at NYU Winthrop Hospital. "We deeply appreciate their continued generosity, as well as the time and talents of Sal and Nancy Moccia to make this vision come to life with vibrant colors and great cheer."

The Garden City community, friends and supporters of NYU Winthrop Hospital came together for a festive evening this holiday season to benefit the Hospital’s Child Life Program. The 2016 Yuletide Ball, graciously hosted by Paula and Brendan McGovern in their beautiful Garden City home, was a resounding success, drawing close to 200 guests and raising $209,000.

“Our family has been blessed to be on the receiving end of the amazing services offered by the Child Life Program at Winthrop, and we were honored to welcome the community into our home to support this great cause,” said the McGoverns.

Over the years, NYU Winthrop’s Yuletide Ball has raised more than $2.8 million in support of the Child Life Program.

Beautiful New Artwork Lifts Children’s Spirits

A Memorable Yuletide Ball

John F. Collins, President and CEO of NYU Winthrop (left); Brendan and Paula McGovern, hosts of the 2016 Yuletide Ball (center); and Charles Strain, Chairman of the Board of Directors of NYU Winthrop (right).

Paula McGovern, Yuletide Ball Host and 2016 Yuletide Ball Committee Chair (center), is joined by committee members (l.-r.) Katy Cole, Amanda Wood, NYU Winthrop Board Member Sheila Heslin, Ellen McMillin, Liz Golden, Kathryn Rafferty, and NYU Winthrop Board Members Mary Beth Tully and Michelle Clark. Not pictured in the photograph are committee members Sandy DeMille and Nicole Foster.
Milestone “Cause” Raises $110,000 for Child Life Program

The 20th Annual “A Cause to Celebrate,” benefitting the Child Life Program at NYU Winthrop Hospital, was a wonderful success as nearly 250 guests gathered on March 16 at the Garden City Hotel. Amid the musical backdrop of “Neil Berg’s 100 Years of Broadway,” featuring classic Broadway hits sung by today’s top Broadway stars, and produced by Neil Berg himself, the event also honored Hayden S. Wool, Esq., Partner and Director at Garfunkel Wild, PC, for his service and lasting commitment to NYU Winthrop over the years. The collective efforts of all those in attendance, as well as support from long-time Hospital friends and supporters, resulted in an impressive $110,000 raised for a program which is supported in its entirety by philanthropic contributions.

"The Hospital’s relationship with Mr. Wool runs deep, and it was a great privilege to honor him and all that he has done for Pediatrics at NYU Winthrop over the years," said Leonard R. Krilov, MD, Chairman of Pediatrics and Chief of the Division of Pediatric Infectious Disease at NYU Winthrop Hospital. “Furthermore, the funds raised for our Child Life Program as a result of this event will no doubt benefit scores of patients and their families. For that, we are most grateful."
Cancer Center for Kids Celebrates Hope and Healing

The Cancer Center for Kids (CCFK) at NYU Winthrop Hospital welcomed guests to its 11th Annual Black & White Ball at Oheka Castle on April 27th. The event honored the Napolitano Family of the Jay’s World Childhood Cancer Foundation for its longstanding dedication to the CCFK and its mission on behalf of children with cancer and blood disorders. In addition, Philanthropic Youth and Spirit of Giving award winners, Justin Cohen and Marina Duszak, were also recognized for their unique contributions to the CCFK.

After Gala Emcee and WCBS News Radio personality Sophia Hall welcomed guests, CCFK Manager Ashley Carlo addressed the audience and introduced a special video with music accompaniment by star violinist, Roslyn Huang.

Mark Weinblatt, MD, Chief of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and Director of the CCFK, presented Justin Cohen with the Philanthropic Youth Award for creating Movies Heal, which gives CCFK families the opportunity to see newly released films without the worry of being exposed to the public during a time when children’s immune systems are most vulnerable. Justin, who has given this opportunity to families since 2015, spoke to his inspiration for creating this initiative, and his calling to give families the freedom to safely enjoy a leisure activity at a time when it’s needed most.

Dr. Weinblatt applauded Marina Duszak, awarding her the Spirit of Giving award, for “transforming her personal experience with leukemia into a way to give back” to other families impacted by the disease. By creating Marina’s Golden Heart Foundation, she has raised more than $20,000 to support the Center’s psychosocial programs and services. Speaking in regards to her life experiences, Marina expressed overcoming the challenges of her diagnosis, sharing “although cancer was my worst nightmare, it was also my biggest blessing.”

Dr. Weinblatt praised event honorees, the Napolitano Family and the Jay’s World Childhood Cancer Foundation, for its years of dedicated efforts and enduring commitment to children and families impacted by pediatric cancer and blood disorders. Jason (Jay) Napolitano, for whom the foundation is named, passionately spoke about the impact of his diagnosis for him, his parents and younger brother, and how it changed their lives forever. Mr. & Mrs. Napolitano also spoke to how cancer touched their lives as parents, and how they made it their life’s calling to help other children and families impacted by pediatric cancer. They commended Drs. Weinblatt and Scimeca, whose loving and caring treatment gave Jason another chance at life. In addition to Jason’s gift of systems for patients with challenged immune systems. In addition, the Foundation has underwritten the CCFK’s CBC Laboratory and the Practice Manager’s Office, essential medical equipment, support for clinical and psychosocial programs, and has granted scholarships to pediatric cancer patients on or off treatment who planned on attending college. Throughout its history, the Jay’s World Childhood Cancer Foundation has donated over $600,000 of support towards these initiatives.

A special presentation was also made to William Turner of Parts Authority with a special baseball, signed by patients and staff at the CCFK, in grateful appreciation for the company’s generous philanthropic efforts on the Center’s behalf.

Dining and dancing, along with prizes and silent and live auction items, rounded out the evening’s festivities, which raised over $160,000 for the Cancer Center for Kids, its programs and services.
In late 2016, local superheroes came together to honor and support Stella Freedman, a perpetually smiling infant, recognizing her battle against a rare form of pediatric cancer. Together, family members, friends, neighbors and generous strangers raised over $80,000 to benefit the Cancer Center for Kids (CCFK) at NYU Winthrop Hospital.

When Stella was first diagnosed at only three months old, her grandmother, a local pediatrician, guided Stella's parents Becky and Scott Freedman, to the CCFK. Although the Freedmans were initially reluctant about "coming out" as "cancer parents," they were so touched by the kind and compassionate care delivered by the CCFK staff, that they were inspired to host a fundraiser in support of the Center. The Freedmans teamed up with The Summer Hope Foundation – whose mission is to provide hope in the fight against cancer – to create the Stella's Superheroes fundraiser.

Sharing her post-event thoughts, Mrs. Freedman said, "My family was surrounded by loved ones and strangers all showing support for our baby, Stella. It was the first party or event we had been to since Stella was diagnosed. And while the day was a success, it was still bittersweet."

Mark Weinblatt, MD, Chief of the Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and Director of the CCFK, gratefully acknowledged the Freedman family’s gift and generosity of spirit. "To witness the dedication of a family so committed to giving back to the people caring for their child, and in turn, helping the Center treat other sick children, is an inspiration to all of us."

Stella, now 15 months, was all smiles during the check presentation to Dr. Weinblatt and the CCFK. The donation will help support the Center’s initiative while additionally naming Dr. Weinblatt’s office with a plaque, “In Honor of Dr. Mark Weinblatt with gratitude and appreciation, Stella Superhero Freedman.”

Beyond the impact of this fundraiser, Stella’s group of “superheroes” have also banded together to impact the Center’s Child Life Program. Stella’s cousin, Debra Jaffe, created the Stella Gives Back initiative to help bring cheer to young patients by providing hundreds of toys for birthdays, special milestones and playroom use. Friends and family also donated toys and gifts in honor of Stella’s first birthday, as well as the birthdays of her big sister, Rosie, and mom.

A Most Generous Gift Lifts Spirits, Once Again

Since 2008, a unique initiative has paved the way for a very special program to thrive at NYU Winthrop Hospital. Recently, Spirit Halloween Superstores presented NYU Winthrop’s Cancer Center for Kids (CCFK) with a grant in the amount of over $97,000 in support of the CCFK’s Child Life Program. This spirited contribution was the second largest made to the CCFK by the Spirit of Children initiative, through which Spirit Halloween raises funds to support Child Life in hospitals all across the country. To date, the magnificent initiative has contributed over $406,000 to the Child Life Program at the CCFK.

Thanks to the enduring friendship and support of both the Axelowitz family, who can attest to both the importance and wonderful care delivered by the Child Life Program, and Spirit Halloween, the CCFK’s Child Life Program – one of a collection of psychosocial support services for CCFK patients and their families – continues to thrive.

“Their continued generosity, support and enthusiasm have been instrumental in helping to provide patients and families with vital services and programs. It is because of their collective support that CCFK experiences are more positive and less scary for young patients and their families," said Kim Krupa, Certified Child Life Specialist at the Cancer Center for Kids.

Parents Scott and Becky Freedman with their daughter, Stella, join with Mark Weinblatt, MD, Chief of NYU Winthrop’s Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and Director of the Cancer Center for Kids.
In October 2017, Fabien Bitan, MD, will ‘hit the road’ on a cross country motorcycle ride to raise funds and awareness for children battling pediatric cancer and complex blood disorders at NYU Winthrop’s Cancer Center for Kids (CCFK). Dr. Bitan, a spinal surgeon and longtime motorcycle enthusiast, will travel from New York to California along US Route 50, joined by two co-riders, Marlene Joy Hill and Pete Doody.

Dr. Bitan became a supporter of the CCFK several years ago, after learning of the successful treatment of a friend’s grandson by the clinical team at the CCFK, led by Drs. Mark Weinblatt and Philip Scimeca. Inspired by the Center’s mission and approach to care, Dr. Bitan decided to expand his philanthropic impact on the Center by creating a foundation and giving greater meaning to his yearly motorcycle trips.

“I annually embark on a long distance motorcycle ride, which is a leisure activity that I greatly enjoy. To give more meaning and inspiration to my cross-country travels this year, I am aiming to raise awareness and funds for the CCFK in support of its clinical research efforts and support services for its young patients and families,” said Dr. Bitan.

Dr. Bitan has cast a wide net of support for the CCFK, and to date, he has raised over $12,000 through friends and personal contacts. Bitan hopes to reach a goal of $50,000 by inviting corporate and foundation support into this meaningful journey.

“Dr. Bitan has done a remarkable job raising funds and awareness for the Center, even before embarking on this extraordinary journey,” remarked Mark Weinblatt, MD, Director of the CCFK and Chief of NYU Winthrop’s Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology. “He is really ‘going the distance’ for our children.”

The Ride to Fight Kid’s Cancer

Gregg’s Wings Foundation Honors a Little Life in a Big Way

Bill and Debi Kienke, founders of the Gregg’s Wings Foundation, have continued to honor the life of their infant son by supporting NYU Winthrop’s Cancer Center for Kids (CCFK). During a recent visit to the CCFK, the Kienke family presented Dr. Mark Weinblatt with $50,000 in proceeds from their 2016 Gregg’s Wings Golf Outing. To date, the Gregg’s Wings Foundation’s philanthropic efforts have contributed over $335,000 to benefit the CCFK’s psychosocial support programs.

The Foundation and its annual golf outing is an ongoing tribute to the Kienkes’ son Gregg, who passed away from cancer at just weeks old. To give his life great meaning and to impact other families who are currently battling pediatric cancer, the Kienke family has made it their life’s mission to support the works of Gregg’s physicians Mark Weinblatt, MD, Chief of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at NYU Winthrop and Director of the Cancer Center for Kids, and Philip Scimeca, MD, Associate Chief of the Division.

The Foundation’s gift will continue to underwrite support for vital psychosocial services and programs, as well as support groups, printing of a patient-family newsletter and a 2nd Annual Alumni Day for patients and families that are off-treatment.
Community Programs

In addition to our seminars, NYU Winthrop holds classes on a variety of topics (fees may apply).

American Heart Association
CPR AED for the Community
...and BLS, ACLS & PALS for Healthcare Providers
Visit winthrop.enrollware.com or call (516) 663-1601 or (516) 663-1604

Diabetes Prevention & Diabetes Education
Call (516) 663-2350

Locations

Health Update for Seniors will be held at the Mineola Community Center, 155 Washington Avenue in Mineola (one block south of Jericho Turnpike, between Mineola Boulevard and Willis Avenue).
Our thanks to the Incorporated Village of Mineola

Inspiring Women & Perspectives in Health will be held at the NYU Winthrop Research & Academic Center, 101 Mineola Boulevard, Mineola – Treiber Family Conference Center, Room G-018.

Please call (516) 663-8300 to register for these FREE programs.

Visiting winthrop.enrollware.com or calling (516) 663-1601 or (516) 663-1604 can also register you for free classes and seminars at NYU Winthrop.

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New Parent Education
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• Tour of NYU Winthrop’s Labor Suites
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Tobacco Cessation
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Please visit nyuwinthrop.org or call 1-866-WINTHROP (1-866-946-8476) for information about NYU Winthrop’s wide range of programs & services, including health-related support groups.

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NYU Winthrop Hospital has been named a Preferred Medical Partner of the New York State Troopers Police Benevolent Association (PBA). From routine healthcare screenings to complex medical diagnoses, the goal of the partnership is to positively impact this cadre of first responders and community servants who, if faced with a medical issue, can get the first-rate care they need in order to return to the work force in a timely fashion.

Through the partnership, a State Trooper Surgeons’ Executive Care Nurse assesses the medical needs of PBA members and then works to connect them with the appropriate specialists for care. To commemorate the partnership, members of the New York State Troopers PBA and State Trooper Surgeons group recently visited the Hospital, where they presented Senior leadership and physicians involved in the collaboration with a special plaque.

"NYU Winthrop is committed to serving the healthcare needs of all community members, and it is a privilege to be considered a preferred medical resource for those who put their lives on the line every day to provide a vital public service," said John F. Collins, President and CEO of NYU Winthrop.

"As one of the select few American College of Surgeons’ (ACS) Level 1 Trauma Centers in the area, NYU Winthrop is committed to providing the highest quality of medical care to members of law enforcement, both active and retired, and their families," added Fahd Ali, MD, Attending Surgeon at NYU Winthrop.

Providing unparalleled healthcare to individuals who selflessly serve the community has long been a priority for NYU Winthrop. For example, through the Hospital’s Department of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, many World Trade Center (WTC) first responders, who are referred to the Hospital by Stony Brook University’s WTC Health Program, receive specialist services at NYU Winthrop to address the host of medical conditions that often result from exposure to the toxic dust at Ground Zero.

"Our goal is to continually provide the best medical outcomes for all men, women and children, and especially to those who have sacrificed their own well being for the safety of others," added Mr. Collins.