Behavioral Health: Managing Care in a Broken System

ALSO INSIDE:
A Vision for Cardiac
A Chorus, a Creamery and a Contingent of Clock Makers
Mothers’ Helpers
Child Life Champions
Brookfield’s Best Advocate
A Royal Success

As Prince William and Kate Middleton joined together in marriage on April 29, 350 Royal Watchers – many wearing hats and tiaras – converged on "Westin-ster Abbey" for a Women’s Association fundraiser. The sold-out event, which featured delicacies like scones with jam and clotted cream and choice merchandise at the "Regent Street" boutiques, raised $55,845 for the Child Life Program at Morristown Medical Center (see related story on page 11).

Pictured right: The Royal Watch Committee  Photos: Media Services
Q & A

Discuss your passion for cardiovascular health and what you hope to bring to cardiology at Gagnon.

A My passion for cardiology is, in many ways, population based – trying to provide the best possible care to a broad range of patients but also working to prevent heart disease where possible. One challenge we face is the need to deliver high quality care while being mindful of using our resources most effectively.

I’m personally very interested in imaging and valvular heart disease, and I’m committed to heart disease in women, which is still a relatively understudied area. There are many instances where we know that the evaluation and treatment of heart disease should be tailored by gender. So expanding the women’s heart program and studying heart disease in women will be a top priority for me.

Are there any key issues that you would like to tackle specifically during your tenure here?

A I’m very interested in valvular heart disease. Treatment is largely surgical, and our surgeons are excellent. They perform complex valve repairs and valve replacements with exceptional outcomes. In fact, the volumes at Gagnon are higher than any of the Manhattan hospitals. There are new catheter-based interventions for valvular heart disease, and our interventional cardiologists, in partnership with our surgeons, are actively involved in trials to evaluate aortic valve replacement and mitral repair without surgery. I’m excited to be involved in these programs. I also hope to expand our advanced imaging capabilities and our ability to care for patients with complex valve disease, including those whose disease is not initially severe enough to require intervention. Since valve disease may co-exist with rhythm disorders and heart failure, we’re fortunate to have experts in these fields as well.

As a nation, we do well in providing acute care for heart disease, but we fall short on prevention.

A Gagnon’s resources – our state-of-the-art hospital and equipment and most importantly our staff – are enviable so we can ensure that people in this community will receive the best possible care without traveling far from home. We can also work to attract others from farther away. Additionally, the people here at Gagnon can help advance the overall field of cardiology through research, education and participation in the national health care discussion. In other words, we have the knowledge and expertise to not only serve our community extremely well but also to develop models for cardiovascular care that can be exported to other parts of the country.

What specifically can Gagnon accomplish due to its position and resources?

A Gagnon’s resources – our state-of-the-art hospital and equipment and most importantly our staff – are enviable so we can ensure that people in this community will receive the best possible care without traveling far from home. We can also work to attract others from farther away. Additionally, the people here at Gagnon can help advance the overall field of cardiology through research, education and participation in the national health care discussion. In other words, we have the knowledge and expertise to not only serve our community extremely well but also to develop models for cardiovascular care that can be exported to other parts of the country.
RN’s Family Says Thanks with a Scholarship

For the Goldman family, saying thank you to the physicians and nurses who helped save Julia Goldman’s life is a high priority.

Seven years ago, Mrs. Goldman, an active senior citizen, visited her cardiologist and collapsed in the office. Taken by ambulance to Morristown Medical Center, she was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma that was attacking her heart. Surgery was scheduled a few days away, but as her symptoms worsened, James Slater, MD, cardiovascular cardiothoracic surgeon, quickly assembled his team and went to work.

“If this had not happened, my mother wouldn’t have survived,” says daughter Donna Goldman, MD.

Following her chemotherapy, Mrs. Goldman has been in remission, able to see three granddaughters born, watch another granddaughter graduate high school and celebrate her golden wedding anniversary.

“My mom had a spectacular outcome from a horrible illness,” says Dr. Goldman. “Her medical care was excellent. The care and compassion of her physicians and nurses made a huge difference.”

To show their gratitude, the family established the Goldman Family Nursing Scholarship in honor of Kenneth Adler, MD, hematologist/oncologist; Gregory Sachs, MD, cardiologist; and Dr. Slater. The scholarship, extended beyond 2020, provides funds to cardiac and oncology nurses for continuing education.

“We’re honored to give back in a way that’s meaningful,” says Dr. Goldman. “My mom was a nurse who put herself through school; she remembers how hard it was to buy books and pay for her education.”

Heaven’s Song

On the wings of a song shared between cancer patient Linda Brinkmann and a member of the Newark Boys Chorus School, heaven met earth.

“We sang together and touched each other’s souls, or at least he touched mine,” says Ms. Brinkmann who is being treated for stage III-C ovarian cancer. “I’m scared to death, and he was like my angel, telling me everything was going to be okay.”

Funded by an anonymous donor, the chorus sang in June at Carol G. Simon Cancer Center as part of the weekly Music in the Atrium program and then in the Malcolm Forbes Auditorium for the community.

Music in the Atrium is funded through the Jeffrey F. Wacks Memorial Fund.

An A for ASCO

Automatic Switch Company (ASCO), a longtime supporter of the annual golf classic, came through with a hole-in-one donation. When the golf fundraiser was cancelled this year, the company directed its sponsorship money toward a $40,000 gift for unrestricted funds.

“ASCO has been a strong and steady donor for 10-plus years,” says Bonnie Gannon, director of corporate and foundation relations. “This kind of gift is paramount to helping the medical center get pilot projects and special niche needs funded and off the ground.”

Unrestricted monies can be used by the medical center where the resources are most needed.
A Lion’s Share of Love

Six volunteers from the Chester Lion’s Club wore their hearts on their sleeves and gave local cancer survivors a moment to celebrate their courage and perseverance at the annual Survivor’s Day celebration, June 5.

The Gagnon Cardiovascular Institute parking lot was transformed into a day at the park with baseball-themed games for young and old, stadium-style food, face-painting and more. More than 200 guests enjoyed the three-hour event, which was sponsored by Carol G. Simon Cancer Center.

“I am a cancer survivor and also volunteered that day,” says Gerri LoSapio, a resident of Chester and three-year member of the Chester Lion’s Club. “To see survivors and their families relaxed and enjoying the day was wonderful. They were able to forget about everything else and have a good time.”

Above and Beyond with Bard

Steadily supporting a plethora of needs at Morristown Medical Center, C.R. Bard, Inc. of New Providence recently came through again with a $25,000 donation toward the funding of the concierge position for The Carol W. and Julius A. Rippel Breast Center.

The concierge, Adeline Rufino, handles all non-medical aspects of patient care, such as fulfilling the needs of children accompanying a patient, answering insurance questions or arranging rides to and from visits. This key position is just another way the center is raising the bar in terms of exemplary care in every aspect of a patient’s experience.

Trading Gold for Green

Staffers had a chance to exchange their gold jewelry, diamonds and coins for cash at two Cash for Gold fundraisers at Morristown Medical Center, sponsored by American Gold & Diamond Buyers of East Hanover. Held in May, the events yielded more than $1,500 for the medical center.

The Medicine of Massage

The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey recently granted $6,000 to the Valerie Center at Goryeb Children’s Hospital for integrative medicine (IM) sessions for outpatients. Atlantic Health already supports IM services for children and their families as inpatients. The grant will extend massage, reflexology, Jin Shin Jyutsu, acupressure, energy therapies and healing touch during patients’ four-hour chemotherapy sessions.

“ Their faces light up when they see us. It passes the time for them in a comforting way,” says Integrative Medicine Coordinator Carole Reifsnyder, RN. “Even the very young ones pull their socks and shoes off and put their feet right up in my lap.”

Carole Reifsnyder, RN, holds patient Leah Ghiraldeli flanked by the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey’s Marsha Atkind and Natalie Peck.
A Birthday Wish for Goryeb

At birthdays, most 5-year-olds make a wish for themselves as they blow out their candles. But Katie Steinberg and Daniel Szewczyk, friends and kindergartners in Whippany, both wished for something more. The kids combined their parties and asked friends to bring a donation instead of a gift that would be used to purchase toys for Goryeb Children’s Hospital.

“All of the parents said it was a great experience for their child to learn about donations,” says Barbara Steinberg.

The kids purchased Wii and Uno games as well as arts and crafts supplies and were excited to bring the presents to the hospital on May 8, 2011.

Getting More by Giving

Just 9 years old, Max Berkson already understands the adage “It is more blessed to give than receive.” The Chatham third-grader has decided for the second time to forgo birthday gifts and instead asked for donations for Goryeb Children’s Hospital.

“I thought it would make them happy,” he said of the $540 he and his mom delivered to the hospital in early July.

Hoop Shots Score Big

More than 600 ‘wanna-be’ hoop stars swished foul shots to their heart’s content at a Hoop-A-Paluza fundraiser event held at Millburn High School, sponsored by the HAPI FOUNDATION. A slam-dunk total of $25,000 was raised and donated to the BD Diabetes Center for Children and Adolescents at Goryeb Children’s Hospital.

“We're very impressed by the work of Dr. Harold Starkman [director of the BD Diabetes Center] and his staff,” says Lori Robinson, executive director of the HAPI FOUNDATION. “We hope that his program can be replicated and expanded down the road to help more children.”

The fundraiser included family fun for everyone: face-painting, boardwalk games, a DJ, and delicious food.

“What’s really great is not only are we raising money, but we’re also showing kids it can be fun,” says Ms. Robinson. “We want to instill philanthropic values in kids at a young age.”

Timeless Fun

It was Christmas in May for more than 70 young patients at the Family Health Center.

Dozens of gift-wrapped animal clocks lined the waiting area with giraffe, rhino and elephant faces peering from between the tissue paper, almost as if they wanted to see the look of surprise and delight on the children’s faces firsthand.

A joint venture between Wyndham Worldwide and Caring Capital, the wooden clocks were made during Wyndham’s recent Take-Your-Child-To-Work-Day and donated to the Morristown Medical Center clinic, which provides health care to the area’s medically underserved population.

“It was precious,” said Jeanine Giampaietro, MSW, LCSW, clinical social worker at the Family Health Center. “It’s a rare occasion for the children we see here to get a gift like this. And it’s also special that it came from another child.”
A Winning Equation:
Kids + Summer = S’mores

S’more Love (vanilla ice cream loaded with mini-marshmallows, bits of graham crackers and Hershey’s chocolate) scooped up fast and furious at South Street Creamery with more than 350 servings sold in the first few weeks of the summer fundraiser that began July 15 and ran through September 1. The shop donated a portion of proceeds on this flavor to Goryeb Children’s Hospital.

“It was one of the most popular special flavors of the summer,” says Peter Williams, co-owner of the Morristown ice cream parlor.

Healing Takes Root

Cancer patient Carolyn Worthington often sat in the Gagnon au bon pain outdoor cafe, waiting for her ride after treatment. She knew the area had tremendous potential to be transformed into a lovely, year-round garden.

With the help of garden club friends from Madison and New Vernon and the Women’s Association of Morristown Medical Center (WAMMC), a garden fund was established. This past June, shovels of soil were lifted and expert hands assembled hydrangeas, roses, hostas and lilies into a beautiful array of color.

“For a brief moment, everyone can get lost in the beauty of the flowers and forget their troubles,” says Jean Marie Rosone, LCSW, Integrative Medicine coordinator, Carol G. Simon Cancer Center. “This is what a healing environment looks like.”

Ms. Worthington saw photos of the finished product, just prior to losing her struggle with cancer in July.

“She was thrilled that it happened,” says a WAMMC member. “We hung a full-size poster of the space in her bedroom. At the end, she had the garden in her room every day.”

Diners enjoy Carolyn’s parting gift

Photo: Becky Bedrosian

The Faces of Hope

The First Annual Winter Gala held in March at Basking Ridge Country Club to benefit The Craniofacial Center at Goryeb Children’s Hospital raised $11,000 for staff expansion and continued groundbreaking surgeries.

Pictured above: Dr. Catherine Mazzola, MD, director of the Craniofacial Center, flanked by Dr. Daniel Pyo, plastic surgeon for the center, who has performed hundreds of cleft, lip and palate surgeries with Operation Smile medical teams in third world countries, and Dr. Walter Rosenfeld, chairman of pediatrics.

A Winning Equation:
Kids + Summer = S’mores

EMPLOYEE BASKET RAFFLE
BY THE NUMBERS

| Years held | 6 |
| Dollars raised | $81,488 |
| Dollars donated | $162,976 |
| (after Foundation matching gift) | 741 |
| Areas supported | Emergency Department Palliative Care Cancer Survivors Day/Child Life Professional Development Program Sam’s Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Campaign for the Heart |
Long shrouded in secrecy even though it touches nearly every family, mental illness is slowly moving toward the mainstream, helped along by celebrities like Catherine Zeta-Jones. Yet even as social mores seem to be changing, receiving adequate treatment is becoming more and more difficult.

Across the country, a growing shortage of psychiatric beds is squeezing already over-burdened hospital Emergency Departments (ED). A patient experiencing a psychiatric crisis who enters the ED can wait days as hospital employees scramble to find appropriate placement in facilities that are already filled to capacity. As you might expect, a patient’s symptoms often worsen during the long wait. What’s more, tending to mentally ill patients and the myriad issues involved – heightened anxiety, violent tendencies or suicidal behavior – drains staff and resources away from other patients facing acute medical emergencies.

At Morristown Medical Center, the crunch is being felt. “There has been a paradigm shift – EDs were formerly for triage and acute care, stabilizing patients and getting them out in three hours,” says Tom Zaubler, MD, MPH, chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health at Morristown. “Now we must provide ongoing care management for patients with mental illness who can languish in the ED anywhere from 36 hours to four days. We do this without any additional funding from the state and with insurance carriers often rejecting the charges for critical services that ensure patients’ well-being and safety. On any given day, we can have eight or more patients simultaneously in the ED, where we simply do not have the necessary infrastructure to manage them effectively.”

Morristown’s challenges are emblematic of challenges facing hospitals everywhere. Nationwide, 2,158 beds in psychiatric hospitals have been lost, and another 1,800 will follow this year, according to the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors, which also reports that an estimated $2.1 billion has been cut from state mental health budgets in the last three fiscal years. In New Jersey, the availability of psychiatric beds has declined by 8 percent in the past decade. In addition, the New Jersey Division of Mental Health Services is threatening to shut down even more state psychiatric facilities. These problems can be further exacerbated by the state’s Centralized Admissions Unit (CAU), which strives to streamline the placement process but instead delays it.

“The CAU has not had the necessary round-the-clock staffing and often delays the process by denying the necessary admission to state institutions,” says Kemsey Mackey, director of Behavioral Health Services at Atlantic Health System.

Despite these pervasive challenges, Morristown remains committed to providing high-quality, comprehensive care for this most vulnerable patient population. Its team of experts treats psychiatric patients in a variety of settings, including the Behavioral Health Inpatient Psychiatric Unit housed on Franklin 5, a general patient floor retrofitted to serve the special needs of psychiatric patients. Last year, the department handled 538 cases, and its 16 beds are consistently at 90 percent occupancy. Other offerings include extensive outpatient services at Atlantic Rehabilitation Institute, funded in part by a $1 million anonymous endowment; crisis intervention services; a 24-hour crisis hotline; and programs for chemical dependency and sexual assault.

Morristown’s Behavioral Health psychiatrists have a breadth of experience unparalleled in the state, with subspecialty training and certification in addictive behaviors, geriatrics, forensics and child and adolescent psychiatry. In fact, Morristown is one of the only medical centers in New Jersey with a psychosomatic medicine service run by psychiatrists with subspecialty training and certification in psychosomatic medicine. This consultation-liaison service can manage up to 50 patients who have mental health issues on the medical/surgical floors.

What Dr. Zaubler and his team also have on their side is the generosity of donors who have helped create premiere programs that further set Morristown apart. The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey recently granted $119,950 to help provide faster treatment for psychiatric patients in the ED. Another innovation, the Hospital Elder Life Program was begun through the contributions of an anonymous donor and the Marion E.C. Walls Trust to combat delirium in elderly hospitalized patients. "We’re a
pioneer – there are just a handful of hospital-based delirium prevention programs in the country that help elderly patients maintain independence and optimal physical functioning during and after hospitalization,” says Dr. Zaubler. “We’re seeing a decreased incidence of delirium and falls during hospital stays.”

Again, thanks to philanthropy, Morristown is on the forefront of the latest treatment for depression. It is one of only two facilities in the state to offer repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation, a non-invasive treatment to be used when medication isn’t effective. This safe alternative, funded by an anonymous donor, uses a powerful magnet to create an electromagnetic field that stimulates the brain and releases neurotransmitters.

Yet in the wake of these advancements, Dr. Zaubler must once again look to the community for help in realizing the next project: restructuring and modernizing Franklin 5, the inpatient unit. Its lack of private rooms often leaves patients waiting when a ‘roommate’ of the same gender isn’t available or when an agitated patient must be segregated. The $803,000 renovation – a Foundation fundraising priority – will reconfigure the space into single rooms, improving patient care, satisfaction and safety.

“We’re striving to keep pace with our patients’ needs,” says Dr. Zaubler. “This renovation is sorely needed.”

Ultimately, however, he envisions a unit with enough beds to ease the bottlenecks of patients awaiting psychiatric placement from the ED and the medical surgical floors and a design that would provide for even better care of the elderly and other vulnerable populations.

“Based on our estimates and projections, more demands will be placed on psych services for the community,” he says. “Morristown will increasingly be the place people turn to for help.”

To support Behavioral Health, please contact Cynthia O’Donnell, director of gift planning, at 973.593.2418 or cynthia.odonnell@atlantichealth.org.
Comfort and Choices: Palliative Care

A recent anonymous gift to the Palliative Care Program allowed the hire of a nurse navigator to help patients and families handle the unique needs of the chronically ill and elderly population.

“As a hospice nurse, I saw that people need both knowledge and choices to live out their lives in comfort,” says the anonymous donor.

According to Karen Knops, MD, medical director and head of Palliative Care, traditional medicine sometimes focuses so much on trying to reverse disease, it can do more harm than good when a patient becomes more fragile.

Providing in-depth information about care options, coordinating the transition to hospice care, and ensuring attention to quality of life for patients who are not in hospice are some of the tasks at hand for Terri Visintainer, RN, the new nurse navigator.

“Making home hospice care happen logistically is often very challenging for family members and takes a lot of time and patience,” says Dr. Knops. “We like to help families give their loved one this very meaningful gift – it’s an important time of life and, like birth, is often a family event.”

The Tipping Point: Tender, Loving Care

One mom whose son sought treatment for leukemia at a major New York medical facility and at the Valerie Fund Children’s Center at Goryeb Children’s Hospital found the care at both places excellent. Yet, what tipped the scales for her was the Valerie Center’s soothing, nurturing environment.

“She felt he got the same level of care, but being at Morristown and close to home was less disruptive and he received more personalized care,” says Steve Halpern, MD, the new director of the Valerie Center.

Dr. Halpern’s goal is to continue providing the best medical care while catering to the emotional needs of patients and their families. To that end, the center is seeking philanthropic support for several items. First, Dr. Halpern envisions creating a long-term follow-up clinic for children who have finished cancer treatment: “We’d like to follow the effects cancer treatment had on these patients, both physically and psychologically.” This clinic will help his team plan future medical treatments and psycho-social support offerings.

Other funding needs include a dietician, who will give nutritional guidance to chemotherapy patients; an educational liaison with a master’s in education, who will help patients return to the classroom and assist with educational issues related to cancer diagnosis and treatment; and televisions to distract patients during treatment.

To offer your support, please contact Gerri Kling, major gifts officer, at 973.593.2414 or geraldine.kling@atlantichealth.org
$1M for Genomics
Bruce Jacobs and Ken Levy fund progressive new program

Bruce I. Jacobs, PhD and Kenneth N. Levy, co-founders of Florham Park-based Jacobs Levy Equity Management, are putting their money on a sure investment – a new, personalized genomic medicine program at Morristown Medical Center – in honor of their firm’s 25th anniversary.

The first of this magnitude in New Jersey, the Jacobs Levy Equity Management Personalized Genomic Medicine Program will evaluate genes and enable physicians to design personal treatment programs for patients suffering from rare diseases as well as common conditions, such as asthma, diabetes or cancer.

Early detection is often critical, and genomics can reveal a predisposition to genetic conditions before symptoms are apparent. With this foresight, physicians can help patients make environmental and lifestyle changes and suggest medications or surgery to delay or even prevent the onset of major illnesses.

“We are thankful for our rich history in Morris County. What better way to benefit our community and commemorate our quarter-century mark than by looking to the future and embracing this progressive technology,” says Dr. Jacobs.

“Our philanthropic philosophy is one of practical impact, what can be done now to help people and make a real difference in their lives,” says Mr. Levy.

Arnold Pallay, MD, director of Genomic Medicine at Morristown Medical, believes millions of people worldwide live with diseases that can be diagnosed early to improve outcomes.

“In many cases, disease is preventable, or the onset can be delayed, if predicted and diagnosed early enough,” says Dr. Pallay. “Genomics allows us to do precisely that – pinpoint the best treatment option with the highest success rate for a disease given an individual’s own history and health.”

“We are very grateful to Bruce Jacobs and Ken Levy for their foresight and generosity to the community they live in. We know this program will have a positive impact on the people we serve,” says David Shulkin, MD, president of Morristown Medical.

The program will begin providing clinical services in October.

Do You Feel What I Feel?

Maya Angelou said, “People will forget what you said, forget what you did, but will never forget how you made them feel.”

Whether a child is undergoing a procedure or watching a parent or grandparent fight an illness, child life specialists find age-appropriate ways to ease anxiety and help cultivate a safe and loving atmosphere.

“We’re not a billable service, but a needed service,” says Lisa Ciarrocca, systems manager for Child Life at Goryeb. “Parents say all the time that they couldn’t have done it without us.”

More than $125,000 in recent donations speaks louder than words. First, the Vanech family donated funds to hire a Pediatric Intensive Care Unit child life specialist. They had found the child life team indispensable during Nicky’s hospitalizations as a young child. But they were surprised and pleased on a more recent trip to the Emergency Department to find child life specialists are fantastic with teens, too.

The Women’s Association of Morristown Medical Center donated proceeds from their recent Royal Watch event (see inside front cover). And a fundraising event sponsored by Jack Bradley, in honor of his late wife Kelley, added more than $24,000. Mr. Bradley’s children – 7-year-old Max, 5-year-old Luke and 3-year-old Emma – had spent many hours with Crystal Zelman, a child life specialist, clinical social worker and play therapist. She reminded him that, at stressful times, “it’s very important for children to feel in control, to be able to make their own choices and be listened to.”

Child Life Specialist Jamie Gecz with Christopher Mitsoulis and therapy dog Jenna McEntee. Photo: Becky Bedrosian
Lung cancer remains a lethal disease, typically detected in later stages once it has progressed to a point that makes a cure more difficult. In New Jersey alone, over 6,000 residents are diagnosed each year.

With the help of pharmaceutical company Daiichi Sankyo, Inc., Morristown Medical Center is participating in an early detection program for at-risk individuals. Recently, Daiichi Sankyo provided a $75,000 grant for participants in the International Early Lung Cancer Action Program (IELCAP). This study involves individuals over age 40 who smoked half a pack of cigarettes a day for 20 years or two packs a day for five years and those over 40 with exposure to second-hand smoke.

To date, Carol G. Simon Cancer Center has enrolled approximately 164 participants. Patient costs include a minimal $300 radiology reading fee, which has proven to be prohibitive for many. In response, the Daiichi Sankyo grant will cover the fee for 250 participants.

“We are proud to partner with the Foundation’s IELCAP and remove some of the obstacles patients face,” says John Gargiulo, Daiichi Sankyo CEO and president. “The medical community’s understanding of the biology of oncology has grown over the past decade, and we believe we are at a point where we can make a tremendous contribution that benefits patients.”
From Room 15 with Gratitude

Family’s Memorial Gift Benefits Cardiac Programs

Last January, Gloria Fei, a heart failure patient, was discharged from a New York hospital to home hospice care. The 83-year-old mother of two was experiencing tremendous pain, had poor kidney function and had recently lost 40 pounds. Her family refused to accept that nothing more could be done and sought advice from various relatives. That’s when Joanna Louie, a pharmacology research manager at Atlantic Health, suggested Gagnon Cardiovascular Institute’s Thomas E. Reilly Heart Success Program for patients experiencing heart failure.

“On January 13, we arrived at Morristown Medical Center on Gagnon 1, and room 15 became our new home,” say John Fei, Mrs. Fei’s husband of 58 years. He and his family were immediately impressed by the team of physicians, led by Frank Smart, MD, former chairman of cardiovascular medicine. The team, including Robert Kipperman, MD, and Michael Rothkopf, MD, planned to restore Mrs. Fei’s physical health by supplying nutrients and when she grew stronger, inserting a valve clip to repair her heart.

Mr. Fei stayed with his wife around-the-clock, and the physicians recognized that this was perhaps the best medicine for their patient. Mr. Fei, in turn, witnessed his wife’s amazing care. “Gagnon not only contains state-of-the-art technology, but its knowledgeable, compassionate and intelligent staff know how to respond at the most critical times,” he says. “One night I was awakened by a team of first responders who rushed into our room to save Gloria because her telemetry was at a critical level.”

What particularly impressed Mr. Fei was that the nursing staff began looking after his needs as well: “My right leg was swollen, and a male nurse from another floor noticed I was limping and wrapped it for me.”

Despite the stellar attention, Mrs. Fei succumbed to kidney failure and passed away on Feb. 2, 2011, her birthday. To show their appreciation for the attentive care, the family created The Gloria and John C.Y. Fei Endowment Fund to benefit the Cardiac Research and Heart Success programs.

“We thank all the doctors and nurses – everyone tried so hard,” says Mr. Fei. “We thank Morristown Medical Center for not giving up.”

Boundless Freedom

Bioscrip Donation Fuels Hospital’s Project Liberty

Project Liberty is doing what its name intends – allowing short bowel syndrome patients to un-tether from cumbersome IV attachments through the careful administering of special diets and medications.

Bioscrip, a national provider of specialty home health solutions, recently gave $60,000 to infuse a much-needed boost into this life-altering program, which is under the direction of Michael Rothkopf, MD, director of the Metabolic Medicine and Weight Control Center.

“Our goal is to liberate patients from intravenous nutrition,” says Dr. Rothkopf.

His patients are people whose intestines are severely damaged or diseased. Their only recourse – until Project Liberty was launched – was to live their entire lives bound to an IV.

“The donation from Bioscrip is particularly generous. They definitely see the bigger picture and how patients could have a better quality of life and fewer complications living this way,” says Dr. Rothkopf.

Three patients have realized success, with one achieving complete independence from intravenous nutrition. A second has been able to convert to a less complicated stomach tube, and a young mother was recently able to reduce her seven-day-a-week tether to three days.

How Will They Remember Me?

A bequest may sound like something hastily scrolled at the end of an elderly person’s life, one who is quite wealthy and has a full portfolio of assets to disperse.

False.

Whether you are young or old, wealthy or middle-class, a bequest can ensure that your legacy lives on and that you can continue to make a difference in the organizations that matter most to you.

Take Julia LaFalce of Morristown. She traveled the world, enjoyed Italian music, read extensively, entertained friends and knew that she could rely on her local hospital whenever she needed it. In her will, she helped to ensure that Morristown Medical would be there for others, too, by earmarking $170,000 for cancer.

To begin your legacy, make sure you have an up-to-date will or living trust and use this language:

“I give, devise, and bequeath to the Foundation for Morristown Medical Center, a charitable corporation located in Morristown, New Jersey, the sum of $______ (or percent of the residue of my estate) or (other personal or real property appropriately described) to be used for______ (or as its board of trustees shall deem advisable) to best promote the institution’s objectives and mission.”

For more information, contact Cynthia O’Donnell, director of gift planning, at 973.593.2418 or cynthia.odonnell@atlantichealth.org.

Bioscrip definitely sees the bigger picture and how patients could have a better quality of life and fewer complications living this way.”

—Dr. Rothkopf
Pediatrician Anthony Zangara, MD, is so enthusiastic about being a member of the Brookfield Society that he shares its pamphlets with his Morristown Medical Center colleagues. It’s only fitting since he learned about bequeathing a planned gift to the medical center from a fellow physician.

“I talk it up with the other doctors; I carry around about four or five brochures at a time to give to various doctors,” says the recent Brookfield Society Council appointee. “The benefits are so good, not only for the medical center but also for the person donating. Most people don’t know about the advantages. And I prefer to give to the medical center than any place else.”

Through the Foundation, Dr. Zangara created a charitable gift annuity (CGA), which helped him meet his philanthropic and his financial goals. Through this CGA, he receives fixed payments for life, an initial charitable tax deduction and the satisfaction of contributing to the place where he forged a successful career.

Dr. Zangara grew up nearby, in Boonton, and attended Brown University, Tufts University School of Medicine and the Harvard School of Public Health. During medical school, he worked in the morgue at Morristown: “It was a tiny little hospital on Madison Avenue – there was no Franklin wing, no Jefferson.”

It wasn’t until 15 years later that the young pediatrician returned as director of medical education, after stints teaching at other medical schools and working for New Jersey’s Health Department. His wife, the late Joan Kelsch Zangara, MD, was also hired as a cardiologist. Then he joined a private practice with Bayard Coggeshall, MD, on Franklin Street in Morristown. But this left him no time for his family.

“We had five children and I was working so hard I didn’t see them, between my patients and the hospital; they would be in bed when I got home,” he recalls. He began seeing patients from his home in Morris Township but stopped practicing in the early ’90s to care for his wife, who had developed Alzheimer’s disease.

Throughout everything, Dr. Zangara remained a teacher. Currently, he instructs medical students on physical diagnosis at the medical center. In addition, he teaches Italian in his Rockaway community. It’s here and at his Fox Hills writer’s group that he enthuses about Morristown Medical Center.

“I’m always talking up the medical center,” says the grandfather of 14. “Why would you go anywhere else? Morristown gets such good results. People ask me if I get sick, where I’m going. I tell them I don’t plan on going anywhere else.”

To learn more about The Brookfield Society, visit f4mmc.org, select Ways to Give > Plan a Legacy Gift and then click on Brookfield Society on the left.
**Oncology’s New Home**

On May 9, donors and medical center professionals toasted the long-awaited oncology unit on Simon 5 at a festive dedication ceremony. Morristown Medical Center President David Shulkin and Carol G. Simon Cancer Center Medical Director Steven Papish (pictured) extolled the virtues of the new unit, while Leigh Porges, Foundation trustee and chair of the Oncology Philanthropy Council, thanked the 38 donors who contributed $1,531,000 to this campaign.

*Photo: Media Services*

**On the Red Carpet**

Dr. Gaines Mimms, neonatologist, Foundation trustee and co-chair of the Pediatric Philanthropy Council, served as emcee for the June 10, 2011, premiere of the Goryeb Children’s Hospital video and Golden Goryeb Awards presentation. The video, conceived and developed by Dr. Mary Ann Lofrumento with Michael Sudyn and Diane Ritter of Flying Dreams, showcases Goryeb’s pediatric specialists and kid-friendly programs and services. Dr. Lofrumento received the Best Director Golden Goryeb, while the Flying Dreams team earned Best Cinematography statuettes. Dave and Jill Farris won Best Producers for their philanthropic support of the project, and Joe Goryeb received a statuette for Best Leading Man.

Pictured (l-r) Dave and Jill Farris, Joe Goryeb, Dr. Mary Ann Lofrumento, Michael Sudyn and Diane Ritter. Far right: Dr. Gaines Mimms.

Bottom: “Paparazzi” on the way to the Amphitheater

*Photos: Media Services*
In Memoriam

With a heavy heart we acknowledge the passing of former Foundation trustee, volunteer, donor and friend **S. Jervis Brinton, Jr.**, on July 1, 2011. A visionary leader of many organizations, including the Fannie E. Rippel Foundation, he was 87.

Mr. Brinton was also founding partner of Brinton Easton Associates in Madison, former executive vice president of the Midlantic National Bank, and a founding director of Red Oak Bank.

“If I had given the eulogy, I would have compared him to Frank Sinatra, who was known by many as Mr. Chairman,” says longtime friend and colleague Bruce Bensley. “He was chairman of more organizations than most people join in their lifetime, which is a tribute to his ability, knowledge and understanding of what they stood for.”

Mr. Brinton was predeceased by his first wife of 52 years, Helen Baker Brinton, and survived by his devoted wife Antonia Marotta Brinton, his children, grandchildren and stepchildren.

Your Gift Matters

To hear the wail of a newborn’s first greeting after the rush of an emergency c-section. To save the grandfather that collapsed at home alone. To give a beloved sister a second chance after breast cancer. Every life means something to someone. And here at Morristown Medical Center they mean everything to us.

**What many people don’t know is our medical staff and technicians treat each person regardless of his or her ability to pay.**

In 2010, more than $22 million was used from our resources to help patients who were uninsured, under-insured or lacked the financial clout to pay out of their own pockets. The state will reimburse the medical center only 9 cents for every dollar spent. That means fewer dollars are available for building upgrades, programs, equipment and education. That’s why your gift matters.

We pride ourselves on staying up on the latest technology, medical breakthroughs and clinical trials so that, whatever the situation may be, we can do our job to the best of our ability.

Help sustain life – from all walks – by giving today.