Gentle Healing with Art Therapy
Kids4Kids Committee members and community volunteers braved a downpour to create Mickey’s Garden (see story on page 6). Visit the photo gallery at www.mmhf.org to see more shots of the planting and the dedication.

Photo: Becky Bedrosian
When I reflect on the last 25 years of pediatric cardiology, I’m awed by how our Goryeb Children’s Heart Center has grown and prospered. When I was recruited by Morristown Memorial to start the program, pediatric cardiology shared space and equipment with adult cardiology. In the beginning, I was the sole cardiologist working only three days a week. Now, we have a dedicated staff of over 20, including nurses, cardiovascular technicians, a social worker and five board-certified pediatric cardiologists with combined experience of over 65 years.

I’d like to tell you about our special young patients who come here for care. Many of them have congenital heart disease. Others may have abnormal heart rhythms. Some may need cardiac evaluation because they were born with a genetic abnormality, like Turner syndrome, or are cancer patients who may have had their hearts compromised by chemotherapy. Still others may need to have their heart evaluated because of a murmur. No matter why they’re here, we offer them full-service non-invasive evaluations, diagnostic testing and psychosocial support.

For our patients who need heart surgery or cardiac catheters, we’ve developed a special partnership with New York-Presbyterian Columbia University Medical Center. But just because our patient requires services in New York City, this is by no means the end of our cardiologists’ involvement. I work alongside my Columbia colleagues to perform cardiac catheterizations on our patients, and two of our pediatric cardiologists also work in their Echocardiogram Laboratory. This way, our small patients continue to see familiar faces and receive consistent care from our cardiologists.

As pediatric cardiology continues to evolve at exponential rates, our Children’s Heart Center is working hard to provide the best care with the most advanced technological equipment. We’re deeply grateful to the Tina and Richard V. Carolan Foundation for a matching grant, which will help fund new echocardiography equipment. This means that all gifts will be matched dollar for dollar from the Carolan Foundation up to $60,000 toward the $245,000 purchase. This new echocardiography machine will replace outdated equipment and enable us to better evaluate the heart and surrounding structures. Another essential need is for computer stations to read echocardiograms, which will improve clinical care by enabling physicians to review and compare studies and produce more timely reports.

Please help us keep pace with the ever-changing field of pediatric cardiology. Your donations will allow us to purchase the best equipment and enable us to provide stellar cardiac care so we can heal our young patients. Help us to keep growing our division.

At the Children’s Heart Center, we’re hopeful for the future of our patients. During the past 25 years, the prognosis has improved for children with heart problems. Today, because so many of our patients are thriving and living into adulthood, a specialty for adults with congenital heart disease has blossomed. This development speaks directly to the success of pediatric cardiology. Join us in making even bigger strides in the next few decades.

To offer your support, call Gerri Kling, major gifts officer, at 973-593-2414.
Racing for Patient Health

R Baby Foundation®
This past Mother’s Day, over 9,000 participants raced through Central Park to support R Baby Foundation®, which focuses on saving babies’ lives by improving pediatric emergency care. To date, R Baby Foundation® has provided Goryeb Children’s Hospital with grants totaling $190,000 to launch and continue its patient- and family-centered care initiative.

Along with the 4-mile race, 1.3-mile race/walk and kids’ races, a family festival featured musical bands, face painting, arts and crafts and massage for moms. The event raised over $550,000.

Susan G. Komen for the Cure®
Several thousand runners and walkers braved the rain on April 25 for the 2010 Komen North Jersey Race for the Cure® at the Essex County Branch Brook Park in Newark. The event, including a 5-K race and 1.5-K walk, generated $1,408,226.

Last year, the North Jersey Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure® provided a $57,560 grant to Morristown Memorial to provide outreach programs and cancer screenings in the South Asian and Latino communities. Susan G. Komen for the Cure® was started in 1982 by Nancy Brinker to honor her sister who succumbed to breast cancer. The organization strives to end breast cancer by empowering people, ensuring quality care and sparking science to find a cure.

The Valerie Fund
Over 3,000 people embraced The Valerie Fund on June 12 at its fourth annual 5-K race and walk at Verona Park. The event, which also featured a bouncy slide, face painting and music by Amber Blues, generated more than $210,000.

The Valerie Fund provides support for approximately 5,000 children with cancer and blood disorders treated at its eight centers located in New Jersey and New York. Last year, the Valerie Fund Children’s Center at Goryeb Children’s Hospital received $105,214 from The Valerie Fund.
Keeping Patients Cozy

The Cromwell-Olive Twig is spreading some warmth throughout the Hemodialysis Unit. This branch of the Women’s Association of Morristown Memorial contributed a $4,500 blanket warmer for patients undergoing hemodialysis.

“Patients sit for up to four hours in a chair, receiving their treatments while they watch television, read or doze,” says Mary Buckley-O’Dell, nurse manager of Hemodialysis. “They must remain still since they have needles in their arm; blood circulates from their body through the dialysis machine and back again. Sometimes it gets chilly, and our patients love the warm blankets.”

Members of the Cromwell-Olive Twig typically reside in Convent Station. The groups’ fundraisers include vendor sales at the hospital and dinner parties.

Drumming Stress Away

Recently at Goryeb Children’s Hospital, a teen jammed on an African drum with musician Maurice Carr, who visits twice a month to engage patients in therapeutic drumming. The boy smiled as the two toyed with different rhythms; eventually shakers and tambourines were added to the mix. For the finale, Mr. Carr soloed a riff of “Back in Black” by AC/DC, the boy’s favorite band. Laughter and high-fives followed.

Drumming respites like these are funded through the Maria LoFrumento Child Life Fund, which drew $10,000 and memorializes the mother of Mary Ann LoFrumento, MD. “My mother had been in the hospital with nothing but the TV to break up her day,” she says. “Drumming is such a fun activity and helps kids relieve stress. It’s empowering.”

A Game-winning Day for All

For his 8th birthday party, football fan Daniel Teitelbaum called the plays, asking that instead of birthday gifts, his friends bring toys for children at Goryeb Children’s Hospital. Game day was on Jan. 31, at The Sports Academy in Millburn, and the flag football players, second graders at South Mountain School in South Orange, didn’t let their quarterback down.

Bringing toys valued at over $400, his teammates helped make it a game-winning day for all.

The i’s Have It

Apple Technology Eases Patient Stays

At Gagnon Children’s Emergency Center, a teen who suffered a traumatic injury watches a movie on an iPad his friend holds up while waiting for doctors to examine his neck. Down the hall, a child life specialist explains upcoming surgery to a child, showing operating room photos on an iPod touch in an effort to calm fears.

These hand-held devices are being used more frequently throughout Goryeb Children’s Hospital, the result of two recent contributions. Jack Wilson, RN, an ED patient care technician, organized bake sales to purchase an iPad when he was a nursing student at County College of Morris. And through the Maria LoFrumento Child Life Fund, Mary Ann LoFrumento, MD, purchased nine iPod touches for the Child Life Department.
To plan an event of your own, call Eileen Heltzer at 973-593-2412.

A Garden Party Like No Other

What was once a barren patch of land next to Goryeb Children’s Hospital is now a beautifully landscaped garden filled with flowers and ornamental grasses, a place for patients to capture a quiet moment.

On August 2, Mickey’s Garden was dedicated in honor of Michelina Tedeschi, the grandmother of Emily Weber, who spearheaded the garden project along with other Kids4Kids Committee members. “My grandmother was an avid gardener and would have loved this,” says the 17 year old. “It’s a great way to remember her and help patients.”

The transformation occurred one rainy day with help from 36 Kids4Kids volunteers; Hall’s Garden Center; Herold’s Landscaping; Emily McCormick and Kimberly Borin, who painted the mural; and the Curtin family, who donated benches.

Driven to Give Back

The Weiss family of Randolph has a birthday tradition: for their boys’ parties, guests are asked to bring toy cars for the patients at Goryeb Children’s Hospital in lieu of birthday gifts.

It all started three years ago, when Jason, now 5, almost sliced off the tip of his finger after slamming it in a bedroom door. Once at Goryeb, Amy Humphreys, child life specialist, calmed him down with Dora videos and a toy car.

“Amy made the situation significantly better,” says Amy Kriegsmann, Jason’s mom. “Every birthday party since, that’s the way we give back.”

The Weiss family of Randolph has a birthday tradition: for their boys’ parties, guests are asked to bring toy cars for the patients at Goryeb Children’s Hospital in lieu of birthday gifts.

The latest celebration, Benjamin’s seventh birthday party at the Turtle Back Zoo, collected toys from over 30 children.

Toiletries and Tie-Dye: A Gold-winning Idea

For her Girl Scout Gold Award, Chelsea Laufer, 18, wanted to give comfort to young patients and their parents at Goryeb Children’s Hospital. Ms. Laufer, who recently graduated from West Morris Mendham High School, spent her senior year collecting “comfort cart” items, such as toothpaste, tooth brushes and shampoo, for families who forget their toiletries when staying at the hospital. And to cheer up pediatric patients, the Chester resident also collected hats and scarves and, with the help of local Girl Scout Troops 917 and 434, tie-dyed the gear.

“I received so many donations; it’s amazing to see how generous people are,” says the Kids4Kids Committee member, who attends Penn State University for nursing.

Brownie Magic (some assembly required)

A third grade Brownie troop in Mount Olive took a vote on who in the community they could help with their $400 profit in cookie sales. The winners: children at Goryeb Children’s Hospital.

The 10 girls from Tinc Road School bought crayons, toy cars and games and assembled 30 “fun kits” for the young patients. Each kit comes with a get well card created by the troop.

“The girls are so into helping others; it’s fun to watch,” says Marion Witte, the troop leader.
For NICU Parents,
She’s the Top Chef

Planning the next meal can be overwhelming for parents when their baby is being cared for in Sam’s Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. But thanks to Elizabeth Manzo, a 17-year-old senior at Pingry, families are freed from dinner worries once a week.

Every Wednesday evening, she prepares a meal for up to 40 people and delivers it to the NICU lobby. Dishes include tabbouleh, pasta salad, sun-dried tomato salad, and a baked turkey or ham. For dessert, cupcakes or bundt cakes top the menu.

“I’m happy to give moms and dads a few minutes of peace to sit down to a home-cooked meal, especially when they are having such a hard time,” says the New Vernon resident.

Warm Reception at Chili’s
Epilepsy Fundraiser Gains Support

On April 21, Chili’s Grill & Bar in East Hanover served up something extra special with its southwestern chili. Former New York Jets guard Alan Faneca was on hand, signing autographs and selling “Block Out Epilepsy” tee-shirts to benefit the Pediatric Epilepsy Center at Morristown Memorial and Overlook hospitals.

Proceeds – over $1,200 was collected and Chili’s donated an additional $200 – will help purchase wireless video EEG equipment so children being monitored for long periods of time won’t be restricted to their hospital beds. Both Mr. Faneca and his daughter, Anabelle, have epilepsy.

“The Chili’s event was a great way to raise additional funds for the new equipment,” says Julie Faneca. “We had a great turnout of friends and Jets teammates. All we had to do was enjoy the food!”

Sodhani Family Rewards Nursing’s Best

Not content with a mere thank you for the attentive nursing care they received over the years, the Sodhani family made sure in 2008 that nursing excellence is rewarded again and again. For the second year, the family’s foundation awarded scholarships to two deserving recipients. This spring, Suzanne S. Clark, RN, received The Sodhani Foundation Nursing Best Practices Award, and Corinne White won The Sodhani Foundation Certified Nursing Assistant Advancement Scholarship, both of which carry a $2,500 prize.

For Kevil Chevrolet’s 50th anniversary classic car show celebration on June 12, owner Jim Kevil donated a portion of the day’s proceeds to a cause championed by his long-time customers, the Pignataro family of Budd Lake.

The Pignataros started Jon’s Journey, a foundation that distributes money for transportation to families in need when a child is undergoing brain surgery. At Goryeb Children’s Hospital, social workers help identify beneficiaries. In 2008, 7-year-old Jon Pignataro was diagnosed with Chiari malformation, structural defects in the cerebellum, which were corrected through surgery at Goryeb.

The car show, which featured classic cars, monster trucks and a NASCAR race simulator, generated $700 for Jon’s Journey (www.jonsjourney.org).
O
n this afternoon, art therapist Joseph Jaworek asks 10 patients in the Behavioral Health Unit at Morristown Memorial to pick a pastel color and draw a large circle, the first step in creating a personal mandala, a circular design filled with geometric shapes.

“We need help establishing decent boundaries, and this circle is our space,” he says. “You can think about how you structure your life and of the symbols and colors that are at the core of you. How do you divide up your time and energy and what makes it to the inside of your circle?”

Patients in this 16-bed unit are receiving treatment for a variety of mental illnesses, such as depression and bipolar disorder, and attend weekly art therapy sessions.

One woman colors angry red blotches to signify her job, while another creates yellow, green and red circles to represent her family, work and animals. Another patient abruptly turns over her paper. Mr. Jaworek gently draws her out. “Part of me is a bit broken and I’m here to get fixed,” she says, looking at her mandala. “These three branches are my children, this is my job and this is my ex-husband. I’m sorry for the way some things went down with him.” She stops. “If I shared all my feelings, it would be very scary,” Mr. Jaworek, who has already built a strong therapeutic relationship with the woman through past sessions, points to her paper. “I’d rather you share on there than have those feelings stuck inside you.” With that, she continues.

That is the essence of the art therapy process – to provide patients with a therapeutic vehicle through which to express their feelings. Mr. Jaworek, along with music and movement therapists, is supported by a two-year grant from the Willits Foundation. He also helps elderly patients on the unit deal with dementia, depression and grief through a grant from the Wallerstein Foundation for Geriatric Life Improvement.

As the patients finish their mandalas, Mr. Jaworek seeks permission to hang their creations and invites them to share what their art represents. The group, clearly engaged, asks to continue after the session is finished.

Art therapy, first used in 1906 by the German psychiatrist Fritz Mohr, is a mental health profession that uses the artistic creative process to enhance the physical, mental and emotional well-being of individuals. Throughout Morristown Memorial, art is used as a healing tool. Maria Lupo, healing arts coordinator for Atlantic Health, works primarily with patients at Carol G. Simon Cancer Center, presenting them with materials, such as crayons, markers or art kits, to create jewel boxes and sun catchers.

“Art therapy offers patients choice,” says Ms. Lupo. “In the hospital, choice is often robbed from you; you’re told what test to take and when and where to take it. Patients choose their projects because I never want to present them with materials they don’t know how to use. I don’t want failure. Art is a metaphor for healing.”

Through art, patients reveal their struggles. “One woman was missing her children, and she opened up her feelings of being separated through a simple teddy bear kit and got at what was troubling her,” says Ms. Lupo. “Art is a way to get inside a person and have their story revealed in a gentle manner.”

At Atlantic Rehabilitation Institute, art therapist Marissa Householder leads monthly group sessions. She encourages patients to play with color and leads them in open-ended, free expression exercises. In one, she instructs patients to create abstract collages from construction paper, in the tradition of an elderly Henri Matisse, who, like many ARI patients, was in a wheelchair. At the end of each session, the group talks about their creations and gives feedback.

“Often patients share their stories, like what led them here, whether it’s a traumatic experience, a car accident or a fall,” says Ms. Householder. “They open up in this supportive atmosphere. I shut the door, play calming music and give them a space to take their minds off their pain.”

Throughout the hallways of Goryeb Children’s Hospital, the framed artwork of patients – from bold finger paints to bejeweled collages – enliven the unit. These were created through ArtWork’s Intensive Creative Artists in Residence program, funded by Francine and John Downing, which bring artists to the hospital to engage pediatric patients and their siblings. Last year, two artists led weekly workshops for over 300 children to create puppets, cartoons, caricatures, collages, mosaics and Picasso-inspired art.

ArtWorks also provides and stocks a custom-made mobile art cart, “Surprise Supplies,” which is funded this year by the Maria LoFrumento Child Life Fund and is bursting with crayons and kits for crafting jewelry, making race cars and painting rocks.

“The art projects serve as distraction for kids and help decrease stress and anxiety,” says Daniela Mendelsohn, executive director and founder of ArtWorks. “They empower kids by giving them a little control and serve as an emotional outlet to help them cope with their hospital stay.” Perhaps most important, art gives children the chance to forget their illness for a moment. “It gives them an opportunity to play again,” she says.
Reflection of Self
by Laura Faloutsis,
Morristown Memorial
art therapy participant
Atlantic Health was named one of health care’s “Most Wired” organizations of 2010 by Hospitals & Health Networks, the journal of the American Hospital Association. For patients, that means continuity of care between physicians, better outcomes and the convenience of e-mailing doctors and receiving lab results and updates to their medications online.

Emilie Rowan, manager of Atlantic Integrative Medicine, provided hands-on therapy for 55 patients undergoing open heart surgery last year. With Morristown Memorial N.J.’s top hospital for heart failure treatment (according to Castle Connolly, an independent health care research company), the demand for this service is growing.

Integrative Medicine practitioners are now offering massage, healing touch and acupressure free at bedside throughout the hospital. In the first six weeks they treated 1,800 people. The services are covered through year end by the hospital but need funding to continue.
Thinklikeapancreas.com, an educational website for adolescents with type 1 diabetes, was selected as a national “Quality Tool” by the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Funded by The Joseph Leroy and Ann C. Warner Fund, Inc.; Hoop-A-Paluza, Inc.; and The Ladybug Fund, Inc., the site had 7,000 visits in 2009.

The Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center, a Health Foundation funding priority, was chosen as one of 18 sites for the Pediatric Crohn’s Disease Risk Stratification Project, which will help determine patient outcomes.

While much attention is focused on Morristown Memorial’s current needs, having future support for the hospital assures that its core mission will continue. Whether you wish to include a charitable bequest when creating your will or add it later with a codicil, the following language may be used:

“I give, devise and bequeath to Morristown Memorial Health Foundation, a charitable corporation located in Morristown, New Jersey, the sum of _____ dollars ($___) (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 Morristown Memorial Hospital’s objectives and mission.”

To discuss bequests or other planned giving options and their tax consequences, please contact Cynthia W. O’Donnell, JD, director of gift planning, at 973-593-2418 or cynthia.odonnell@atlantichealth.org.

This spring, Marine helicopter pilot Capt. Eric Rodriguez watched his wife, Amy, give birth to daughter Olivia Rose from his post in Africa via Skype. The Maternity Center has seen a 4.3 percent increase in births over last year.

To help non-English speakers communicate with health care providers, Morristown Memorial has 219 specialized dual hand set telephones, through which medically trained interpreters translate in over 100 languages. Last year, 10,309 calls were placed and 114,283 minutes were logged.
A little known therapy that’s as easy as breathing is being used at Morristown Memorial for diabetic patients with stubborn wounds and cancer patients suffering from chronic ulcers. Hyperbaric oxygen therapy, a non-invasive medical treatment typically used to treat divers with the “bends,” delivers 100 percent oxygen at high pressure. When the blood carries this oxygen to organs and tissues, it enhances the body’s ability to heal itself.

“Hyperbaric oxygen therapy has antibiotic-like effects and can be safely administered with minimal side effects,” says George Perdrizet, MD, PhD, director of surgical research. “When diabetic foot wounds are treated with hyperbaric oxygen therapy, there’s a drop in major amputation rates up to 75 percent.”

Currently, up to eight patients a day are treated in two individual hyperbaric oxygen chambers that provide about 1,900 treatments annually. As the number of elderly, obese and diabetic patients—groups who have difficulty with wound healing—grows, Dr. Perdrizet sees demand for hyperbaric oxygen therapy rising. He envisions securing a 10-person chamber to profoundly increase the number of patients treated. With an investment in hyperbaric medicine, he believes the possibilities are endless, treating everything from flesh-eating bacteria and carbon monoxide poisoning to exploring its effectiveness through clinical trials with traumatic brain injuries and infected medical devices, such as pacemakers and replacements for hips and knees.

For more information or to support Dr. Perdrizet’s work, please contact James F. Quinn, CFRE, chief development officer, at 973-593-2411.

KIDFIT Gains New Support

The KIDFIT program at Goryeb Children’s Hospital just got kicked up a notch, thanks to a gift from Dave and Jill Farris of Bernardsville. With the funds, KIDFIT, an individualized program that helps kids slim down and get in shape, will purchase new equipment and develop patient education and program marketing materials.

“With all the emphasis on diseases stemming from obesity, we thought this gift was an excellent way to perpetuate the program and the wonderful work that the KIDFIT program is already doing,” says Dave Farris.

Currently, KIDFIT has 108 active patients who receive assessment and ongoing intervention from a multidisciplinary team, including an exercise physiologist who provides guidance on fitness, a nutritionist who assists with healthy food choices and a social worker who helps families institute healthy changes.

Patients will benefit from three new pieces of equipment: Alive Mobile Sports Monitoring Technology, which provides real time EEG, heart rate, speed, altitude and location tracking to help elevate and monitor patient activity patterns; GENE A2, which tracks activity and sleep patterns; and POLAR E600 watches, which provide heart rates.
If anyone needs tips on how to make a support group succeed, there’s a humble expert on Jefferson 1 who can show you how it’s done.

For seven years, Toni McTigue, APRN, has organized over 100 support group meetings at Morristown Memorial for patients who had or will be facing intestinal or urinary diversion surgery. Attendees share information, discuss mutual concerns and often hear from an outside specialist. Appreciative attendees nominated Ms. McTigue as the 2010 Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurse of the Year – and she won the national honor.

“Toni is the glue that keeps our group together,” wrote George Salamy, of the local affiliate of the United Ostomy Associations of America, in his nomination. “She’s the anchor and has allowed the group to become a vibrant, active support organization.”

“Unlike most support groups, where people come at the time they need the services, ours continues to grow,” says Ms. McTigue, who holds a nursing certification in wound, ostomy and continence. “Our members come every month because they like the interaction and love helping other people.”

RN Wins National Honor

When Atlantic Health challenged its caregivers to craft an essay on how their departments support a culture of healing, Susan Boyle, RN, responded on behalf of the Emergency Department team. Candid and moving, her words are all the more powerful when you consider that the ED staff has been tending to 80,000 visitors a year in a space built for 50,000. To read the essay in its entirety, visit www.mmhf.org and select How Your Gift Helps>Caregiver Testimonials. To support the ED Expansion campaign, choose Donate Now on any page of the website or call Susan Johns at 973-593-2413.

From the essay:

“As John Donne once said, ‘No man is an island.’ Similarly, with the ED staff, we are more than the sum of our individual specialties and talents. … It truly is a team effort, a collaborative, cohesive community of individuals that, when we each perform our part, can function as that proverbial well-oiled machine. … In the midst of a chaotic world, we approach our patients in a holistic way, promoting their healing in whatever way they need, whether it is a life-saving intervention or a Band-Aid, a hug or an IV. Sometimes our work is acknowledged by those we are trying to help; often it is unnoticed. But deep down inside, at the end of the day, we know that we have made a difference.”

Healing Hands

BY THE NUMBERS

Caregivers Nominated by Patients .................... 203
Most Citations for One Caregiver .................... 11
Dollars Raised from Healing Hands Award .......... $11,878
Largest Gift .................................................. $2,000

Visit www.mmhf.org and check out the latest news to see the list of Healing Hand recipients.

Coming Soon: A Q&A on Palliative Care

When it comes to palliative care, questions from patients and their families abound. What exactly is it? How does it differ from hospice?

To answer these inquiries and more, Karen Knops, MD, medical director for the Palliative Care Program at Morristown Memorial and Atlantic Hospice, is creating an online educational program that will provide information in a question-and-answer format. The project, funded by a gift from Virginia Moriarty of Harding Township, is expected to be completed early in 2011.

Dr. Knops finds that, because physicians receive little training in discussing these issues, they have trouble explaining palliative care, which strives to provide relief from suffering for patients at any stage of a chronic or serious illness.

“Physicians also find that patients and their families have trouble absorbing information because they’re anxious or they may be uncomfortable asking certain questions,” says Dr. Knops. “This resource is not intended as a substitute for medical care but to provide a point of reference.”
This past May, no matter the time of day, sisters Anne Rooke, RN, MSN, and Susan Bruen could be found hustling about the Mansion in May at Fawn Hill Farm in Harding Township. On one of those days, as Mrs. Rooke finished an impromptu tour and Mrs. Bruen hunted for some light bulbs, they paused to chat about their partnership.

The first to arrive in an upstairs room commandeered for the Functional Operations Committee, Mrs. Rooke explained how she and her sister became co-chairs of the designer showcase, sponsored by the Women’s Association of Morristown Memorial, which drew over 20,000 visitors. “We’ve been involved with lots of mansions before, but this time, my last child went to college so I knew I could be here every day,” said the mother of two.

With that, she whipped out her cell phone. “We’re in Ops,” she said to her sister, before hanging up. “There are no more pleasantries between us, no hello or goodbye, we just cut to the chase.” Soon enough, Mrs. Bruen joined the conversation and the two bantered, filling in each other’s thoughts as they reminisced about their combined 43 years of service at past Mansions in May.

“During the mansion at Bayley-Ellard – one of us would be at the mansion and the other would be a mom to four children, schlepping them to Cub Scouts and swimming and cooking dinner for two families,” said Mrs. Rooke. “That’s what sisters can do.” With Mrs. Bruen 18 months older, the sisters shared a room growing up. Their father was a surgeon and their mother a nurse, and hospital talk consumed dinner table conversation. Mrs. Rooke, a nurse herself, once served at Morristown Memorial. Today, both are Morristown residents, living less than six miles apart.

Working together proved a natural fit. “We complement each other; but we’re not yin and yang,” said Mrs. Bruen. “We don’t always agree, but we agree to disagree,” followed Mrs. Rooke. “Just like a marriage.”

What made the sisters’ job easier this year was the caliber of volunteers who devoted themselves to the cause. “We recruited the right people for the right jobs,” said Mrs. Bruen, adding volunteers become afflicted with “Mansion fever.” The 55-member Executive Committee, which Mrs. Rooke described as all Type A brainy beauties, deftly executed their responsibilities, such as selecting interior designers and landscape architects, running the café and leading the volunteers. The savvy duo made improvements that made this season’s mansion stronger than ever, such as leading group tours before the mansion opened to the public. The two also strengthened the underwriting presence, with MetLife lending major financial support and Mercedes-Benz of Morristown serving as a sponsor. “We wanted to maximize our profits while maintaining the integrity of the Mansion in May event,” said Mrs. Bruen, who noted that proceeds benefited the hospital’s Emergency Department expansion.

Small talk waning, the sisters were eager to dash. “We opened the mansion today and it took almost an hour to turn on all the lights,” said Mrs. Rooke, which reminded Mrs. Bruen that she still hadn’t unearthed those darn bulbs. With that, they were off.
Indispensable Docs and Donors
In honor of Anesthesia Associate’s long-standing commitment to Morristown Memorial, the waiting area of the hospital’s lobby was formally dedicated on June 23. Anesthesia Association’s generosity for the last 14 years has placed them in the company of the Health Foundation’s most generous donors – the Washington Partners – who have committed over $1 million to bring better care to Morristown Memorial’s patients.

Off-the-cuff remarks from Dr. Kevin Barry, president of Anesthesia Associates, had everyone laughing, including Jim Quinn, the Health Foundation’s chief development officer.

A Joyous Ribbon Cutting
Over 100 enthusiastic guests gathered for the dedication of the Msgr. John F. Corr Stroke Treatment, Education and Research Center on June 16 at Atlantic Rehabilitation Institute. The facility that honors the long-time pastor of Christ the King Church in New Vernon was made possible through the generosity of local community members who contributed more than $80,000.

Msgr. John F. Corr. To see more photos from the dedication, visit the photo gallery at www.mmhf.org.
Golfers Support Pediatric IBD

Clear skies and warm weather welcomed 156 golfers at this year’s 21st Annual Morristown Memorial Golf Classic at Baltusrol on June 7. The day raised approximately $304,450, and proceeds will benefit the Pediatric Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center at Goryeb Children’s Hospital.

The event was sponsored by Automatic Switch Company, which has donated over $1.1 million to Morristown Memorial over the past 36 years. We also thank our golfers, our volunteers and our generous sponsors:

- Buckl Architects
- Francis Cauffman Architects
- Genesis HealthCare
- JPMorgan Chase
- Korn/Ferry International
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lien
- Massey, Quick & Company
- the Santaliz Family
- Verizon Business

We’re grateful to Tri-State Lincoln Mercury Dealers for sponsoring the “Hole in One” contests.

To see more photos from the outing, visit the photo gallery at www.mmhf.org.

In Memoriam

With sorrow we reflect on the passing this spring of two notable hospital physicians and a long-time donor and volunteer.

**Myles C. Morrison, Jr., MD**, died April 2. The father of five and grandfather of eight was 86. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Pat. An obstetrician and gynecologist, Dr. Morrison was affiliated with Morristown Memorial for 55 years, including his tenure as chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and president of the medical staff.

**John Stephen Thompson, MD**, passed away on April 12 at age 86. He is survived by his wife, Irene, two children and two grandchildren. Dr. Thompson built a thriving cardiac internal medicine practice in Morristown, before becoming Morristown Memorial’s medical director for 11 years, starting in 1970.

**John Kroll Turpin**, 65, died on May 21. He leaves behind his four children, eight grandchildren and wife Margery. Through his leadership, Turpin Real Estate grew into one of the premiere independent real estate firms in the region. A supporter of the Annual Fund, he served on the Health Foundation’s Gifts of Real Estate Council, which provides recommendations on how to promote gifts of real estate to benefit the hospital.