



## KEEPING UP WITH NFMCC

Get a glimpse of what's happening this month around the medical center!

### New Cardiac Catheterization Lab Opens At NFMCC



Western New York healthcare history was made on April 5 as officials from Catholic Health, Kaleida Health, Erie County Medical Center and Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center joined area care providers and emergency medical service personnel in dedicating the first and only cardiac catheterization laboratory in Niagara County.

The new facility, at The Heart Center of Niagara on Memorial's downtown Niagara Falls campus, is the result of an unprecedented community collaboration between the four health systems and will be jointly operated by them.

"First and foremost we are all Western New Yorkers who for years have been concerned about the region's alarmingly high cardiovascular mortality rates," said Neil Dashkoff, M.D., medical director of the new lab. "After all, it's the number one killer in Western New York, specifically in Niagara County."

Dr. Dashkoff noted that when it comes to interventional cardiology services, healthcare disparities have historically been dire in Niagara County especially for African Americans, Native Americans, the economically disadvantaged, people with special needs and people with mental health issues.

"Today we are changing that history, thanks to the willingness of Catholic Health President & CEO Joseph McDonald, Erie County Medical Center President & CEO Thomas Quatroche Jr., Kaleida Health CEO Jody Lomeo and their respective boards of directors to work together with us for the good of the community," said Joseph A. Ruffolo,

President and CEO of NFMCC. "For that we owe them an enormous debt of gratitude."

Cardiac catheterization is a procedure for diagnosing and treating cardiovascular conditions in which a long thin tube called a catheter is inserted in an artery or vein in a patient's groin, neck or arm and threaded through the blood vessels to the heart.

The Niagara cardiac catheterization lab, commonly called a cath lab, will host such procedures as cardiac angiography, stent placement and balloon angioplasty and will maintain 24/7/365 capabilities to perform emergency and scheduled elective procedures and interventions.

Construction costs for the \$2.2 million, 4,145-square-foot facility were borne by all four partners and supported by \$1.1 million in state funding. The new Niagara cath lab is projected to serve 925 patients in its first year.



**Memorial Begins Parking  
 Garage Renovations**

Renovations to the parking garage at Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center began on Monday, April 10.

The work, which will be completed in stages, is expected to last into the summer and will include structural repairs and maintenance on five of the structure’s seven levels.

The project is the first stage of Memorial’s plan to renovate and transform the parking garage and bridge connector into an aesthetically attractive interactive facility that will also host medical center and community activities.

“These repairs will ensure this nearly 40-year-old structure remains a safe and viable parking alternative for the patients, visitors and staff members who depend upon it,” said Steve Lewis, Memorial’s director of facilities management.

Although the garage will remain in operation, up to 180 parking spaces will become unavailable in order to maintain worker safety. Alternate parking arrangements have been made for hospital employees who use the garage to keep the remaining parking

spaces accessible to patients and visitors.

“We will make every effort to minimize disruption and keep as much of the garage as possible available for use,” Lewis said. “However, we are asking those who park there as the project takes place to exercise extra caution when using the facility.”

In use since 1978, the 570-space parking structure also houses the nationally recognized Wound Center of Niagara and several physician offices. Its top level serves as a helipad for Mercy Flight helicopter.

**NFMMC Foundation  
 announces 2017 Niagara Cup  
 Classic co-chairs**



Michael J. Cardamone, D.C., left, of Cardamone Chiropractic, and Douglas E. Mooradian of Pine Pharmaceuticals have been named the 2017 Niagara Cup Classic Golf Tournament co-chairs.

Now in its 26th year, the Niagara Cup Classic will take place on Monday, June 5 at both the Niagara Falls Country Club and Seneca Hickory Stick Golf Course. Regarded as Niagara County’s premier charity golf event, the Niagara Cup offers an exciting mix of competition and camaraderie and will support Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center Women’s Services.

Sponsorship opportunities and registration are now available by contacting Andrea Gray at (716) 278-4605 or [andrea.gray@nfmmc.org](mailto:andrea.gray@nfmmc.org).

**NFMMC Awarded State  
 Grant to Prepare 120 People  
 for The Future Of  
 Patient Care**



Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center has been awarded a New York State Department of Health grant to prepare 120 people for the future of patient care.

The two-year grant will support a Care Coordination Training Project that will be provided in partnership with  
*(cont.)*



Niagara County Community College.

Care Coordination is an emerging healthcare field that promotes deliberately organizing patient care activities and sharing information among all who are involved with a patient's care to achieve greater safety and effectiveness.

"Executed properly, this key strategy improves the effectiveness of health care and community services by delivering them to the right people at the right time and in the right place," said Memorial Chief Operating Officer Sheila K. Kee. "This results in better outcomes for everybody – patients, family members and providers."

The goal of the Care Coordination Training Project is to prepare 120 individuals to perform care coordination and related care transition functions at primary care centers, hospitals, health

homes, behavioral health agencies and other community based organizations.

Six training courses will be offered over a two-year period. Each course will consist of 10 weekly classes with training provided at no cost to those who qualify. The first 10-week session began April 20 from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the new Golisano Center for Community Health on Memorial's downtown campus.

Those who successfully complete the course will receive care coordination certification.

**Evelyn Harris Recognized for Outstanding Volunteer Work**

Congratulations to Evelyn Harris for her induction into the Niagara Falls Volunteer Hall of Fame.

Harris, a longtime Medical Center employee, currently works in the emergency

department as a Patient Care Assistant and has served a variety of volunteer initiatives focused on community health, as well as the Nash House in Buffalo, Western New York's first museum of African-American history, and has been a "lifelong advocate for the rights of women," said Niagara University president Father James Maher.

Harris is also a longtime active member of 1199SIEU.

Thank you for your selfless service to our community, and congratulations on such a great honor.

**Premier Attendees Support Health Home for Children**



Premier 2017 co-chairs Dharshan and Shannon Jayasinghe, right, present a check for \$30,333 to, from left, Judi Nolan-Powell, vice president for Foundation and Community Relations at Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center and Vicki Landes, Memorial's vice president for Community Care Coordination and Services. The funds were donated by attendees who participated in a "text-to-pledge" event at the medical center's Premier 2017 dinner

(cont.)

**For more news stories, media pages!**



*Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center is located at 621 Tenth Street, Niagara Falls, NY, 14302. For additional information regarding NFMHC, please call (716) 278-4000 or email us at [HealthBeat@nfmmc.org](mailto:HealthBeat@nfmmc.org).*



gala and will benefit the new Health Home for Children at Memorial. The health home provides person-centered comprehensive care management to qualifying children who have chronic health issues by connecting

those children and their families with hospital systems, ambulatory care sites, care and case management programs and community supports such as housing and vocational services.

## COMING UP NEXT...

**May 21: 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Niagara Edge 5/10K Run & 1 Mile Walk**



Run for a great cause! Proceeds benefit UBMD Orthopaedics & Sports Medicine Concussion Clinic and NFMCC Athletic Training and Physical Therapy Program. Both courses will be certified this year. Registration begins at 8 a.m.

\$25-5K \$35-10K \$20-Walk

For more information, or to register, visit

<https://niagaraedge5k.itsyourrace.com/register/>.

**June 5: 26th Annual Niagara Cup Classic Golf Tournament**



Two courses, one cause! Now in its 26th year, the Niagara Cup offers an exciting mix of competition and camaraderie supporting the hospitals Women's Services. This year also marks the inaugural Niagara Cup Classic Women's Division! All women foursomes are encouraged to register and will be scored/awarded separately.

For more information, contact Andrea Gray at [andrea.gray@nfmcc.org](mailto:andrea.gray@nfmcc.org).

### Photo of the Month



*"Aimed at preventing the local special needs population from "slipping through the cracks" of the healthcare system, the Golisano Center for Community Health offers integrated care to adults and children with special needs, including developmentally and intellectually disabled and other at-risk individuals."*

*-CannonDesign*

Photo Credit: CannonDesign

### April is

#### Stress Awareness Month!

Exercise. Regulating blood flow and oxygen intake is a great way to relieve stress.

Avoid caffeine, alcohol and tobacco to reduce anxiety.

Maintain a balanced diet.

When in doubt, check in with your doctor to find out which methods will work for YOU.

For more information on upcoming events and classes, visit our website at

[WWW.NFMCC.ORG](http://WWW.NFMCC.ORG)

*Newsletter written by Niagara University Public Relations Intern Bridget Cauley*