

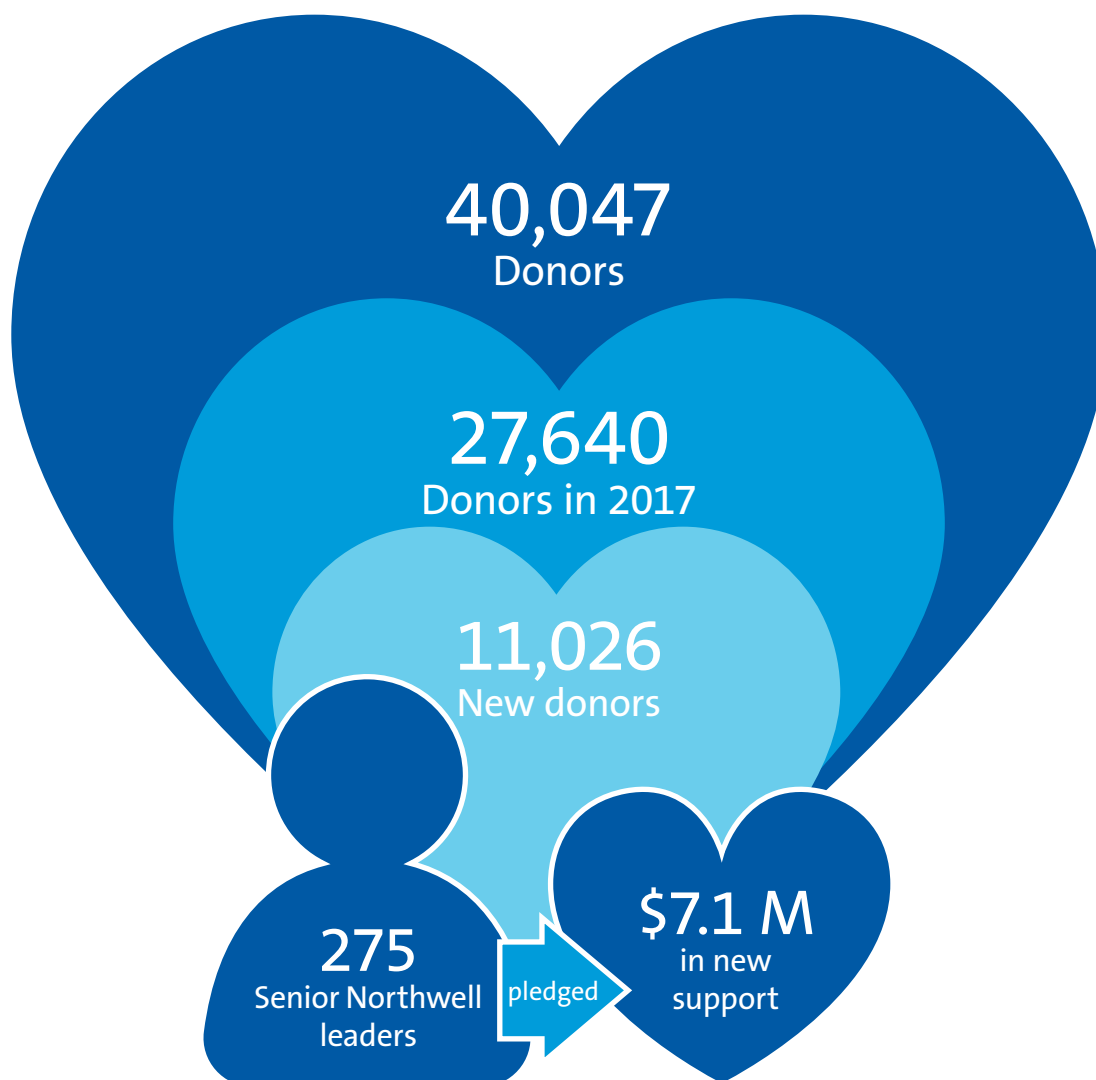
# GRATITUDE



Long Island's first  
**heart transplant recipient**  
marches to the beat  
of her new heart

# Thank you! Because of you, we can do more for our patients and communities.

We received \$177.3 million for our hospitals and programs in 2017



## Thank you for supporting our little heroes at Cohen Children's!

A new fundraising program for Cohen Children's Medical Center, which launched in October 2017, helped us raise more support for our youngest patients.

3,483

New  
donors

3,910

Gifts

1,000

Employees gave \$5 to  
wear jeans in support  
of Cohen Children's



2018 VOLUME 1

# GRATITUDE

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 2 Thank you!
- 4 A former EMT's legacy pays it forward to fellow first responders
- 5 Nicky's Nest helps young warriors fight hard and smile big
- 6 Constellation Gala spotlights care in Manhattan
- 7 Women supporting others' breast cancer journeys
- 8 Cover Story: Long Island's first heart transplant recipient marches to the beat of her new heart**
- 11 Northern Westchester's Ken Hamilton Caregivers Center provides a lifeline to caregivers
- 12 North Shore's NICU makes miracles happen for babies and their families
- 13 Giving back never tasted so good
- 14 Leaving his legacy to care for "his" hospital's future
- 15 Family foundation's gift helps create the first 3D printed, amphibious leg
- 16 Motivated by his grandkids, a retired teacher gets back in step
- 17 Karches Family Foundation names first laboratory within the Center for Bioelectronic Medicine
- 18 Heartfelt thanks for heart-saving generosity
- 19 Supporting children's lives, one dollar at a time



### On the cover

Yvonne Fleming meets benefactor Sandra Atlas Bass, whose philanthropy enabled her to become Long Island's and Northwell's first heart transplant recipient.

*Gratitude* is written and produced by the Northwell Health Foundation.

**Michael J. Dowling**  
President and CEO  
Northwell Health

**Brian T. Lally**  
Senior Vice President/  
Chief Development Officer

**Carolyn Vivaldi**  
Assistant Vice President, Strategic  
Communications & Donor Engagement

**Julie Robinson-Tingue**  
Director, Strategic Communications  
Executive Editor, *Gratitude* magazine

**Kerri L. Tortorella**  
Associate Director,  
Strategic Communications  
Editor, *Gratitude* magazine

Northwell Health  
2000 Marcus Ave  
New Hyde Park, NY 11042  
(516) 321-6300  
[support.northwell.edu/gratitude-magazine](http://support.northwell.edu/gratitude-magazine)  
[gratitude@northwell.edu](mailto:gratitude@northwell.edu)

© 2018. Printed in USA.

Photography: Northwell Health Studios  
Designed by: Onward Publishing, Inc.



[Facebook.com/NorthwellHealthFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/NorthwellHealthFoundation)



[@GivetoNorthwell](https://twitter.com/GivetoNorthwell)



# A former EMT's legacy pays it forward to fellow first responders

By Amy Pilott

A first responder is any individual who runs toward an emergency rather than away. While on the job, first responders often face grave danger, but it does not deter them from their responsibility to the community.

In the early morning hours of New Year's Day, Officer Willard Gomes, a 12-year veteran of the Nassau County Police Department, was on DWI patrol when he was struck by a drunk driver. It took first responders more than 45 minutes to cut Officer Gomes out of his patrol car and get him to the Jane B. Stein Trauma Center at North Shore University Hospital. When he arrived at the Stein Trauma Center, the team tended to his brain bleed and fractured vertebrae, as well as broken leg, arm and teeth. The exact danger that Officer Gomes set out to protect others from nearly killed him.

Overcoming fears he might never walk again, Officer Gomes stood as he was honored by the Nassau County Legislature on March 26 and expressed his appreciation for the team at the Stein Trauma Center. "I am here because of the nurses and doctors at North Shore," Officer Gomes said. After a three-week hospital stay, Officer Gomes continues his long-term recovery through physical therapy and regular follow-up with Jeffrey Richmond, MD, director of orthopaedic surgery, whom he credits with saving his arm.



Jane B. Stein, for whom the Stein Trauma Center is named, was a first responder herself. She spent years riding an ambulance as a volunteer emergency medical technician (EMT), bringing critical patients like Officer Gomes to North Shore University Hospital.

The Jane B. Stein Trauma Center was dedicated in honor of Jane's legacy and her generous \$10 million bequest. Her gift allows us to provide the advanced emergency care she knew our community deserves. In addition to providing general support for the Stein Trauma Center's daily operations, Jane's gift has allowed

---

**"I am here because of the nurses and doctors at North Shore."**

---

Matthew Bank, MD, director of the Jane B. Stein Trauma Center, to launch two critical programs — REBOA and Stop the Bleed.

North Shore University Hospital is an early adopter of the Resuscitative Endovascular Balloon Occlusion of the Aorta (REBOA) technique — a minimally invasive method used in patients who are rapidly bleeding from injuries to their chest, abdomen or pelvis. By threading a catheter into the aorta and inflating a balloon, REBOA halts the bleeding. Jane's gift helped purchase REBOA equipment and train the trauma

team on this innovative procedure — which can save countless lives, but has only been adopted by a few hospitals in the country.

The trauma team is also teaching bleeding control to civilians. Jane's generosity allows Northwell doctors and nurses to train police officers and emergency services workers on ways to instruct teachers and community members to control bleeding in an emergency situation until help arrives. In the first year of the Stop the Bleed program, our clinicians have qualified more than 100 trainers and impacted more than 1,000 individuals with this critical information.

Giving back and educating the community are directly aligned with Jane's family values. Dorothy and Alvin Schwartz, Jane's parents, were also champions of quality health care on Long Island and avid supporters of North Shore. They taught their children from a young age the importance of helping others in the community. Those philanthropic values were continued by Jane and her sister, Amy Spielman, who worked to further their parents' legacy. Following in the footsteps of those before her, Jane's daughter, Frances, has continued her family's legacy, working with North Shore and Cohen Children's Medical Center to support life-changing programs.

For Jane, trauma care was particularly inspiring because of its ability to help people in extreme moments of need. Frances believes that, "mom would be particularly pleased" to know her gift helps save people like fellow first responder Officer Gomes.

# Nicky's Nest helps young warriors fight hard and smile big

By Pam Robinson

Josephine Pedone has turned the pain of losing her son, Nicholas, into a way to help other young patients cope with cancer.

Nicholas, who was 7, died five years ago from neuroblastoma, a cancer that affects developing cells and occurs most often in young children. Before and throughout his treatment, his mother said, his beaming smile belied his discomfort. After he passed in 2013, his parents, family and friends looked for a way to assist young patients and came up with their smilePAK program. The program provides care packages consisting of a teddy bear, blanket and backpack for youngsters heading into hospital stays.

Shortly after, the Nicholas Pedone Foundation looked for ways to expand and help more children on a different level. The HOP4Kids program was created, benefitting kids fighting cancer, and ultimately led them to Cohen Children's Medical Center and the exploration of what would benefit children the most. That desire crystalized as a playroom for young patients.

At first, "we really didn't know if we would be able to fund it," Josephine said. "Because of donations and our commitment, we took a leap of faith and committed to do it. We were really excited to do this in memory of Nicholas and give kids a place to escape the rigors of treatment."

The playroom was named Nicky's Nest, where the theme is "Fight Hard, Smile Big" — a family motto they invoked during Nicholas' treatments, which is meant to inspire patients to never give up. "It's what we used to say when he was down," Josephine said. "When we smiled, Nicholas smiled. It was a synergy that we built. When he smiled, everyone — doctors, nurses, everyone else — smiled."

Nicky's Nest is a haven for youngsters, equipped with children's toys, arts-and-

crafts tables and a fish tank. In keeping with a sky theme, clouds painted on the walls take shapes of animals and numbers.

It also has personal touches of Nicholas and his family. Within the shapes on the wall, the numbers eight and 30 can be found, a reflection of Nicholas' birth date.

The design includes elements of the moon and stars. "I write letters to heaven on Facebook, when I feel the need to talk to Nicholas, and I always address it 'to the moon and stars' and sign it Mommy," Josephine said.

"These kids spend a lot of time at the hospital. They're isolated at times," she added. "To be able to deliver smiles in a hospital environment is really so rewarding."

"The playroom is the child's safe space. It is where a child can begin to feel like a

child again and not a patient," said Cynthia Rodriguez, director of Child Life at Cohen Children's. "Children play together — adding a sense of camaraderie — and socialize with other children going through similar experiences."

The ribbon cutting for the playroom was on Valentine's Day. Josephine and Nicholas' father, Nick, recently visited the playroom and spent some time with a young patient named Violet. They played games together and watched her dance.

"It was so heartwarming to see the smile on her face and see her enjoying the playroom," Josephine said.

"Cohen Children's is a great hospital, a great organization. There's nothing better than giving back. We hope to sit down with them later in the year and see what else might be on their wish list and possibly fund another project," Josephine added.

"I lost my son, my only son, but I feel like I have so many children. In Nicholas' memory, we are helping others."





# Constellation Gala spotlights care in Manhattan



By Jennifer Avedon

As a century-old signature event, the Constellation Gala has a rich history and a longstanding legacy with the healthcare community in New York City. It was that historical significance that drew Northwell Health to partner with Lenox Hill Hospital in 2010. Since then, they have worked together to make crucial improvements in innovative care and critical investments in the hospital's future.

A record-breaking \$3.3 million was raised at the gala, held at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, to benefit the services and programs at Lenox Hill Hospital, Manhattan Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital,

and Lenox Health Greenwich Village. Grammy Award-nominee Sara Bareilles highlighted the evening's program, performing for more than 500 attendees. The reception took place in the Temple of Dendur, the ancient Egyptian wing of the Met, and Northwell took inspiration from the venue. Much like the Egyptians, the Northwell Health community prides itself on being ambitious inventors and fearless innovators. The location perfectly reflected Northwell's approach to health care: Disrupt the expected standards to make the world better for future generations.

Northwell's president and CEO, Michael Dowling, emphasized how philanthropic support for our Manhattan hospitals impacts not only Northwell but also the overall future of health care. "Investing in a renewed Lenox will set the hospital on a clear path of growth and will help innovate and accelerate medical advances across our entire organization," he said that evening. "Our future is knit together, and we rely on the generosity of partners like you to help us set the bar not only for health care in New York but throughout the entire healthcare industry."



Catherine, her husband, Eric, and their 6-year-old son, Matthew.



## Women supporting others' breast cancer journeys

By Paula Smith

Reflexology sessions helped Catherine Ptarcinski of Roslyn Heights, a breast cancer survivor, handle her chemotherapy infusions. Delivered by nurse reflexologist Linda Bardekoff, RN, the integrative therapy involved application of pressure to the feet and hands and “took me away from my anxiety and helped me relax,” Catherine said.

Through each step of her journey, she was guided by an outreach care coach — a breast cancer survivor herself — from the Manhasset Women’s Coalition Against Breast Cancer (MWCABC).

Catherine underwent breast cancer surgery, chemotherapy and reconstructive surgery from a care team that included Karen Kostroff, MD, George Raptis, MD, and Lyle Leipziger, MD, at Monter Cancer Center. Many breast cancer patients at the center, including Catherine, credit the support services they received through the

MWCABC Outreach Program with helping them to thrive during their cancer journey.

To date, MWCABC has awarded over \$4 million in research and outreach grants to breast cancer programs in the region, including numerous research, education and patient support initiatives at Northwell Health. Earlier this year, Feinstein Institute for Medical Research investigator Betsy Barnes, PhD, received \$80,000 from MWCABC for her research aimed at understanding the role of the immune system in breast tumor growth.

In March, MWCABC and the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society cosponsored Northwell Health Cancer Institute’s first annual *Survive and Thrive After Cancer: A Wellness Workshop*, which featured panel discussions and breakout sessions focused on exercise, nutrition, sleep and stress.

The Manhasset Women’s Coalition Against Breast Cancer was started in 1997 by a small group of women who shared a concern about the high rate of breast cancer on Long Island. Since then, the all-volunteer charitable organization has grown in size and scope and is steadfast in its mission to fund innovative breast cancer research and provide education and support services for women diagnosed with breast cancer.

Now cancer-free, Catherine is overwhelmingly grateful for the care and support services she received and is giving back to women newly diagnosed with breast cancer as a MWCABC outreach care coach.

# Long Island's first heart transplant recipient marches to the beat of her new heart

By Julie Robinson-Tingue





## Wearing a fashionable scarf, Converse sneakers and her trademark megawatt smile, Yvonne Fleming could hardly contain her excitement when talking about her prospects for a bright and active future.

"I put my hand over my chest and actually felt my heart beating," she said, with tears streaming down her face. "All I could say was 'Wow ... wow ... I'm alive.'"

In February, Yvonne became Long Island's first heart transplant recipient at the Sandra Atlas Bass Heart Hospital at North Shore University Hospital. The Bass Heart Hospital is the first and only full-service destination for heart transplantation serving residents of Long Island, Queens, Brooklyn and Staten Island. Northwell's program was approved by the State Department of Health last year.

The deeply spiritual, 63-year-old Brooklyn resident never imagined she would be at the center of so much attention. At an emotion-filled March press conference commemorating this milestone moment where Yvonne recounted her story, she got to meet a very special guest: the Bass Heart Hospital's benefactor, Sandra Atlas Bass, whose philanthropic support helped create the Bass Heart Hospital, bringing heart transplantation services to the region.

"Northwell's designation as a heart transplant program will be a lifesaver for a population of 7.5 million people who were otherwise forced to travel to Manhattan or the Bronx to undergo this complicated surgery," said Alan Hartman, MD, senior vice president and executive director of cardiovascular and thoracic surgery at Northwell Health.

"Ask any Long Island family whose loved one has received a new heart and you will begin to understand the significant burden placed on both patients and caregivers. We want to thank you, Sandy, for helping us to achieve this important milestone."

### A premonition

Describing herself as lively and in good health, Yvonne was shocked when she awoke from a disturbing dream at about 1:30am last November 9. She dreamt that she was sent to a white room, where "a very nice lady" told her she had to recall five phone numbers to leave. Panicked, she recited the numbers of her late mother,

fact, doctors said it was a miracle she had survived. Complicating matters, her blood pressure was very low and there was fluid buildup in her lungs. She was in congestive heart failure.

On January 17, Yvonne was admitted to the Cardiac Care Unit (CCU) at Northwell's Lenox Hill Hospital in Manhattan, where she met Brian Lima, MD, and Gerin Stevens, MD, two physicians who would become crucial to her survival. After a three-week stay, she was able to return home, but on February 9, the doctors urged her to come to North Shore University Hospital. There, Yvonne learned she would be a candidate for the first heart transplant surgery to be performed at the Bass Heart Hospital.



her late grandmother and a favorite aunt. She fell asleep, greatly relieved, but the feeling didn't last long. Exactly two hours later, at 3:30am, Yvonne awoke in distress. As she soon learned, she was in the middle of a massive heart attack.

A series of complications and hospital stays indicated that Yvonne's condition was deteriorating. Doctors told her the heart attack had caused damage to more than 70 percent of her heart. In

### Performing a miracle — transplant team has all the right stuff

"When my doctors told me about the possibility of a heart transplant, of course I was a little afraid, but I believe that my angels sent me a message that everything would turn out well," Yvonne said.

Syed Hussain, MD, the Bass Heart Hospital's lead heart procurement surgeon, was responsible for harvesting the donor heart and bringing it to the waiting surgical team on February 19.

"When they said, 'We have a heart for you,' I just kept saying to myself, 'Wow. This is not real. This can't be happening today.'"

While this may have been the first heart transplant performed at Northwell's Sandra Atlas Bass Heart Hospital, Yvonne's transplant team was led by renowned heart failure and transplant specialists with a strong track record for success who were recruited from prominent institutions across the country. Her team — which included Dr. Stevens, medical director of North Shore's transplant program; Dr. Lima, surgical director of the transplant program; and Dr. Hussain — have experience in more than 500 heart transplant cases among them.

"Just before the surgery began, I told the doctors that I was very confident about a good outcome. I prayed on it, and I knew they would do everything to save me. I knew a heart transplant would keep me alive."

## Getting back to life "one day at a time"

Yvonne praises and credits her doctors and the grace of God for her second chance at life but also regrets that someone had to die so she could live.

who love what they do and who truly care and respect the people they care for."

So what's next on the horizon for Yvonne? "I want to give back. I want to be an advocate for organ donation and encourage people to sign up. I want to talk

---

**"It's not a hospital. It's a family of people who love what they do and who truly care and respect the people they care for."**


---

"The first time I saw my heart beating ... that feeling was so immense, so beautiful — I can't describe it. I can breathe freely again and am getting back to life, one day at a time. I vowed that if I got a heart, I would respect, honor and take care of it — and I promise I will.

"I'm so grateful I came to North Shore University Hospital," Yvonne added. "It's not a hospital. It's a family of people

to everyone about how important it is. Everyone needs something.

"Everything in the universe lined up on the 19th that way it was supposed to for me. I'm going to make everyone proud."

 Witness Yvonne's journey to a new heart at [bit.ly/2kRIRJI](https://bit.ly/2kRIRJI)

## A race against time

Some patients wait for years for a new heart and many are sustained by an implanted left ventricular assist device — called LVAD — that assumes the pumping duties of the human heart. LVADs are used as a "bridge to transplant" until a human heart can be found.

Brian Lima, MD, said an increased emphasis on New York's statewide organ donor registration program will go a long way toward improving conditions for the state's heart failure patients. "Every year, 500 New Yorkers die waiting for a lifesaving heart — an average of one death every 18 hours," he said, noting that New York State has the nation's third-lowest overall organ donor registration rate.

One explanation, he commented, is that 57 percent of New Yorkers who live in the five boroughs don't have a driver's license, according to 2016 state Department of Motor Vehicles figures and planning data. As a result, the state is deprived of the easiest and most convenient way for people to register as organ donors. Last October, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced measures to increase organ donations statewide, directing state agencies to provide the public with new ways to register as organ donors.

Northwell Health and its affiliate hospitals collectively treat more heart failure patients than any health system in New York State. Further demonstrating the need for this new program, North Shore University Hospital's service area accounts for 46 percent of all heart transplants in the state.







## Northern Westchester's Ken Hamilton Caregivers Center provides a lifeline to caregivers

By Carol Cool

"The Ken Hamilton Caregivers Center has been a great blessing for me," said Mary Ann Esposito of North Salem, New York. "I was introduced to it through my parents who used it every day when my brother was hospitalized for three months. They went there to talk and sit and relax."

When her husband was hospitalized, Mary Ann turned to the center as a lifeline.

A first-of-its-kind facility in the country, the Ken Hamilton Caregivers Center at Northern Westchester Hospital offered Mary Ann a peaceful sanctuary and compassionate space during her husband's many hospital stays. The center was established in 2007 by Marian Hamilton to offer caregivers the place of caring and calmness she wished she had during her husband Ken's terminal illness. Social workers and well-trained volunteers

provided Mary Ann encouragement, support and resources as she made difficult decisions. A massage chair in a private room allowed her to de-stress. Healthy snacks refueled her for the long days.

"My husband, Peter, has been sick for 11 years," Mary Ann said, "and I cannot express how wonderful the volunteers who staff the center have been to me. It's so comforting to have someone there who is nonjudgmental and will help you in every way. I can call and ask questions, and they provide the resources I need. Every two to three weeks they call to check up on me, and I attend the monthly support meetings. Sometimes I just go there to sit and relax because it's so peaceful.

"It's a wonderful service, and I hope it catches on in other hospitals."

The expansion Mary Ann wishes for has already begun, with 13 hospitals around

the country adding centers through the Caregivers Center Replication Program. Two recent \$250,000 gifts from donors Michael and Patricia Koizim and Michael and Linda Donovan will ensure that the center continues to provide the support that thousands of families have come to expect and depend upon during the most difficult times in their lives.

"Isolation is a big part of the caregiver's life," said Mary Ann. "Caregiving is a tough enough job without doing it alone. The center is a place you can go and realize it's not just me and get the support you need. They encourage you, telling you, 'You're doing a great job.'"

Mary Ann sees the Ken Hamilton Caregivers Center as "a godsend," and her hope is to some day give back by becoming a volunteer herself.



## North Shore's NICU makes miracles happen for babies and their families

By Carol Cool

Alison Brennan and her husband, Robert, moved to Long Island 10 years ago knowing only a small group of people. When their daughter, Sophia, was born a few years later, Alison found that the nurses at North Shore University Hospital became her community, helping her through an extremely difficult time.

Sophia's delivery went well, and the Brennans took her home. However, after her second checkup, they received a 10pm call from the pediatrician informing them that Sophia's bilirubin level was 26 mg/dL — more than double what it had been when she was discharged from the hospital.

Bilirubin is naturally created as red blood cells break down. If the liver isn't removing it from the bloodstream, the patient will develop jaundice, and possibly more serious complications such as cerebral palsy, deafness or brain damage if not treated quickly. Sophia needed to be rushed to the hospital.

The Brennans made the 40-minute trip back to North Shore because they didn't want their daughter to be anywhere else. Sophia was placed under phototherapy lights in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) for two to three days.

"The doctors throughout Northwell Health are typically amazing," said Alison, "but what sets the NICU apart in my experience is the nursing care. It was above and beyond, not just the care they took of Sophia, but what they did for us as parents. We didn't have a 'village' to support us when our daughter was in the NICU. Those nurses become the community that takes care of your child when you can't, and you remember it for the rest of your life."

---

### "Those [NICU] nurses become the community that takes care of your child when you can't ..."

---

The nurses and lactation consultant came alongside Alison, spending hours with her both in the hospital and on the phone once she and Sophia went home. "They told me, 'We will do this with you,'" Alison said. "We know they are going to give great support to the infant, but the support they give the family is equally important."

The North Shore NICU was awarded the gold Beacon award in 2017 by the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses. It was one of only two in the state to receive this honor that recognizes "excellence in patient

care" and "evidence-based practice to improve patient and family outcomes."

"This is an incredible achievement," said Alessandro Bellucci, MD, executive director of North Shore, "considering our NICU staff has been working in a place built in the 1970s, which might not be conducive to providing the best family experience. But despite that, we have such exceptional people, they've been recognized with this prestigious award."

Donors are now coming together with the hospital to create a NICU that promotes the comfort of families and outstanding care for our tiniest patients. Extensive renovations will begin later this year.

A real estate organization Alison is part of — Long Island Real Estate Group — is one of the donors supporting the NICU renovations at North Shore. "As a networking group with a philanthropic mission," said Alison, "we support facilities-related projects. The North Shore NICU project aligns with our values; we are passionate about projects that help children and the community."

Bertram Steinman also recognized the hospital's need for an updated facility to care for newborns. A regular supporter of Northwell Health, he has donated \$250,000 toward the renovations. "I felt it was a great way to elevate what the hospital does," Mr. Steinman said.

The Auxiliary at North Shore University Hospital pledged \$2 million to fund the NICU renovations. While their commitments typically span 10 years, in less than 2 years they have already donated over \$600,000 toward the renovations.

"We want to provide the best care and environment for our patients and their families," said Lori Ballen, president of the auxiliary. "We want to do everything we can to make it easier for the parents and create a more pleasant experience."

Dr. Bellucci added, "Our NICU is a place of tiny patients and huge miracles."



# Giving back never tasted so good

By Jamie Lynn Macchia

It's hard to find someone who hasn't been affected by cancer. Three Staten Island restaurant partners are hoping to change the trend.

"Truth is, [cancer] is far too prevalent on Staten Island," says Peter Botros, owner and chef of Violette's Cellar. It's a topic with which he and his partners, Phil Farinacci and Marc Zurlo, are quite familiar.

Last year, Peter opened Violette's Cellar restaurant in loving memory of Violette Botros, his mother, who courageously battled cancer for over a decade. Even after a long day of treatment, when she barely had enough energy to walk, Violette would insist on going out to dinner with her husband and two sons. There was nothing that she enjoyed more than sharing a meal with those she loved, and now her son is sharing that love with others.

However, this is not the only way cancer has affected the lives of these three men. Peter himself was diagnosed with cancer six years ago when he was just 26. In addition, Marc's father, Ralph, is a 2-year cancer survivor, and Phil's mother, Sally, is a 35-year cancer survivor.

While creating Violette's Cellar, the partners knew they wanted to give back

in some way — particularly within the cancer community. When they heard about the new Comprehensive Cancer Center coming to Staten Island University Hospital, their mission came into focus. The team was eager to learn how they could get involved in the project.

On January 31, Peter, Phil and Marc, surrounded by their friends and families,

are continuing the evolution of our cancer program by integrating the cancer services currently located at different points across the North Campus into our brand-new Comprehensive Cancer Center, making them easier for our patients to navigate."

The center will include new adult and pediatric oncology units with

---

**"Everyone in the borough is affected by cancer, so this is our way of giving back to our hometown."**

---

presented a check to symbolize their commitment of \$250,000 to the construction of the new Comprehensive Cancer Center.

"I am proud to welcome Violette's Cellar as a philanthropic partner," said Dina Wong, deputy executive director of Staten Island University Hospital, who was on hand to accept the check. "We

consultation and examination rooms, infusion stations, a laboratory, a pharmacy and a cancer registry.

"Everyone in the borough is affected by cancer, so this is our way of giving back to our hometown," said Peter. "A portion of every dollar spent at the restaurant will help continue making strides in the battle against cancer."



The restaurateurs say they will donate a portion of the proceeds from Violette's Cellar, as well as funds accumulated from charity events throughout the year.

"These three men saw the value in constructing a center here on Staten Island that will treat both adults and children affected by cancer in a state-of-the-art facility, close to home and under one roof," said Laura Longo, senior director of patient care services for oncology at Staten Island University Hospital. "We are immensely grateful for their generosity."

# Leaving his legacy to care for “his” hospital’s future

By Amy Pilott

Jim Marcus was a fixture in New York City philanthropy throughout his life. After a successful career at Goldman Sachs, Jim dedicated his time to the arts and sought out meaningful volunteer opportunities in health care. He spent time during his retirement volunteering with AIDS patients at Northwell’s Lenox Hill Hospital and became invested in the hospital’s continued success. He led Lenox Hill Hospital’s board of trustees from 1993 until 2003 and served as an honorary trustee for Northwell Health. Jim’s legacy as a loyal supporter and volunteer leader was further solidified when he chose to include Lenox Hill Hospital in his will.

When Jim passed away in 2015, Ellen, his wife of more than 40 years, continued their tradition of volunteerism and giving. She is a member of the Lenox Hill Hospital Auxiliary and a longstanding hospital volunteer, dedicating herself to

countless fundraising events, including chairing the annual Autumn Ball. Ellen also took on the responsibility of thoughtfully allocating her husband’s bequest within the hospital. His one million dollar gift was split between two crucial areas of the hospital — critical care and nursing — both of which were meaningful to the Marcuses, particularly at the end of Jim’s life.

A portion of the gift has created the James S. Marcus Department of Medicine Endowment that will help advance critical care and provide sustainability for the Department of Medicine. Through Jim’s generosity, the department will have the necessary funds to acquire cutting-edge equipment and training for physicians for generations to come.

The gift has also allowed Lenox Hill Hospital to secure the necessary mentorship and guidance to embark on the “Journey to Excellence” in their

quest to become a Magnet®-designated hospital through the internationally renowned American Nurses Credentialing Center. Irene Macyk, chief nursing officer, feels fortunate to be a benefactor of the Marcuses’ generous support. “This gift affords us the opportunity to mature our professional nurse practice,” Irene said. “This accreditation will solidify our nurses as vital decision makers at Lenox Hill Hospital.”

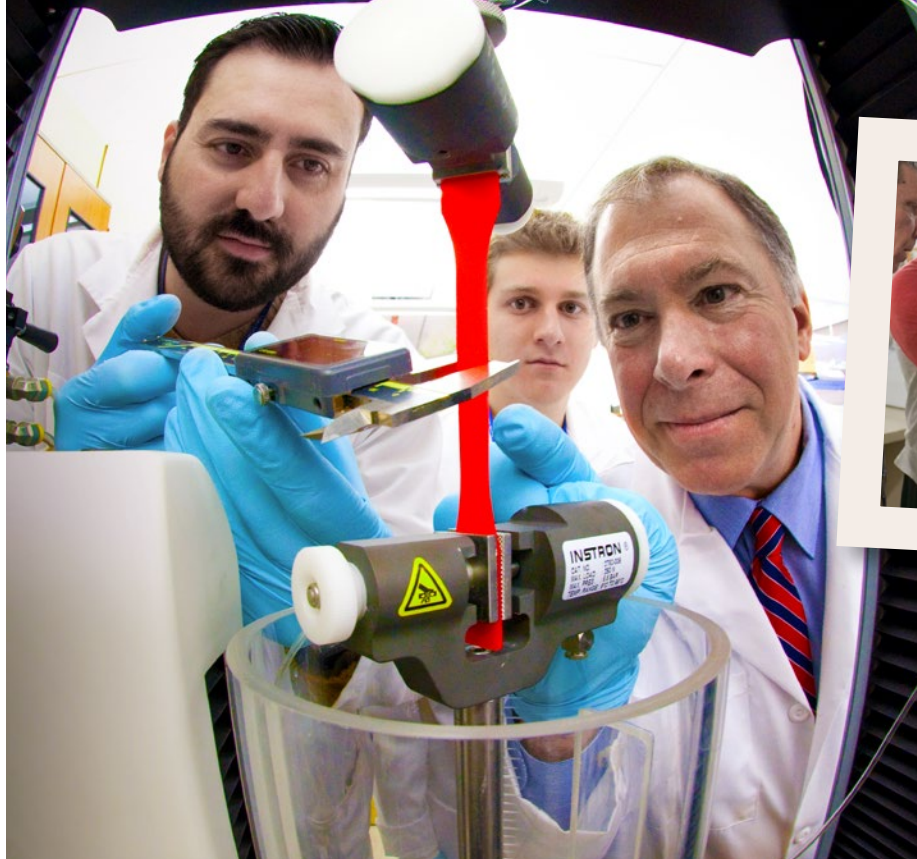
Ellen fondly recalls how much her husband “cared for the future of his local hospital.” The Marcuses spent decades supporting Lenox Hill Hospital by donating their time, energy and wealth. Jim’s legacy gift continues that support in perpetuity and ensures that “his” hospital is cared for beyond his lifetime.

To learn how you can leave your legacy, visit [northwell.giftplans.org](http://northwell.giftplans.org)



A clock was erected outside of Lenox Hill Hospital in recognition of Jim’s dedication as the hospital’s board chair. He was an avid clock collector.





# Family foundation's gift helps create the first 3D printed, amphibious leg

By Allison Randall

The five Treiber brothers have collectively faced orthopaedic challenges in their lives, beginning with their father, who was one of the first people in the United States to receive a hip replacement in the mid-1970s. This connection led the Treiber Family Foundation in 2011 to begin supporting the work of Daniel Grande, PhD, director of orthopaedic research at the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research.

The Treiber Family Foundation targets its gifts to spur on tangible healing outcomes for patients with orthopaedic issues. Little did they know that their latest gift, funding research within Dr. Grande's laboratory, would provide the foundation that would ultimately lead to the creation of "The Fin," the first 3D printed, amphibious prosthetic leg.

Three dimensional bioprinting combines the fields of 3D printing and tissue engineering to design and produce bioprinted implants that use a patient's own living cells. Several years ago, with funding from the Treiber Family Foundation, Dr. Grande and his graduate student at the time, Todd Goldstein, PhD, began their exploration into 3D printing by conducting research with bioprinted 3D animal organs and bones.

Recognizing the commercial implications of this novel work, Northwell Ventures, the corporate ventures arm of Northwell Health, awarded the 3D printing researchers an investment that would accelerate the work. Bolstered by this investment, Northwell Health united experts across the field of orthopaedics to build the first truly amphibious prosthetic.

The Fin was designed and fabricated by Dr. Goldstein, who now directs the Northwell Ventures 3D Printing Laboratory. Prior to The Fin's creation, no prosthetic leg could seamlessly go from walking to swimming. This prosthetic gives confidence to amputees who wish to return to their normal activities, such as playing in a swimming pool with their children or taking a trip to the beach. "My hope is that this device creates unforeseen opportunities for amputees everywhere," said Dr. Goldstein.

For 34-year-old Marine Corps veteran Dan Lasko, whose leg was amputated below the knee after his vehicle hit an explosive device while serving in Afghanistan in 2004, the prosthetic is truly a life-changer. He received The Fin in 2017.

"The Fin is greatly improving my quality of life and allows me to return to my love of swimming. I got back in the pool with my two young sons and for the first time was able to dive into the pool with them," said the accomplished athlete, who has completed six marathons and more than 30 triathlons around the country since his injury.

"The Treiber Family Foundation's early support, followed by the development of The Fin, has resulted in a clinical trial enrolling veterans who have sustained amputations of the leg due to improvised explosive devices," said Dr. Grande. "The results of the clinical study will allow Federal Drug Administration approval for The Fin to be used by the public at large."

The initial seed funding and ongoing support from the Treiber Family Foundation is an example of how philanthropy has the power to fuel innovation in health care.



## Motivated by his grandkids, a retired teacher **gets back in step**

By Pam Robinson

### It was his daughter's worries about the safety of her children that finally sent James Gallagher on the search for what ailed him.

The 70-year-old former teacher from Farmingdale had been steadily losing muscle strength and balance. On a trip to France three years ago, he found that the steps of the Eiffel Tower were too much for him. A trip a year later to Costa Rica left him lagging behind others. He shuffled and had slurred speech.

When his daughter, Paulette, decided he was too unsteady to hold his grandchildren, he knew he had to act. "I just wanted to hold them," he said, apologizing as his voice cracked with emotion.

Doctors discovered that he had fluid on his brain, which was drained with the implantation of a shunt. While he was steadier, he still struggled to walk more than 20 steps.

James would soon start improving because of a generous and transformative donation made nine years earlier to Northwell Health's Glen Cove Hospital by

longtime hospital volunteer Elsie Wunsch. Elsie died June 5, 2009, and bequeathed a large gift for rehabilitative services.

The hospital set aside the funds until identifying the best way to use that gift. They found it in the \$220,000 G-EO System™ robotic-assisted device. Paid for entirely with Elsie's donation, it is the only one in New York State. The device supports patients with a harness while they walk or climb simulated steps to improve their gait. Elsie's gift also led to the renovation of the 1 North Therapy Gym, which was named the Wunsch Center for Rehabilitative Therapies in her honor.

"Without her, we probably would not have been able to purchase the G-EO System," said Susan Kwiatek, Glen Coves's executive director. "To that end, donors are very important, especially to a small community hospital.

"We bought the G-EO System because it was something that would make her happy and make her legacy live on," Susan said. "From the hospital's perspective, this is advanced technology that really helps patients recover faster. It's been incredible. You can see it in the patient response."

That was certainly true for James. Two weeks after starting on the G-EO System, working three times a week for about 30 minutes a session, he was able to walk away.

"I was always getting upset and mad that I couldn't do things. I really wasn't able to walk by myself," he said. "But this makes me feel proud that I'm able to do this. I can hold my grandkids."



Watch our G-EO robot in action  
at [bit.ly/2kW5eO0](https://bit.ly/2kW5eO0)



# Karches Family Foundation names first laboratory within the **Center for Bioelectronic Medicine**

By Allison Randall

Imagine a world that eliminates drugs to treat injuries and disease and instead uses implantable devices to help the body heal itself. Susan Karches believes this is something we should all be looking toward.

As an active board member for more than 10 years, Susan's latest gift has named the first laboratory within the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research's Center for Bioelectronic Medicine (CBEM) — The Karches Neural Bypass and Brain-Computer Interface Laboratory. The revolutionary field of bioelectronic medicine, in which the nervous system uses electrical signals to communicate information through the body, was pioneered by Feinstein Institute president and CEO, Kevin Tracey, MD.

"Being involved at the Feinstein Institute, you see the power of research and the brilliant minds of the men and women who work there; you can't help wanting to

support what they do," said Susan. "When Dr. Tracey started to explain bioelectronic medicine to the board as a new frontier in medicine, I felt like I wanted to be a part of that."

Bioelectronic medicine begins with identifying a molecular target for a disease. Researchers screen for nerves that control the target and design devices that control those nerves. These devices, either implanted on a nerve or held against the skin, have the potential to modulate nerve activity, elicit a specific change in organ function and restore health, without the side effects of pharmaceutical drugs.

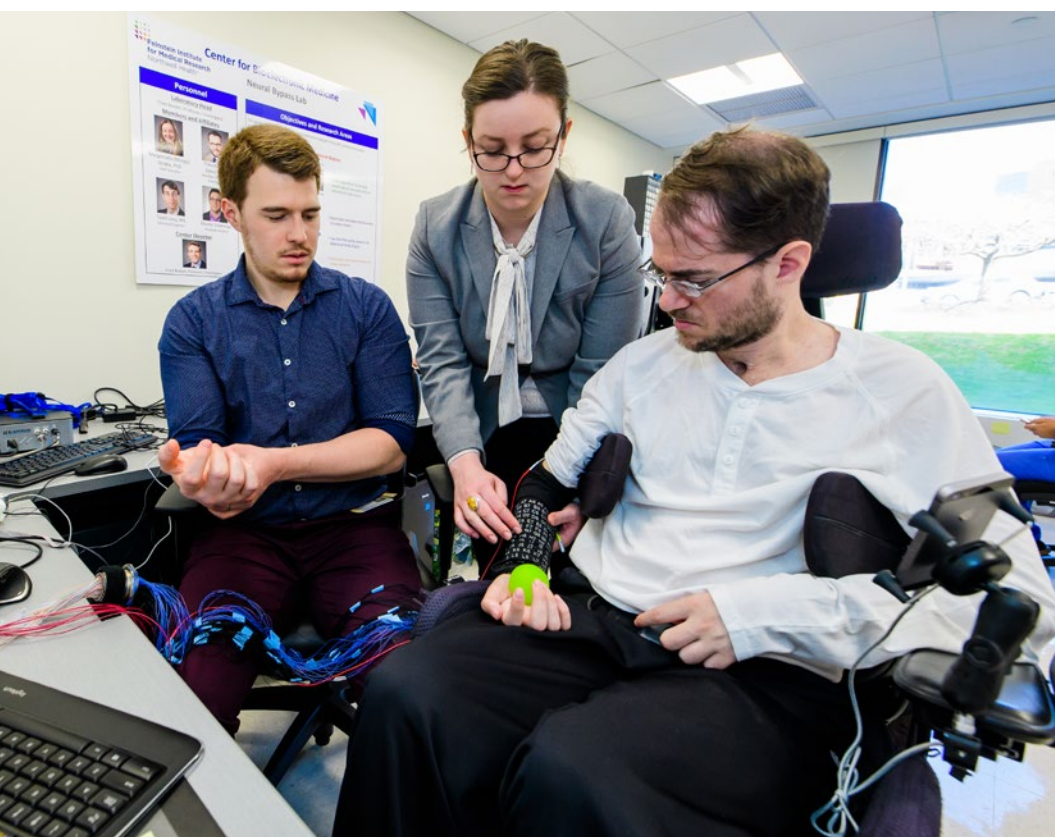


Led by Northwell Health's vice president of advanced engineering, Chad Bouton, the CBEM consists of six laboratories working synergistically to translate knowledge of the body's neural code into bioelectronic devices. The Karches Neural Bypass and Brain-Computer Interface Laboratory is developing technology that decodes and reroutes signals from the brain to the muscles with applications to spinal cord injury, stroke, traumatic brain injury and other neurological conditions. Along with his team of esteemed young engineers and investigators, Chad's primary focus is paralysis.

The technology that Chad developed prior to joining the Feinstein Institute in 2015 allowed a quadriplegic man to once again move his fingers, hand and wrist. This was the first time this type of device has successfully allowed a paralyzed human to regain movement.

"Susan's support has had a profound personal impact as it has allowed me to establish a new laboratory and program focused on paralysis and brain injury — areas I'm extremely passionate about," Chad said. "We are now positioned to strive for new breakthroughs in bioelectronic medicine that will pave the way to new treatment options for patients."

Thanks to Susan's longtime philanthropic support and involvement with the Feinstein Institute, the Karches name will forever be linked to discoveries in medicine that hold the possibility of impacting countless lives.





## Heartfelt thanks for heart-saving generosity

By Samantha Vigliotta

Bringing advanced lifesaving medical services to eastern Long Island communities was a lifelong vision of Robert Entenmann, a generous and longtime benefactor of Northwell Health and a long time East End resident. That his vision benefited Patricia Johnson of Hampton Bays would surely gladden his heart.

While busy with preparations for a family Thanksgiving gathering, Patricia suffered a severe heart attack. Rushed to Peconic Bay Medical Center's cardiac catheterization suite — which had opened just weeks prior — Patricia underwent an emergency catheterization procedure that revealed her main coronary artery was 98 percent blocked. If the artery could not be reopened and blood flow restored, Patricia would have had just minutes to live.

Fortunately, the same advanced catheterization technology used to

diagnose the blockage was also designed to remedy the blockage. The artery was reopened, a stent inserted to keep it open and Patricia's life was saved. Two days later, she was home in time for Thanksgiving with her family.

"I don't know what would have happened if there wasn't a facility like this so close," Patricia said. "I might not have made it."

In October 2017, Peconic Bay Medical Center opened central Suffolk County's first cardiac catheterization facility

---


"I don't know what would have happened if there wasn't a facility like this so close," Patricia said. "I might not have made it."

---

(often referred to as a "cath lab") as part of its new Kanas Regional Heart Center. The cath lab brought access to emergency interventional cardiology services — such as lifesaving heart-attack treatment — closer to home for nearly a quarter of a million residents of eastern Long Island.

The enduring thanks of patients like Patricia are the legacy of community benefactors like Robert Entenmann. Upon his passing in 2016, Robert's children, Jackie and Robert, memorialized his generosity and vision through a gift from the Robert Entenmann Advisory Committee to the Hemlock Fund of the New York Community Trust. This \$5 million gift supports cardiac care on eastern Long Island through Peconic Bay's New Era Campaign and names the hospital's new downtown campus in Riverhead.

Robert, along with the Entenmann family, have been longtime benefactors of Northwell Health, lending prior support to both Southside and North Shore University hospitals. With their latest gift, the Entenmann family extends their legacy of supporting cardiac care on Long Island and brings it to communities that were dear to Robert's heart.

 To read more about Patricia's story and what's possible at the Kanas Regional Heart Center, go to [bit.ly/2Jik93P](https://bit.ly/2Jik93P)



# Supporting children's lives, one dollar at a time

By Rebecca Melnitsky

At cash registers throughout the region, retailers and customers alike are giving to Cohen Children's Medical Center. Just look for the paper balloons.

Donating a dollar at the checkout helps children when they need it the most. At 13 Costco stores and 243 Rite Aid/Walgreens locations throughout the New York metropolitan region, customers can "buy" paper balloons for one dollar from Children's Miracle Network (CMN), an organization that supports children's hospitals throughout North America. Funds raised in this region directly support Cohen Children's Medical Center.

Since 2010, Costco and Rite Aid have raised more than \$5 million for Cohen Children's. In 2017, they raised nearly half a million dollars each in our region, shattering previous records. In fact, Rite Aid stores on Long Island and in New York

City raised more money for the Children's Miracle Network than any other region in the country.

Although donations start at a dollar, more is always encouraged. Employees host events like bowling parties and bake sales to raise funds. And stores get creative when it comes to motivating customers to give.


At Costco in Melville, workers clap and cheer for anyone who gives at least \$5. "We made a huge party of it," said Beverly Sanders, assistant general manager. "That atmosphere, it became contagious. Then the next person [asks], 'Why are they cheering?' So we tell them, and then [they say], 'Well, I'm donating \$5,' so then it just went on and

on like that." Costco employees also took pictures of anyone who gave \$20 and above, creating a selfie wall of generous donors.

Rite Aid in Huntington, one of the top fundraisers in the country, hosted raffles for lottery baskets and gift cards for local restaurants. "It's just something we like to do to support our local children's hospital," said Lillian Hallenbeck, the store manager.

Most of the funds raised support Cohen Children's Child Life program, which helps kids cope with hospitalization through play, art and emotional support. A child who is scared to get a MRI may be less anxious after seeing a Child Life specialist guide a teddy bear through a mock MRI. Or a hospitalized child may get a chance to just play and not think about being sick for a while.

Cohen Children's has also used money from CMN programs to support its multifaith chapel, the pharmacy and MIBG therapy, a high-intensity targeted radiation treatment for patients with neuroblastoma, a type of cancer most often found in infants and young children.

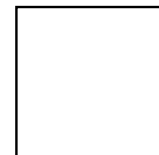
 You too can help kids at Cohen Children's at [supportcohen.org](http://supportcohen.org)



Costco employees Beverly Sanders and Pashesha Blake strike a pose during a visit to Cohen Children's.



2000 Marcus Ave  
New Hyde Park, NY 11042



Your gift today can help advance care for the more than 2 million people we serve annually.

Visit [support.northwell.edu/Gratitude](https://support.northwell.edu/Gratitude)

---

## Upcoming Events

### Feinstein Summer Concert

Thursday, July 12, 2018  
Old Westbury Gardens  
Old Westbury, NY

Contact: Trisha Marasco  
(516) 321-6339  
[tmarasco@northwell.edu](mailto:tmarasco@northwell.edu)

### The Auxiliary at North Shore University Hospital 40th Annual Golf Classic

Monday, July 16, 2018  
North Shore Country Club  
Glen Head, NY

Contact: Lisa Breiman  
(516) 562-2376  
[lbreiman@northwell.edu](mailto:lbreiman@northwell.edu)

### Cohen Children's Circle Golf Classic

Monday, August 13, 2018  
Fresh Meadow Country Club  
and Deepdale Golf Club  
Lake Success, NY

Contact: Katie Hess  
(516) 321-6276  
[khess@northwell.edu](mailto:khess@northwell.edu)

### Huntington Hospital Annual Golf Classic

Wednesday, September 5, 2018  
Piping Rock and The Creek Clubs  
Locust Valley, NY

Contact: Dolli Bross  
(631) 470-5204  
[dbross2@northwell.edu](mailto:dbross2@northwell.edu)

### Peconic Bay Medical Center Benefit in Black & White

Friday, September 14, 2018  
Westhampton Country Club  
Westhampton Beach, NY

Contact: Candace Porter  
(631) 548-6166  
[cporter3@northwell.edu](mailto:cporter3@northwell.edu)

### Katz Institute for Women Luncheon and Fashion Show

Thursday, September 27, 2018  
Old Westbury Gardens  
Old Westbury, NY

Contact: Tamar Segura  
(516) 321-6340  
[tsegura@northwell.edu](mailto:tsegura@northwell.edu)

### Staten Island University Hospital 136th Charity Ball

Saturday, October 20, 2018  
Hilton Garden Inn  
Staten Island, NY

Contact: Evelyn Fonseca  
(718) 226-6331  
[efonseca@northwell.edu](mailto:efonseca@northwell.edu)

### Northern Westchester Hospital Gala

Saturday, November 3, 2018  
333 North Bedford Road  
Mount Kisco, NY

Contact: Gaby  
Golod Greenwald  
(914) 242-8392  
[ggreenwald@northwell.edu](mailto:ggreenwald@northwell.edu)

### The Constellation Gala

Thursday, November 15, 2018  
The Metropolitan  
Museum of Art  
New York, NY

Contact: Jennifer Avedon  
(646) 766-7134  
[javedon@northwell.edu](mailto:javedon@northwell.edu)

### Huntington Hospital Annual Gala

Friday, November 30, 2018  
Pine Hollow Country Club  
East Norwich, NY

Contact: Dolli Bross  
(631) 470-5204  
[dbross2@northwell.edu](mailto:dbross2@northwell.edu)

Northwell Health is a nonprofit organization  
supported by the people and communities we serve.