



# Our Community Our Hospital

## Elfers Cardiovascular Center Update

*An Interview with George Philippides, MD, Chief of Cardiology*

Since he took over as Chief of Cardiology at Newton-Wellesley Hospital on July 1, 2014, Dr. George Philippides has been a busy man. With construction well underway on the Elfers Cardiovascular Center, Dr. Philippides has been involved, along with Dr. Stefan Parpos, Acting Assistant Chief, with finalizing every detail of the new Center. He also has been deepening the collaborative relationship with the Cardiology Division at Mass General Hospital whose physicians will work side-by-side with Newton-Wellesley cardiologists in the new Center. All this in addition to caring for patients and extensive committee work. We recently sat down with Dr. Philippides to talk about his vision for the Elfers Cardiovascular Center and cardiovascular care at Newton-Wellesley Hospital.



*Dr. Philippides reviews test results with a patient*

**Q You were Chief of Cardiology at Boston Medical Center, a major academic institution – why did you decide to come to a community hospital like Newton-Wellesley Hospital?**

I can tell you that Newton-Wellesley is truly a special place. The Hospital's reputation for delivering high quality, compassionate care is what first attracted me, but once I understood the quality of the medical staff and the range of clinical collaborations with Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital, I quickly realized this was no ordinary community hospital. In addition, Newton-Wellesley's longstanding commitment to teaching is extraordinary. To have residents from Mass General and students from Tufts University School of Medicine and Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences all doing rotations here is unique among hospitals of this size. And of course, to have the opportunity to build a new Center, working with an outstanding team

from Newton-Wellesley and Mass General and with the generous support of the community – well, that was an opportunity I couldn't pass up.

**Q What is your first impression of the Cardiovascular program here at Newton-Wellesley Hospital?**

I am so impressed with the excellence of the cardiologists here at Newton-Wellesley. Every one of them is a superb clinician, and I am excited to come into the office every day to work with this group. There are currently eight cardiologists on staff, and we hope to hire at least two more in the next few months. In addition, Dr. Christopher Kwolek, who is a vascular surgeon at both MGH and Newton-Wellesley, is working to elevate the vascular program to one of the best in New England, if not the country. There's no question that I would send my parents to anyone in this group!

**Q Can you tell us what will differentiate the Elfers Cardiovascular Center from other programs in the area?**

First and foremost is the clinical collaboration with Mass General's Cardiology Division. Working so closely with MGH will allow us to

expand our services in electrophysiology (e.g., pacemakers and defibrillators), vascular surgery, and cardiac MRI, among other areas. We will be able to offer a level of comprehensive cardiovascular care that is unparalleled in this community. Secondly, the Elfers Cardiovascular Center will be a beautiful patient-centered facility in one cohesive area on the 2nd floor of the main hospital. The layout has been optimized for maximum patient comfort and allows for greater efficiency, communication, and collaboration among the caregivers. It will enable us to provide a wide range of services in one convenient location close to home.

And when a patient requires more advanced treatment at Mass General, that will be handled seamlessly, and they will come back to us for all their follow-up care and rehab.

**Q Can you share with us some of your thoughts on how you see cardiovascular care changing in the future – and specifically at the Elfers Cardiovascular Center?**

I believe that we need to start focusing not just on caring for those with cardiovascular disease but also on preventing people from developing cardiovascular disease in the first place. So much of what we have traditionally done as clinicians is reactive – we care for patients who present with symptoms or after they've had an acute event such as a heart attack or stroke. In either case, we must "catch up" to the disease as opposed to preventing it. People are often too busy with their careers and raising their children to take care of themselves – but I think we can develop preventative protocols and harness the power of technology to reap tremendous benefits. One idea that I've been considering would be to have a Risk Assessment Program that would

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# Maternity Services in High Demand



*Providing Care Before, During and After Childbirth*

Newton-Wellesley Hospital is proud of its long tradition of providing excellent care for mothers and their newborns dating back to 1890 when the first child was born at the Hospital.

This service is central to Newton-Wellesley's mission as a community hospital.

Under the leadership of Dr. Thomas L. Beatty, Jr., Chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology, the Maternity Program has experienced tremendous growth over the past 10 years. In 2014 alone, over 4,500 babies were born at Newton-Wellesley, making it the third largest birthing site in Eastern Massachusetts and the fourth largest in the state. Although birth rates remain constant, the demand for obstetrical services continues to grow. In 2015, it is anticipated that growth will approach 4,800 births as more and more families come to rely on the exemplary, individualized care delivered by our medical staff, nurse midwives, and nurses.

In 2004, Brigham and Women's Hospital and Newton-Wellesley Hospital formed a clinical collaboration in Obstetrics. Newton-Wellesley obstetricians and nurses and Brigham and Women's obstetricians, midwives and high-risk OB specialists provide expectant parents a broad spectrum of care, offering many of the advantages of a major urban medical center within a convenient community setting. Today, over 50 obstetricians and certified nurse midwives are affiliated with Newton-Wellesley.

Dr. Beatty recently commented, "We continue to see more and more families every year. We offer patients access to academic medicine and specialty care in a community setting without the hustle and bustle of an urban medical center. Our patients appreciate the compassionate and individualized care they receive and are comforted by the close affiliation with Brigham and Women's Hospital when advanced treatment is needed."



Our comprehensive program of care before, during and after childbirth includes: Maternity Services, an Antenatal Evaluation and Treatment Center, Labor and Delivery, postpartum Mother/Baby Units, Special Care Nursery, Maternal Fetal Medicine Center (advanced care for complicated pregnancies), Pregnancy and Childbirth Education, Lactation Clinic, and New Mothers Support Group. In addition, for those who are having difficulties conceiving, the Hospital offers the Partners Reproductive Medicine Center, a unique collaboration between Brigham and Women's Hospital, Massachusetts General Hospital, and Newton-Wellesley.

## Expansion Plans Underway

To meet the growing demand, we must now further expand and improve our facilities. The Hospital recently opened a new Mother/Baby Unit on the 4th floor, adding 12 private postpartum rooms and a 13-bed nursery and expanding postpartum capacity by 33%. In addition, there are plans to increase capacity in the Special Care Nursery with the addition of 2-3 baby care areas, up from the current 12. The Special Care Nursery is an integral part of Newton-Wellesley's Obstetrical Program and incorporates the most advanced technology and treatment options for those babies needing extra medical care.

## Fundraising Campaign

In the current insurance reimbursement system, the Maternity Service is only slightly profitable, and as a result, philanthropy is needed to help fund these expansion initiatives. The Charitable Foundation is seeking to raise \$1.5+ million, and several donors have already named rooms in the new Mother/Baby Unit, including Shirley and Chris Kelly, Natalie and Bill Wright (see more about their gift on page 4), Michelle and Matt Zisow, and Wellesley Women's Care. A variety of other naming opportunities are still available, and we invite the community to consider gifts in honor of family members or even beloved caregivers. Please partner with us as we strive to provide the most comprehensive and expert Maternity services available in MetroWest Boston. For more information, please contact Joan Archer at (617) 243-6243 or [nwhcf@partners.org](mailto:nwhcf@partners.org).

## Gala 2015 – Save the Date!



As part of the Maternity campaign, this year's Gala on **Saturday, May 9, 2015** will benefit the Maternity Expansion. The 16th annual event, to be held at the Westin Copley Place in Boston, will be chaired by Wellesley residents, Tracey and John Cannistraro. John recently commented, "All my kids were born at Newton-Wellesley – I was even born at Newton-Wellesley – so the Maternity Service is something my wife and I feel connected to in a very personal way. We are thrilled to be chairing the event and look forward to an exciting evening and to raising significant funds to help expand Maternity!" The goal is to raise \$1 Million at the event, which will be designed by Rafanelli Events and will include both live and silent auctions, dinner, dancing and other surprises. For more information or to get involved, please contact Maryann Zschau at (617) 243-6712 or [nwhgala@partners.org](mailto:nwhgala@partners.org).



# Update from the Charitable Foundation

## NWH FUND

We are pleased to report that philanthropic support of Newton-Wellesley Hospital for this past Fund Year (October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014) totaled over \$8.1 Million in gifts and pledges, exceeding our goal of \$7 Million. Included in this total is \$1.2 Million for *The NWH Fund*, which provides Newton-Wellesley with the flexibility to apply funds where the operating need is greatest.

"We are so grateful for the generous support of our community, but we cannot 'rest on our laurels' as we face even more challenging economic times in healthcare with reduced reimbursements and fluctuations in patient volume/mix," said Joan Archer, President of the Charitable Foundation. "As a non-profit institution, Newton-Wellesley must depend on your philanthropy now more than ever before."

"As we do every year, we are working closely with the Hospital's leadership to ensure that our fundraising initiatives are in sync with the strategic priorities of the Hospital," she added. "Based on those efforts, we have set an ambitious Fund Year 2015 goal of \$8.5 Million, including \$1.35 Million for *The NWH Fund*. We invite the community to help us reach our goal." 🇺🇸



## PICTURES of HEALTH

You may have noticed the large "Pictures of Health" photos on the walls near the West Elevator in the main hospital. These folks are among the many patients who have told us about their care at Newton-Wellesley. Sometimes they honor a particular physician or nurse or they share how a diagnosis and treatment have had an impact on their lives. One such story recently came from high school freshman Patricia Namuddu, 14.

"I live with my mom and three sisters in Watertown. We take care of each other and work hard to be good people. My mother is strict, especially when it comes to chores and homework. We all have big dreams, so we expect a lot of ourselves and of each other. I really like school, and I get good grades. My favorite subject is science,



and I want to be a doctor. Not just any kind of doctor, I want to be a cardiologist. I want to help kids like me.

"When I was younger, I had rheumatic fever and it damaged my heart. At first, no one knew what was wrong. I was so weak that I couldn't walk or get out of bed. It was scary. Thankfully, my mom found a doctor who figured out what was wrong. But my heart will never be as strong as it was, and that's something I have to live with. Now I'm grateful to have Dr. Karen Sadler and Dr. Oscar Benavidez at Newton-Wellesley Hospital who monitor my heart and help me find ways to do things like run track. I visit Dr. Sadler in the Pediatric Clinic every month for a shot, but it doesn't bother me. I'm used to it now, and I like Newton-Wellesley. Everyone there is like a friend to me." 🇺🇸

**Every gift truly makes a difference. Please consider making a gift today – either by returning the enclosed remittance or making a secure gift online at [www.nwh.org/giving](http://www.nwh.org/giving). Gifts of \$1,000 or more qualify for membership in the Pillar Society, the Hospital's leadership annual giving society.**

### Interview with Dr. George Philippides - continued from page 1

evaluate a patient's risk factors and then develop a plan that's easy to follow. Such a plan could include cholesterol-lowering medications, nutritional/diet advice, and a personalized fitness program that can be done at home or at our rehab facility. Follow-up monitoring could be accomplished using one of the many fitness monitoring devices or apps on a smart phone to send data back to the Center to be analyzed for progress or perhaps signal a need for a visit. With such a program at the Elfers Cardiovascular Center, we could give patients more control over their own health while having a positive impact on the long term health needs of our community.

### Campaign Progress

The Charitable Foundation is working to raise over \$8 Million to help build the Elfers Cardiovascular Center, and to date, we have raised over \$6.5 Million. This includes not only the lead gift from the Elfers Family but also generous leadership gifts from the Louise & Alvin Slotnick Family, Carol and Jim Taiclet, Roche Bros. Supermarkets, Roxanne and David Breazzano, and the Newton-Wellesley Hospital Auxiliary. Naming opportunities are still available. All gifts will help us reach our goal. Please join with us to support this exciting initiative. For more information, please contact Joan Archer at (617) 243-6243 or [nwhcf@partners.org](mailto:nwhcf@partners.org). 🇺🇸

## Planned Giving Profile:

# Natalie and William Wright: Giving in Appreciation for Outstanding Care

"Twins it is!" Natalie and Bill Wright recall the note they received from their physician Dr. William J. Taggart over 60 years ago. Natalie scheduled her delivery at Newton-Wellesley Hospital, and when the day came for her to give birth, she arrived at 7:30 am and the boys arrived at 8:30 am! "I was there for nine days with the twins and remember the maternity staff was terrific. They made sure we were all comfortable throughout our entire stay." When Natalie was next pregnant and about to deliver, they didn't make it to Newton-Wellesley Hospital in time. "Dr. Taggart came to our home in Reading one hour after we delivered our baby girl. He promptly escorted us to the hospital, where I recuperated for the next six days. Throughout this time, Dr. Taggart and the Newton-Wellesley maternity staff were remarkable. The nurses were attentive and compassionate and made every effort to provide the best care for me and my family." A number of years later, after their five children were college age or older, Bill's firm, Deloitte, transferred him to Columbus, Ohio, where they lived for over 30 years. They recently returned to the Boston MetroWest area to be closer to family.

After 60 years, the Wrights continue to use Newton-Wellesley Hospital for their healthcare. "The care I received during my early years as a mother was outstanding. Now, as a great grandmother, I have received the same level of care today."

In appreciation of the care they have received at the Hospital, the Wrights have decided to show their gratitude by making a generous



*Natalie and Bill Wright in one of the new Mother-Baby rooms on the 4th Floor South*

gift from their Charitable IRA. Their gift will support the expansion of the Maternity Department and will name a room in the new Mother/Baby Unit. Natalie expressed, "We felt that this gift best reflects our joyful experience as new parents, and we want to allow more families to experience the same loving care we experienced here at Newton-Wellesley Hospital." ♥

## *Join with the Wrights in Making a Gift to Newton-Wellesley Hospital from your Retirement Account*



*The Wrights with their great granddaughter*

You, too, can use your retirement account to make a gift to Newton-Wellesley Hospital's new Mother/Baby Unit. Such a gift will help ensure that more mothers, babies, and their families will have access to the warm and caring environment for which Newton-Wellesley is well known.

If you are over 59½ years of age, consider an outright gift from your IRA, 401(k), or 403(b) plan in support of the Maternity Expansion or to any other service or capital project at Newton-Wellesley.

While the withdrawal will be a taxable event, your charitable deduction will completely offset the taxable income, provided you itemize your deductions and can claim the full deduction in the year you make the gift. ♥

**For more information about making a planned gift to Newton-Wellesley, please contact Joan Archer or Liz Gianakos at (617) 243-6751 or [nwhcf@partners.org](mailto:nwhcf@partners.org).**



# Pain and Palliative Care Consult Service

*Helping to Improve Quality of Life for the Seriously Ill*

Recently there has been a lot of attention in the media on the medical sub-specialty of Palliative Care. For many of us, the term “palliative care” has been synonymous with “hospice,” and we have assumed it is only for those terminally ill patients who are in the last days of their lives. But that is actually not the case, as palliative care can help seriously ill patients at any stage of a life-limiting illness.

Newton-Wellesley Hospital has been ahead of other hospitals in the Boston area by establishing its Palliative Care Consult Service in 2010. Since that time, the Service has grown to include Pain Management and has become one of the Hospital’s Centers of Excellence. It is dedicated to improving patients’ quality of life by providing relief from debilitating symptoms, suffering, and stress, and helping their families cope and care for their loved ones. The Service also provides emotional and spiritual support, guiding patients and families through difficult treatment choices.

The Service helps hospitalized patients who have been referred by Newton-Wellesley hospitalists, oncologists, and intensivists. Working closely with a patient’s physicians (often including several specialists), the Service delivers a coordinated, comprehensive, and multidisciplinary approach to patient care. Palliative care is appropriate at any age and at any stage of a serious illness and can be used when a patient is receiving treatment for a disease as well as when there are no longer curative treatment options.

Under the leadership of its Director, Dr. Julia Ragland, the Pain and Palliative Care Consult Service consists of a team comprised of two physicians, two nurse practitioners, a social worker, a chaplain, and an administrative assistant. Each member has extensive training in palliative care and pain management. The team also trains physicians, nurses, and other caregivers to help them care for the seriously ill and communicate effectively with patients and their families.



In 2014, the Service provided 477 palliative care consults and 466 pain consults and expects demand to increase as our area population ages. This Service truly embodies the Hospital’s mission to treat and care for all of our patients and their families as we would a beloved family member.

## Financial Support

The annual cost to administer the Pain and Palliative Care Service is approximately \$1 Million, which primarily supports the salaries of the team. Current sources of revenue include insurance reimbursements, which represent only 20% of the budget, and the Hospital, which subsidizes the remaining 80%. As the Hospital enters a financially challenging time in healthcare, there is a critical need to reduce the Hospital’s subsidy to protect this Service from potential budget cuts.

The Newton-Wellesley Hospital Charitable Foundation seeks to raise a \$2 Million Endowment Fund to help ensure that the critically important work of this Service will be available to patients for decades to come. To date, \$550,000 has been generously given by two leadership donors – Rebecca and Stephen Sullivan and Mary and Tak Lee, and we invite others in our community to help us reach our goal.



*L to R: Rebecca and Steve Sullivan, Dr. Julia Ragland, Priscilla and Raymond Lee, and Duke Collier, Chair, Board of Trustees*

For more information, please contact Joan Archer in the Charitable Foundation office at (617) 243-6243 or [nwhcf@partners.org](mailto:nwhcf@partners.org).

# Shibley Medical Simulation Center

The Shibley Medical Simulation Center at Newton-Wellesley Hospital has had a busy and productive year. Since its opening in 2011, just under 1,500 physicians, nurses, technicians, interns, residents, and medical students have participated in a wide variety of simulation workshops or courses. Not only has this opportunity enhanced individual performance, but it has also strengthened the quality and safety of the medical care delivered to our patients. We are so grateful to the Shibley Family for their generous leadership gift that allowed us to establish this important Center.

The Shibley Medical Simulation Center has become the center of our teaching mission – a mission that continues to distinguish Newton-Wellesley from most community hospitals in New England, if not the country. A wide variety of training programs are provided to groups from many disciplines. Ongoing programs include weekly classes for physicians, nurses, medical interns, physician assistants, and medical students. Medical-surgical competency classes are conducted by the unit-based educators, and a realistic setting and technical support is provided for Adult and Pediatric Advanced Life Support and Neonatal Resuscitation courses. In addition, the Center provides intensive training programs funded by CRICO (the hospital's malpractice insurance provider) and also has been responsive to ongoing public health issues, such as training staff on how to safely care for a suspected Ebola patient arriving at our doors.



*Lisa Konig, MD, obstetrician and physician educator at the Center "comforts" the new mother mannequin during fetal monitoring.*



*A nurse practices drawing blood from a suspected Ebola "patient" while wearing personal protective equipment.*

The difference the Center has made at Newton-Wellesley is profound, not only for individual clinicians and programs but also for patients. "The culture of education has changed from one of observation to one of interaction, participation, and active, involved learning. It is like being in a driver's seat rather than being a passenger," said Dr. Mark Hershey, Medical Director of the Center. "The Shibley Medical Simulation Center provides just that sort of learning experience." Additionally, the work with residents, interns and medical students is helping to train the "doctors of tomorrow" beyond the walls of Newton-Wellesley Hospital. The ability to learn and practice rare and risky procedures in a simulation environment reduces risk for patients and builds better teamwork, communication, and confidence for all clinicians.


## Join the Challenge from the Shibley Family

There are significant financial challenges facing healthcare in this country – and Newton-Wellesley Hospital is no exception. We are working diligently to lower the costs of medical care to meet this challenge, but as the Hospital explores ways to reduce its operating expenses, several programs that are not revenue producing or are not fully reimbursable are at risk.

To safeguard the Shibley Medical Simulation Center, we must rely upon philanthropy to build an endowment to cover a significant portion of the Center's annual operating budget, which includes salaries and technology. The Charitable Foundation is seeking to raise a \$3 Million endowment, the income from which will contribute approximately 50% of the Center's annual budget. The Shibley Family has once again made an extraordinary leadership gift of \$1 Million to establish this endowed fund. In addition, they have pledged an additional \$500,000 as a Challenge to the community to raise \$500,000. Once met, this Challenge will result in another \$1 Million for the endowment.



*Tom Lennon, one of the Center's technicians, controls a training scenario remotely. All sessions are video-taped for review by the participants and the Center staff.*

Please join the Challenge and help us reach our goal. Your philanthropic support will directly benefit our caregivers and patients. For more information on how you can participate, please contact Joan Archer at (617) 243-6243 or [nwhcf@partners.org](mailto:nwhcf@partners.org). 



# Leadership Board Appointments

The Hospital's Annual Meeting was held on Wednesday, September 17, 2014 and several key elections were held.



## New Trustee – Bruce Freedman

Bruce Freedman is founder of Farm Pond Holdings, LLC, specializing in Real Estate investment strategy & execution. He has over 30 years of experience in real estate finance and investment having served as Executive Vice President of AMB Property Corporation, President of Allmerica Realty Advisors, and Principal of Aldrich Eastman and Waltch. He is a member of the Urban Land Institute, holds a CRE designation from the American Society of Real Estate Counselors, and is an Adjunct Professor in the Babson College Graduate School of Business. He has been an Overseer at Newton-Wellesley Hospital since 2003 and became a Director of the Newton-Wellesley Hospital Charitable Foundation in 2007. He also serves on the Board of Overseers of Babson College. Mr. Freedman is a cum laude graduate of Babson College. He and his wife, Kim, have two adult children and live in Sherborn.

## New Director of the Charitable Foundation – Brenda E. Haynes, MD

Dr. Brenda Haynes practiced Hematology and Oncology for over fifteen years, most recently as an oncologist at New England Hematology/ Oncology Associates. She also is a past Medical Advisory Board Member of the Komen Foundation in New Jersey. She currently serves on The Winsor School Board of Trustees as Chair for Annual Giving and as a member of the Leadership Gifts Committee. Dr. Haynes received her medical degree at Albert Einstein College of Medicine and completed her internship, residency and fellowship at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. She lives in Wellesley with her husband, Adam Koppel, MD, and their three children.



## Trustees Emeriti

Twenty-six former Trustees were recently elected to the newly formed Trustee Emeritus program. These former Trustees served the maximum tenure permitted and/or rendered exemplary service to the Hospital. These appointments are listed by the years of their service on the Board.

H. Bradlee Perry	1964-1986	Carol F. Surkin	1993-2002
Samuel Frankenheim	1973-1992	Roger D. Scoville	1993-2005
Robert A. Danziger	1975-1984, 1987-1998	Ann T. Ingram	1994-2001
Richard N. Silverman	1981-1986, 1988-1994	Jeffrey S. Thomas	1994-2001
Jay H. Kaufman, MD	1982-1991	John V. Carberry	1994-2003
Robert H. Welsh	1982-1992	Steven T. Greene	1995-2004
Charles W. Gibson	1986-1994	Erica E. Johnson, MD	1995-2004
John F. Levy	1987-2002	Gene A. Miller	1997-2006
Thomas J. Shields	1989-1998	Peter K. Barber	1999-2013
Steven S. Fischman	1990-1999	Carol McMullen Rush	2002-2013
James K. Vernon, MD	1991-2001	Scott J. McGrath	2003-2012
Katherine L. Babson, Esq.	1992-2001	Hon. Gregory C. Flynn	2004-2013
Ilene Beal	1993-2002	Richard C. Shipley	2005-2012

## New Overseers

Twelve new Overseers were also elected at the Annual Meeting, representing a cross-section of towns in the Hospital's service area:

Peter R. Brown, Esq., Waban	Vikas Gulati, Natick
David J. Carroll, Newton	Nicholas A. Halaby, Wellesley
Linda DeRenzo, Esq., Newton	Janet C.H. Larson, MD, Newton
George P. Field, Esq., Wellesley	Charu Narain, Wellesley
Jay L. Freedman, Esq., Newton Center	Emily A. Neill, Natick
Ruth M. Gerath, Acton	Theodore M. Romanow, Weston

# HOPEWALKS

Let's lead the way . . .

HopeWalks has raised over  
\$1 Million since 2010!

On Sunday, September 28th, the Charitable Foundation hosted its 5th Annual HopeWalks, a neighborhood walk to benefit the cancer patients at the Vernon Cancer Center. 850 walkers, 65 teams and over 75 volunteers participated, and to date, over \$180,000 has been raised to support the life-enhancing Integrative Support Services offered at the Center. These life-enhancing services for cancer patients and their families provide substantial benefits by optimizing healing and comfort throughout treatment. The five HopeWalks events have raised a combined total of over \$1 Million since 2010, helping to ensure that the Hospital will continue to make these services available to all patients, regardless of their ability to pay.

The 3.5 mile route began and ended at the Hospital, and the event was kicked off by Honorary Master of Ceremonies, Callie Crossley from WGBH. Walkers enjoyed a rousing rendition of the National Anthem by Oladunni Oladipo followed by remarks from Dr. Dori Zaleznik, Newton Health Dept. Commissioner, Dr. Jim Vernon, Dr. Jeff Wisch, Chief of Hematology/Oncology, and Dr. Mark Belsky, Chair of the Charitable Foundation. Needham resident Grace Cohen, 11, spoke about her efforts to raise funds for cancer in honor of her mother and grandmother who have been patients at the Vernon Cancer Center. Prizes were given to the largest team, most creative, and top individual and team fundraisers. The Newton North cheerleaders and local musician Al Gould entertained the walkers along the route, and everyone enjoyed a BBQ lunch after the walk.



The VCC Blazing Sunshine – largest team with over 50 walkers!



WGBH's Callie Crossley was the Honorary Master of Ceremonies

"HopeWalks is such an inspiring community event. We are tremendously grateful for the community's support and that of our corporate sponsors, especially our Lead Sponsor, Commonwealth Pathology Partners," said Joan Archer. "This level of support sends such a powerful message of hope to all our cancer patients and their families."

### Top Fundraisers

Tom Antonellis was the top individual fundraiser with over \$10,500 raised to date. "When cancer strikes you or someone you care about, it is like getting hit by a train. Everyone's life gets turned about. The caring team at The Vernon Cancer Center (from the parking attendant to the front office staff to the medical and support services staff) make all the comforting difference in the world," said Tom after the event. "I give thanks to them for helping so many people dealing with cancer, and I hope for a positive outcome for all."



Dr. Jeff Wisch, Dr. James Vernon, and Dr. Mark Belsky



Bodies by Melody, led by Melody Tortosa (front row center) was the top fundraising team

Bodies by Melody, led by breast cancer survivor Melody Tortosa, took home the top fundraising team award with over \$18,600 raised. Asked about her experience raising funds for HopeWalks, Melody commented, "I am extremely grateful to the nurses, radiologists, and the entire Vernon Cancer Center staff for helping me through a very difficult and challenging time of my life. HopeWalks is close to my heart, and I will continue to support it as best as I can." 🇺🇸



The A Team with their awards for 1st place individual fundraiser (Tom Antonellis 3rd from right) and 2nd place team fundraiser

Donations may still be made to HopeWalks at [www.nwh.org/hopewalks](http://www.nwh.org/hopewalks) or by calling (617) 243-6243. To see more photos from the event, please visit the HopeWalks Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/NWHHopeWalks](http://www.facebook.com/NWHHopeWalks).



# Caterina's Angels – Why We Walked . . .

Our team, "Caterina's Angels," participated in HopeWalks in memory of a truly amazing woman. Caterina Allia was known to her grandchildren as "Nonna," to her children as "Ma," and to her friends as "Caterina" or "Catherine." While she may have been known by many names, anyone who ever met her knew the face of love, friendship, and hope. Caterina lived a life of love, hard work, raising her family, and the occasional hardship. She taught her children and grandchildren the value of hard work, faith, and the importance of family.



*Caterina's Angels pose before setting off on the walk*

Caterina was diagnosed with breast cancer on her 77th Birthday in August of 2013. She had always been extremely healthy. She grew up on a farm in Sicily and continued to enjoy working in her garden her entire life. Caterina was a vibrant woman who didn't give a second thought to carrying 50 lb. bags of flour home from the supermarket to make her terrific ravioli! Caterina faced her breast cancer diagnosis head-on. She always offered you a smile, even as she faced chemotherapy, a mastectomy, and radiation treatments. She was blessed to have been treated at the Vernon Cancer Center, and she and her family met some wonderful people at the Center.

Unfortunately, Caterina's story does not end "Cancer Free." After a few treatments of radiation, Caterina started to feel ill – she had developed leukemia as a result of chemotherapy. There was a 1% chance of this happening, but Caterina stood up to this piece of news with a smile on her face and determination in her heart! She told us that she would "give it a try just one more time." This strong-willed attitude is what encouraged us to start a fund in her memory. One of Caterina's wishes was to help other patients find the hope that she found at the Vernon Cancer Center. The Vernon Cancer Center not only helped Caterina,

it also helped all of us to find hope at such a difficult time.

Our team, "Caterina's Angels," walked for Caterina and all of the other patients and their families facing the toughest battle of their lives. While Caterina is our angel, we are acting as angels in her name to carry on her legacy of giving to others. ♥

– Antonio and Courtney Allia & Family



*Caterina Allia*

## Support Team NWH!

Marathon Fever at Newton-Wellesley Hospital will be in full force on Patriots Day, April 20, 2015! Team NWH, 20 runners strong, will once again officially participate in the Boston Marathon, raising funds for the Vernon Cancer Center Patients Fund. This Fund enables our Integrative Support Services caregivers to provide urgently needed "emergency" assistance to financially vulnerable cancer patients, helping them get through treatment without additional stress.

In 2014, Team NWH raised over \$75,000 – please help us exceed that amount in 2015! To support Team NWH, please visit our newly designed website at [www.nwh.org/teamnwh](http://www.nwh.org/teamnwh) to make a secure online donation.





Newton-Wellesley Hospital Charitable Foundation  
ANNUAL GOLF & TENNIS TOURNAMENT

# Annual Golf and Tennis Tournament

*Record-Breaking Support for The NWH Fund*

On Monday, September 8, 2014, the Charitable Foundation sponsored Newton-Wellesley Hospital's Annual Golf and Tennis Tournament at Pine Brook Country Club in Weston. The weather was perfect, and the course was immaculate.

With a field of 124 golfers and 16 tennis players, the event raised a record \$195,000 for *The NWH Fund*. In these challenging times, these funds are critically important in enabling the Hospital to meet its most pressing operating budget needs.

Many thanks to the lead Tournament Sponsor, the Drew and Kim Conway Family, as well as to the many other generous sponsors, donors, and players. Our thanks also go to the Tournament Committee, chaired by Jeff Thomas, whose collective efforts brought in several new sponsors for the event. The Committee included Tennis Co-Chairs: Caroline Block, MD and Heidi Angle, MD, Committee Members: Joan Archer, Richard Barnett, Mark Belsky, MD, Claire Cronin, MD, Patrick Jordan, Chris Kelly, Mark Lemons, MD, Steve Miller, MD, Ellen Moloney, and Bob Richards. ♡



*L to R: Scott Rundlett, Drew Conway (NWH Trustee), John Jeffries, Joe Burkett*



*L to R: Bill Cadigan, Chris Kelly (NWH Trustee), Kevin Lynch, Mike Frank*



*L to R: Jim Kaplan (NWH Trustee), John Nelson, Frank Lombardi, Stuart Schwartz*



*L to R: Jeff Thomas (Tournament Chair and Trustee Emeritus), Gary Lockberg, John Maloney, Sid Queler*



*L to R: John Barry, Thomas Bu, Marci Sapers, Matt Hoffman (NWH Overseer)*



*L to R: Eric Levin, Matt Leibman, MD, Mark Belsky, MD, (Chair, Charitable Foundation), Dave Lissy*

More information, including a complete list of winners, sponsors and donors, is available at [www.nwh.org/golf](http://www.nwh.org/golf).



**Save the Date!**  
**Monday, September 21, 2015**  
**Wellesley Country Club**

To receive an invitation to next year's tournament, please email Maryann Zschau at [nwhgolf@partners.org](mailto:nwhgolf@partners.org).





# Young Philanthropists

Learning about the joy of giving to others can begin at any age, and we celebrate and thank the many “Young Philanthropists” who in a variety of ways have given generously to Newton-Wellesley Hospital. Here is just a sampling of these wonderful acts of philanthropy . . .

## Going the Extra Mile

The youngest members of Caterina’s Angels HopeWalks team went the extra mile to raise funds for their walk. Tony and Courtney Allia’s son, Antonio, 3, and his sister Tessa, 6, raised over \$230 selling lemonade as well as collecting donations at several stores in town. Antonio and his dad stopped by the Foundation office to give us the proceeds of his efforts right before HopeWalks in September. We are so grateful for Antonio and Tessa’s efforts – they are making a real difference to cancer patients and their families!

*Tony and Antonio Allia add to their team’s totals for HopeWalks*



*Grace (left) with her family and friends at HopeWalks*

## Grace Cohen’s Fight against Cancer

When Grace Cohen’s mother, Deb, was diagnosed with cancer for the second time, Grace, then 8 yrs. old, wanted to do something to help. So she started taking photographs and turning them into greeting cards that she sold to raise money for cancer research. Grace is now 11 and for the past three years has been selling her lovely cards at HopeWalks. This year, Grace raised more than \$475, bringing her HopeWalks total to over \$1,000. She also has donated several of her photos to the Vernon Cancer Center where her mother and grandmother have been treated. Thank you, Grace – and your family – for supporting the Vernon Cancer Center!



*Sarah Bouchard and Taisha White with a few of the baby blankets made by Mt. Ida College students*

## Mt. Ida College Blankets for Babies

Students at Mt. Ida College in Newton recently donated 50-60 adorable handmade fleece blankets for the Hospital’s Maternity and Pediatric Units. The students worked on this project under the initiative of the “Student Engagement Civic Leadership Project” at the College. Our thanks to the Mt. Ida students – these blankets will make such a difference to our littlest patients!

## Benefitting Cancer Patients in Need

Amanda and Samantha Smith have been thinking of others since they were in the fourth grade at Countryside Elementary School and joined the “Pink Club.” Now freshmen at Newton South High School, the twins recently presented a check to the Vernon Cancer Center for \$1,000, which they raised by putting pink boxes in all the classrooms and encouraging kids to drop off loose change. They also sold pink jewelry and breast cancer awareness items, like lollipops and rubber ducks. What they didn’t know when they first started working on this project was that their mother, Jean Smith, had been diagnosed with breast cancer and was undergoing treatment at the Vernon Cancer Center. The Center’s social worker told Jean about the Patients Fund, which provides urgently needed “emergency” assistance to

financially vulnerable cancer patients. Together Jean and the girls decided that the funds they were raising should benefit the Patients Fund. Amanda and Samantha have a “huge sense of pride” that they are “helping someone in need.” Many thanks to the Smith family for their support – our patients and caregivers are so grateful.



*Amanda (center) and Samantha (right) present their check to Monique Porter, Director, Ambulatory Services*



NEWTON-WELLESLEY HOSPITAL  
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

2014 Washington Street  
Newton, Massachusetts 02462



FOUNDED BY BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL  
AND MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL

## Upcoming 2015 Events

April 20, 2015	Team NWH running in the 119th Boston Marathon
April 29, 2015	All Overseers Spring Meeting/Program
May 9, 2015	16th Annual Gala, The Westin Copley Place
June 3, 2015	Newton-Wellesley Hospital Annual Meeting
September 21, 2015	Annual Golf & Tennis Tournament, Wellesley Country Club
September 27, 2015	6th Annual HopeWalks
November TBD, 2015	Wine Tasting and Auction

*All dates are subject to change. For more information, please contact (617) 243-6243 or [NWHCF@partners.org](mailto:NWHCF@partners.org).*

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