

New Springville Center for Family Health & Specialty Services Unveiled with Ribbon Cutting & Family Day



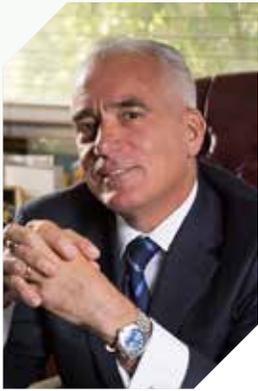
Also inside:

Page 4: RUMC Receives \$2 Million for NICU

Page 5: RUMC Auxiliary Donates New Books

Page 6: Black History Month health fair held at community center

*Hospital leadership, trustees and community leaders cutting the ribbon to open the new center on February 28. **Story on page 3.***



From the President & CEO Daniel J. Messina, PhD, MPA, FACHE

As we move through the month of March, we are reminded of the ties that connect us as a healthcare community – ties rooted in compassion, collaboration, and service.

March is Women’s History Month, a time to recognize the countless women, past and present, whose dedication, leadership, and compassion have shaped healthcare on Staten Island and at Richmond University Medical Center. From physicians and nurses to researchers, leaders, and support staff, women play a vital role in advancing care, strengthening our organization, and shaping the future of medicine. Their expertise, resilience, and leadership are essential to fulfilling our mission of *Partnering with Patients and Families for Better Health*.

March also brings an opportunity to honor another cornerstone of our institution. On March 30, we celebrate National Doctors’ Day, recognizing the dedication, skill, and commitment of our physicians. Every day, our doctors combine clinical excellence with empathy, earning the trust of patients and families throughout Staten Island and beyond. Our doctors provide expert care while building relationships rooted in respect and understanding. Their work exemplifies the highest standards of care and reinforces the truth that

high quality, experienced healthcare exists right here on Staten Island.

March also will bring continued progress on several capital projects underway, including the Joan and Alan Bernikow Heart and Vascular Institute, Radiology and Emergency Department scan suite upgrades, expansion of our Wayne Zenna Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and the redesign of our Adult Inpatient Psychiatric Unit.

Together, these projects and monthly observances reflect the values that unite us at Richmond University Medical Center— respect, teamwork, and an unwavering focus on patient-centered care. They remind us that our strength lies in our people and in the relationships we build with one another and with those we serve. Thank you for your dedication, your professionalism, and the meaningful ties you help strengthen every day.

Remember the Power of One: You Make A Difference.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Messina, PhD, MPA, FACHE
President and Chief Executive Officer

Excellence in Residency and Fellowship Program Honoree

Each month, one or more residents and/or fellows are selected for their exemplary service, and for embodying RUMC’s commitment to fostering a collaborative culture that enhances patient care and professional excellence. Honorees are nominated by their colleagues and selected by the Office of Graduate Medical Education’s Wellness Council.

This month’s honoree is **Naima Latif, MD**. Dr. Latif is a PGY-3 in the Department of Pediatrics. She earned her medical degree from Islamic International Medical College in Pakistan. Her hometown is Gaithersburg, Maryland.



Congratulations to our Employee of the Month:



Evelyn Medina
Housekeeping
Department of Environmental Services

New Springville Center for Family Health & Specialty Services Unveiled at Community Day



Hospital trustees and local leaders joined hospital administration to cut the ribbon on the new center.

On February 28, Richmond University Medical Center officially opened its new healthcare facility, located at the Staten Island Mall, in the New Springville section of Staten Island. Named for the community it is located within, the New Springville Center for Family Health and Specialty Services is nearly 9,000 sq. ft. and features ten exam rooms, on-site lab services, and a spacious waiting lounge, among additional features and amenities.

“The services being offered at this new Family Health Center will address and improve the types of medical conditions prevalent in the population of Staten Island, such as the need for better care for the elderly, for families and children with developmental delays, and for programs that help identify, treat and improve outcomes for cancer, heart care, diabetes and a variety of other conditions,” said Jeffrey Lieto, executive vice president of the Richmond Health Network and RUMC’s chief strategy officer.

Primary care for adults and children, rheumatology, pediatric and specialized pediatric services are currently available at the center with additional services, including geriatric care and early childhood developmental services, becoming available in the spring.

Over 100 attendees toured and participated in the community day that was held as part of the ribbon cutting. RUMC provided free health screenings for the public throughout the day. Screenings included A1C blood sugar

checks, blood pressure monitoring, EKGs, lung capacity testing, prostate cancer, and more. Attendees were also able to receive Naloxone (Narcan) kits which help reverse the effects of an opioid drug overdose.

Additionally, information tables from many of the hospital’s service departments, including behavioral health, podiatry, rehabilitation, and wound care were also present at the event as well as facepainting and other children’s activities.

Joining hospital staff, administration and trustees at the ribbon cutting was New York State Assembly Member Sam Pirozzolo, New York City Council Member Frank Morano, Michael Pardo from the office of New York City Council Minority Leader David Carr, and Dr. Ginny Mantello, Director of Health and Wellness for Staten Island Borough President Vito Fossella.



Attendees learn how to administer Narcan during the new center’s Family Day activities.

RUMC Receives \$2 Million in Federal Funding for Wayne Zenna NICU



Senate Democratic Leader Charles E. Schumer



US Senator Kirsten Gillibrand

Richmond University Medical Center has been awarded \$2 million in federal funding to support the renovation of its Wayne Zenna Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. The funding, secured by U.S. Senate Democratic Leader Charles E. Schumer and Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, was included in the Fiscal Year 2026 federal funding package.

“We are deeply grateful to Senator Schumer and Senator Gillibrand for championing this funding,” RUMC President and Chief Executive Officer Daniel J. Messina, PhD, MPA, FACHE, said. “It strengthens our mission to provide exceptional, compassionate care to the Staten Island community and represents a significant step forward in improving health outcomes for newborns and their families.”

The NICU at RUMC is currently undergoing extensive renovation

designed to meet the increasing need for its services. The \$5.6 million project will expand the existing footprint of the 5,600 sq. ft. unit and includes 18 new private care bays, a renovated nursing station, a fully equipped isolation room, and a new, more spacious waiting area for families. The project is anticipated to be completed by later this year or in early 2027.

“Richmond University Medical Center’s Neonatal Intensive Care Unit serves one of the highest-risk newborn populations in the U.S., and the modernization of the NICU will help the incredible RUMC staff provide more efficient, comfortable care for vulnerable newborns and families,” said Senator Schumer.

RUMC’s Wayne Zenna Neonatal Intensive Care Unit has one of the highest survival rates in the country at

997 newborns out over every 1,000 admitted to the NICU. As a certified Level III NICU, RUMC provides comprehensive critical care for premature newborns, including those born before 32 weeks gestation and/or with complex medical and surgical conditions.

“Richmond University Medical Center’s neonatologists, nurses, physician assistants, respiratory therapists, and experts provide life-saving care to thousands of premature and critically ill infants in Staten Island,” said Senator Gillibrand. “I am proud to have secured \$2 million to support the comprehensive renovation of their Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, which will elevate the quality of care for low-birthweight newborns and provide a supportive, healing environment for their families and RUMC’s medical staff.”

Blood Drive Exceeds Expectations

Richmond University Medical Center hosted another successful blood drive on February 3 in partnership with the New York Blood Center, helping address an ongoing regional blood shortage.

The drive welcomed 47 registered donors and collected 43 lifesaving donations — including 41 whole blood units and one double red cell donation

— exceeding the goal of 40 units. These contributions have the potential to impact more than 129 lives throughout the community and beyond. Notably, six participants donated for the first time or made their first donation with the New York Blood Center. The next blood drive is scheduled for April 28, offering another opportunity to make a lifesaving difference.



Staff and members of the community came together to donate over 40 units of blood.

RUMC Receives Grant to Expand Gerontology Care



RUMC's new Gerontology Institute will provide specialized care for older patients and will be housed within the New Springville Center for Family Health & Specialty Services.

Richmond University Medical Center has been awarded \$250,000 from The Mother Cabrini Health Foundation to expand the hospital's geriatric services. RUMC will create a multidisciplinary Gerontology Institute dedicated to caring for Staten Island's growing older adult population, their families, and caregivers.

"True to our mission of partnering with patients and families for better health, our Gerontology Institute will fill an existing gap here on Staten Island in

regard to services for our older adult population by improving access to medical professionals and service lines laser focused on their unique needs," RUMC President and Chief Executive Officer Daniel J. Messina, PhD, MPA, FACHE, said.

At the core of RUMC's Institute, which will begin providing services to the public this spring, will be a dedicated geriatric care team, including a full-time geriatrician, a gerontologist, and a program coordinator. This team will

anchor a new senior primary care practice at RUMC's New Springville Center for Family Health and Specialty Services, located at the Staten Island Mall. The center, which also features primary care providers for the entire family and additional specialty services, opened this past December.

"Our grantee partners are navigating an incredibly challenging landscape and yet their commitment to serving their communities continues to deepen," said Msgr. Gregory Mustaciulo, chief executive officer of the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation. "These grants demonstrate our resolve to stand with them by addressing urgent needs today, while strengthening the systems and workforce that will support New Yorker's health for years to come."

The Institute will also serve as a catalyst for strengthening and expanding care for older adults across Staten Island by creating a fully coordinated network that connects hospital services, physician practices, nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, community organizations, and home-based supports. By building comprehensive community and family support pathways, the Institute will close gaps between care settings — ensuring smoother transitions, clearer communication, and more continuous, person-centered care throughout hospital, outpatient, post-discharge, and home environments.

RUMC Auxiliary Donates New Books

On February 9, members of the Richmond University Medical Center Auxiliary donated a selection of new children's books to the hospital's Emergency Department and Wayne Zenna Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

The books will be used in the Emergency Department to help young patients alleviate anxiety. In the NICU, staff and caregivers are reading to their newborn patients to help with speech and cognitive development.

RUMC Auxiliary President Lucielle Forlenza presents new books to Chief of Neonatology, Dr. Santosh Parab (left), and Chief Medical Director of RUMC's Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Dr. Melissa Grageda.



Black History Month Health Fair Helps Improve Community Wellness



Over 75 people received free health screenings from RUMC at Central Family Life Center on February 21.

On Saturday, February 21, Richmond University Medical Center participated in the 21st Annual Staten Island Black History Month Town Hall, Community Breakfast and Health Fair. The annual event celebrated the rich history, legacy, and contributions of the Black community on Staten Island.

The theme of this year's event was "Thriving Together Through It All Mind, Body and Spirit." The event, held at the Central Family Life Center and First Central Baptist Church in Stapleton, drew a large crowd that was eager to learn from various organizations tabling at the event.

The hospital provided health information and over 75 health screenings at the event including take-home colon cancer screening kits, blood pressure checks, EKGs, and training in how to administer Narcan, which reverses the effects of harmful opioids.

Richmond University Medical Center

20 Jack Sipp 26

Golf • Tennis • Bocce

Benefiting Richmond University Medical Center

SAVE THE DATE

May 18

Richmond County Country Club

HONORING:

Rita Shats, MD, FACOG and Lenny Shats, Pharm.D. C.Ph., MBA, MS, BCMAS
Recipients of the Jack Sipp Distinguished Service Award

Keith Diaz, MD
Recipient of the Dr. Stanley Stilwell Memorial Award

For more information, please visit www.rumcsi.org/golf or contact Gina Ferreri at 718.818.2106

New Hires — Welcome to RUMC!

Lester Abrams — *Delivery Room Tech*
Aderemi Adeoye — *RN*
Khadijah Akter — *Security Analyst*
Asha Brown — *Receptionist*
Denis Caban — *Nursing Assistant*
Mootaz Chebbi — *LMHC*
Ify Clizor — *Clinical Pharmacy Sup*
Amber Cohen — *Nursing Assistant*
Alicia Currier — *RN Coordinator*
Julianna Dropp — *RN*
Jessica Estrella — *Building Service Worker*
Angela Gaglardi — *Receptionist*
Nathan Garcia — *Mental Health Tech*
Izaya Hall — *Transporter*
Andrew Harrington — *Physician*
Aisha Hasan — *Physician*
Kim Hill — *Nursing Assistant*

Joelle Homsy — *RN*
Andre Johnson — *LMHC*
Dibran Klloubschista — *Building Service Worker*
Sara Pulice — *Paramedic*
Anthony Riad — *Pharmacist*
Marlgorzata Rokoszak — *Certified Diabetes Ed*
Vikotris Rusinak — *Medical Assistant*
Nicole Savino — *RN*
Anjolie Savino — *Receptionist*
Diana Schwartzman — *RN*
Breana Simms — *Pharmacy Tech*
Kisha Smalls — *RN*
Heban Syed — *Clinical Lab Technologist*
Isabel Valez — *Class Room Sub*
Ian Winter — *Youth Peer Advocate*
Alexandra Woodford — *Social Worker*



March Observances

Please join us in acknowledging the following health-related observances for the month of March:

Month-Long:

Alport Awareness Month
Autoimmune Awareness Month
Brain Injury Awareness Month
Deep-Vein Thrombosis Awareness Month
Malignant Hyperthermia Awareness Month
Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month
Myeloma Action Month
National Athletic Training Month
National Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month
National Cheerleading Safety Month
National Colorectal Cancers Awareness Month
National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month
National Endometriosis Awareness Month
National Kidney Month
National Nutrition Month
National Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness Month
Problem Gambling Awareness Month

Trisomy Awareness Month
Women's History Month
Workplace Eye Wellness Month

Week-Long:

March 1 to 6: National Aplastic Anemia and MDS Awareness Week
March 8 to 14: Patient Safety Awareness Week
March 8 to 14: Pulmonary Rehabilitation Week
March 8 to 14: Sleep Awareness Week
March 15 to 21: GI Nurses and Associates Week
March 15 to 21: National Poison Prevention Week
March 16 to 22: Brain Awareness Week
March 16 to 22: National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week
March 30 to April 6: World Autism Acceptance Week

Recognition Days:

March 1: International Wheelchair Day
March 2: World Teen Mental Wellness Day

March 3: World Birth Defects Day
March 3: World Hearing Day
March 4: International HPV Awareness Day
March 4: World Obesity Day
March 5: Dissociative Identity Disorder Awareness Day
March 5: National Hospitalist Day
March 10: National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
March 12: World Kidney Day
March 13: World Sleep Day
March 19: Certified Nurses Day
March 20: National Native American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
March 20: World Oral Health Day
March 21: World Down Syndrome Day
March 24: World Tuberculosis Day
March 24: American Diabetes Alert Day
March 26: Epilepsy Awareness - Purple Day
March 30: National Doctors' Day
March 30: World Bipolar Day

Richmond University
Medical Center



RORY BEA & ARNIE O

5K RUN OR WALK

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026

All proceeds will support the Wayne Zenna
Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at RUMC

In Memory of
Arnold Obey

CLOVE LAKES PARK

1150 CLOVE RD, STATEN ISLAND, NY 10301

REGISTRATION at 8AM

KIDS DASH Starts at 9AM

5K RUN Starts at 9:30AM

5K WALK Starts at 9:45AM

Trophies will be awarded to the top 3 male and
top 3 female winners

Certificates will be presented to the top 3 male
and top 3 female winners in each age category

For more information, including on how
you can participate virtually, visit
www.rumcsi.org/5K

Music by Joe Salemmo/DJ Joe Nose

SCAN CODE TO REGISTER AND LEARN MORE



In Memory of Rory DeCristoforo

Presented By

ISLAND
AUTO GROUP