Get back on your feet... or wheels.
When Every Step Hurts, Joint Replacement Can Help.
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Dear Friends,

As our Fall Newsletter lands in your mailbox, we at Rochelle Community Hospital are pleased with how 2017 is shaping up for us, and are always glad to be your healthcare provider of choice. While the healthcare landscape remains very challenging due to the unknown status of the Affordable Care Act and the previous budget impasse at the state level, we at RCH have been able to stay the course through this uncertainty and continue to focus our energies on providing high-quality care and customer service.

In this issue of the community newsletter, you will see the highlights of our annual report, including the number of patient admissions and visits to specific departments in the hospital. We also share where we spend our money along with the charity care and revenue reductions we experienced during our last fiscal year.

We have made some great strides recently in expanding our service offering in our Multi-Specialty Clinic by adding Dermatology, Obstetrics and Gynecology providers. We have also upgraded our radiology equipment by adding a faster and safer CT scanner. These improvements are made with you — the customer — in mind so we can provide the necessary equipment and services close to home, so you don’t have to travel for your healthcare needs.

During these past several months we have also been a good community partner in working closely with the local League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) on a food and nutrition program, sponsoring a bus trip for community residents to the American Diabetes Association (ADA) Exposition in Chicago and providing scholarships to local high school students interested in pursuing a career in healthcare.

We hope you enjoy reading about the recent happenings at RCH in this newsletter and understanding more about our operations as you look at our statistics from our last fiscal year. As always, please let us know if you have any questions or seek further information. Thank you for your continued support of Rochelle Community Hospital!

Best in health,

Mark J. Batty
Chief Executive Officer, Rochelle Community Hospital
HOSPITALISTS PROVIDE DEDICATED CARE TO OUR INPATIENTS

When you are admitted to the hospital you receive care from a number of different healthcare professionals including surgeons, nurses and many others, depending on your needs. But there’s another kind of specialist you may see today that you may not be familiar with: a Hospitalist. These are providers who specialize in treating patients while they are hospitalized if they do not have a primary care provider on staff.

Rochelle Community Hospital has partnered with Hospital Care Consultants (HCC) to provide quality providers for patients in the hospital. The Hospitalists are trained in primary care and are dedicated entirely to the care of hospitalized patients. Because Hospitalists do not have clinic hours, they are located in the hospital and available 24 hours per day. The partnership enables the hospital to enhance its existing focus on the overall quality of care patients receive. The clinic providers at RCH Convenient Care and inpatient Hospitalist Services are staffed and managed by HCC.

Hospitalists help to assure continuity of care. They can readily check on patients, order and monitor tests and assure that patients’ needs are met. These providers also help coordinate all aspects of your stay to assure safety and specialized care by meeting with family members, answering questions and communicating with other medical professionals involved in the care.

Have questions about the Hospitalist Program?
Please feel free to contact Julia Norem, Chief Nursing Officer, at 815-562-2181, ext. 2570.

New Convenient Care Hours!
Monday-Friday: Noon to 8:00 p.m.
Saturday-Sunday: 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
CLOSED Holidays
Angelo Bonacquisti wasn’t eager to have a double hip replacement, especially at the relatively young age of 53. He tried other options, but when nothing relieved his pain for long, he ultimately decided to get the surgery. The very first time he stood up after his first surgery, even though he had some pain in his incision, he immediately noticed his hip pain was gone. Bonacquisti is now a believer in the power of joint replacement surgery to bring back normal life.

“The pain is really what motivated me to get the hips done. It was getting to the point I wasn’t able to do things I wanted to do. I knew they weren’t going to get better, they were only going to get worse,” Bonacquisti said. “I have been nothing but happy since I had it done.”

Bonacquisti had an appendectomy at Rochelle Community Hospital in 2006, and the positive experience he had with that surgery convinced him he wanted the same good care for his hip replacement surgeries. “I had a surgical nurse friend recommend Dr. Andrew Blint of NITROthopaedics to me. She was absolutely right,
and I was very pleased. He’s very approachable, very knowledgeable. Every question that I had was answered in a way that I could understand.”

Bonacquisti had one hip done in May 2016. After that, he couldn’t wait to have the other done. The second hip surgery took place in September 2016.

Bonacquisti said he appreciated that he didn’t have to travel to a big city to have the surgeries, making it more convenient for him and his visiting family members and friends. “It was as good an experience as it could be when you’re in the hospital.”

His recovery was swift; Bonacquisti, a minister, admits he may have rushed things. “I think I may have taken two Sundays off, and then I was back to preaching and teaching. I was getting around. I wasn’t feeling like I was 19 again, but I was getting around and feeling just about normal in two or three weeks’ time.”

“Don’t put it off. The sooner you get it done the sooner you can get back to living.”

Tell Me Where It Hurts...

Dr. Andrew Blint, NITROOrthopaedics
Free Arthritis Pain and Joint Replacement Seminar

6:30 p.m. • Thursday, September 28
Salt 251 (formerly the Rochelle Country Club)
531 S. 7th St., Rochelle

Attend this free event and learn how to get back on your feet … or wheels.

Joint pain can put limits on your lifestyle. Come listen as surgeon Dr. Andrew Blint of NITROOrthopaedics presents an interesting talk about pain. He will review the origins of pain and the conditions that cause it such as hip arthritis, as well as options for management, treatment and surgery. Double hip replacement patient Angelo Bonacquisti will answer questions about how surgery relieved his pain and increased his mobility. Hear the story of how Dr. Blint and the proven surgical team of Rochelle Community Hospital helped Bonacquisti get back on his feet — and back on his motorcycle.

If you’re ready to put pain behind you, join us. Enjoy the dessert bar as you learn more about joint replacement surgery from the points of view of both surgeon and patient.

To RSVP or for more information, please contact Michelle LaPage at 815-561-3110.
DO YOU HAVE THE FACTS ABOUT BREAST CANCER?

3D MAMMOGRAPHY IS NOW AVAILABLE AT RCH!

Breast cancer is a frightening diagnosis, one that fills the thoughts of many women when it’s time for a mammogram. The American Cancer Society estimates about 252,710 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in women this year, and about 40,610 women will die from breast cancer this year. It’s the second most common cause of cancer death in women — lung cancer being the most common cause of cancer death.

Many risk factors for breast cancer are outside a woman’s control, but early detection is something every woman can strive for through screening mammograms, which can detect breast cancer when it’s still too small to be felt. At Rochelle Community Hospital, the Genius™ 3DMammography™ exam is now available. The 3D imaging can detect cancer 15 months earlier than 2D mammography alone. Early detection is the key to more positive outcomes. According to the American Cancer Society, “The size of the breast cancer and how far it has spread are some of the most important factors in predicting the prognosis (outlook) of a woman with this disease.”
More facts about breast cancer
• The most common symptom of breast cancer is a new lump or mass, but other symptoms are also possible. It’s important to have any breast change checked by a healthcare provider.

• Being overweight or obese after menopause increases breast cancer risk.

• Drinking alcohol is clearly linked to an increased risk of developing breast cancer. The risk increases with the amount of alcohol consumed.

• Studies have found that women using oral contraceptives (birth control pills) have a slightly higher risk of breast cancer than women who have never used them. Once the pills are stopped, this risk seems to go back to normal over time.

• Women who have not had children or who had their first child after age 30 have a slightly higher breast cancer risk overall. Having many pregnancies and becoming pregnant at an early age reduces breast cancer risk.

• Men can also be diagnosed with breast cancer and should check themselves periodically by doing a breast self-exam in the shower. Report any changes to your physician.

• Some studies suggest that breastfeeding may slightly lower breast cancer risk, especially if it’s continued for 1½ to 2 years.

(Source: American Cancer Society, www.cancer.org)
THE STORY TELLS OF A SUCCESSFUL YEAR


2016-17 Accomplishments

Rochelle Community Hospital appreciates the opportunity to serve the healthcare needs of you and your family. We are proud of our accomplishments this past fiscal year.

May 2016

RCH is recognized in a tie for 4th place as the hospital in the U.S. with the cleanest patient rooms as reported by the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (HCAHPS).

The Safe Sitter organization recognizes RCH for 20 years of teaching.

RCH hosts LULAC Healthy Living for Latino Adult workshops.

June

4 — The 10th Annual RCH Foundation “Hospital Hustle” 5K Walk-Run raises nearly $6,800.

July

Mark J. Batty, Chief Executive Officer at RCH, achieves Fellow status with the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE).

6 — RCH is named a “2016 Most Wired” hospital by Hospital and Health Networks magazine.

Community Health Needs Assessment survey results rate quality of services at RCH as Excellent.

August

1 — RCH Foundation Golf Outing raises $26,000 for new 3-D mammography equipment.

4 — Dr. Sabet Siddiqui, an Oncologist with Oncology MDs in DeKalb, joins RCH Multi-Specialty Clinic.

8 — The newly remodeled Convenient Care clinic opens.

27 — RCH hosts a surgical conference on “Best Practices for Sterilization.”

September

24 — RCH offers free community health fair, “Start Your Journey to Wellness.”

October

27 — RCH is recognized with two Pinnacle Awards presented by the Illinois Society of Healthcare Marketing and Public Relations.

31 — Community trick-or-treat is held at RCH.

RCH participates in Rochelle’s Hay Day festival with Carington the Hay Bear.

November


21 — The Patient Financial Services department moves into its newly remodeled space.
December
RCH Inpatient Services staff ranked among the top six hospitals in Illinois for quality of Nurse to Patient communication as recognized by HCAHPS.

January
25—Lori Schultz, FNP-BC, from MD SkinCenter in Rockford, joins the RCH Multi-Specialty Clinic to provide Dermatology Services.

February
18—The RCH Foundation holds a Valentine’s Day Breakfast to honor couples married 50 years or more at Salt 251.

28—Dr. Fares Alqara, an Obstetrician/Gynecologist with OSF HealthCare Medical Group, joins the Multi-Specialty Clinic.

March
23—Christene Willis, Patient Access Coordinator, was presented with The Patriot Award on behalf of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) at the RCH Annual Employee Service Awards dinner.

April 2017
4—Dr. Robb Rydzynski, an Obstetrician/Gynecologist from Katherine Shaw Bethea Hospital in Dixon, joins the RCH Multi-Specialty Clinic.

8—RCH provides a chartered bus trip for community members to attend the American Diabetes Association Expo at McCormick Place in Chicago.

10—The RCH Auxiliary presents seven scholarships to area students pursuing healthcare careers at their annual Volunteer Appreciation/Scholarship Brunch.

RCH Radiology Department acquires the Aquilion™ PRIME 80/160 CT system for faster, safer patient exams.

See 2016-2017 Fiscal Year Breakdown on page 10.
Committed to the Health of This Community

RCH spent $34.1 million in fiscal year 2017. Here is a breakdown:

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**INPATIENT STATISTICS**
- Admissions: 493
- Patient Days: 1,440
- Average Length of Stay (days): 2.9

**DEPARTMENT STATISTICS**
- Emergency Room Visits: 8,491
- Radiology Procedures: 15,407
- Surgeries Performed: 1,624
- Rehabilitation/Physical Therapy: 25,239
- Cardiac Rehabilitation: 1,219
- Multi-Specialty Clinic Visits: 6,132
- Convenient Care Visits: 3,791
- Laboratory Tests: 78,352
- Respiratory Therapy Procedures: 3,857
- Outpatient Registrations: 44,510

**REVENUE BY PAYOR**
- Medicaid: 32%
- Insurance: 17%
- Self-Pay: 3%
- Medicare: 48%

**LAST YEAR, RCH ABSORBED:**
- $1.2 million in costs to care for patients who could not pay.
- $7.7 million in services not fully reimbursed by government programs.
TOGETHER, THE RCH FOUNDATION AND YOU MAKE GOOD THINGS HAPPEN

Your Donations at Work

The RCH Foundation has been busy this spring and summer. Two fundraisers were held to support the continued work of the hospital. The 11th Annual Hospital Hustle and 17th Annual Golf Outing, combined, raised $35,000. These proceeds have been directed for the 3D Mammography unit. Rochelle Community Hospital is pleased to now offer the Genius™ 3DMAMMOGRAPHY™ exam, which reduces unnecessary callbacks by up to 40% and detects 41% more invasive breast cancers! Plus, it can detect cancer 15 months earlier than 2D mammography alone… even before you can feel it during a self-exam! Both events bring together the community, local businesses and hospital vendors to promote healthy living, activity, networking and fun. We are very lucky to have the many generous sponsors whose contributions reinforce the success of our Foundation’s mission.

The RCH Foundation has also welcomed three new board members from the community. We look forward to collaborating and growing with their service to healthcare in the Rochelle community. The mission of RCH is to improve the health of our community by providing high-quality care with competence, excellence and compassion. Your past and future donations provide for the hospital’s greatest needs, securing essential equipment for technology advancements and assisting cancer patients in their healing. Thank you. Our work at Rochelle Community Hospital would not be possible without your assistance.

Michelle LaPage
Foundation and Community Events Manager

You make what we do possible

Thank you to our donors, who helped raise $35,000 through the Annual Hospital Hustle and the 17th Annual Golf Outing. To make a donation to the Rochelle Community Hospital Foundation, please contact Michelle LaPage at 815-561-3110, or email mlapage@rcha.net.
The RCH Foundation welcomes three new Board members:

**Earl T. Fleming, III** (left) – Earl is the Foundation’s Treasurer and Vice President of Commercial Lending at Central Bank. He has been at the bank for 16 years. **Pat Zilm** (center) – Pat is retired from Kishwaukee College, where she worked as the Conference Center Coordinator for 14 years. **Norma Trosper** (right) – Norma is the Branch Manager of the Rock Valley Credit Union, Rochelle location. Norma has been with RVCU for 9 years.