



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

The E-Newsletter of the Newton Medical Center Foundation

WINTER 2025

A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDATION

It's hard to believe that a new year is already under way! Plans are in place for a busy 2025 at Newton Medical Center and in the Foundation.

As exciting as it is to look ahead to all the opportunities that a new year and fresh start have to offer, it's also gratifying to look back on the year that was—there are accomplishments to celebrate and experiences to learn from and build upon.

Perhaps one of the most exciting things to report from the Newton Medical Center Foundation is our newest fundraising initiative—raising \$1 million toward a \$6,606,500 investment in Newton Medical Center's Atlantic Medical Group (AMG) Sparta Oncology Project. You can read more about the project in this issue. The Foundation is pleased to be part of this much-needed expansion and renovation project and we look forward to sharing details with you as it progresses!

In other news, our Automated External Defibrillator (AED) program has been growing in popularity and we recently ordered more AED units to fill the demand. The Foundation launched the AED program in 2001 with the goal of providing AEDs at a reduced rate, along with training and education. Since inception, the program has distributed over 950 AEDs, trained more than 6,000 individuals, and assisted in saving over 63 lives in our community.

The AED program is funded in large part through our annual Heart & Soul event held each February. This year's Heart & Soul event will be held on Wednesday, February 26, at Perona Farms. In addition to the fundraising component, Heart & Soul was created in 2014 as a way to honor the incredible accomplishments of the first responders and emergency personnel who provide exemplary life-saving care to members of our community.

Heart & Soul features heavy hors d'oeuvres, cocktails, a silent and live auction, and a program that honors first-responders in the field and hospital providers. For more information on the AED program, Heart & Soul, and to make a reservation to support and attend this popular event, please visit atlantichealth.org/heartandsoul.

Please read on for more news from the Newton Medical Center Foundation and examples of your gifts and support in action. Thanks for your continued interest in Newton Medical Center and the Foundation. The Foundation team and I look forward to seeing you in 2025!

—**Megan Sandow, Chief Philanthropy Officer**
Newton Medical Center Foundation

SAVE THESE DATES!



**Heart & Soul,
A Community Celebration**
Wednesday, February 26, 2025

Perona Farms, Andover, NJ
atlantichealth.org/heartandsoul

An Evening of Wine & Roses
Wednesday, April 9, 2025

Perona Farms, Andover, NJ
atlantichealth.org/wineandroses

Redfern Golf Open
Monday, June 23, 2025

Lake Mohawk Golf Club, Sparta, NJ
atlantichealth.org/newtongolfopen

Newton Rotary Golf Outing
Wednesday, September 10, 2025

Newton Country Club, Newton, NJ
atlantichealth.org/rotarygolf

**34th Annual
C. Edward McCracken
Festival of Lights**

Saturday, November 15, 2025
Newton Medical Center, Newton, NJ
atlantichealth.org/festivaloflights

WHAT IS THE FOUNDATION RAISING FUNDS FOR NEXT?

The Newton Medical Center Foundation is about to embark on a special initiative to raise \$1 million toward a \$6,606,500 investment in Newton Medical Center's Atlantic Medical Group (AMG) Sparta Oncology Expansion project.

Each patient's journey and treatment is unique, but there are common factors that can help provide the best possible outpatient experience:



- Care rendered with clinical excellence in a warm, compassionate environment

continued on page 3

C. EDWARD McCRACKEN

Festival of Lights

BRINGS JOY TO OUR CAMPUS

It was a great night for the Newton Medical Center Foundation's 33rd annual C. Edward McCracken Festival of Lights!

Once again, members of the community visited Newton Medical Center's beautifully decorated campus to kick off the holiday season at this much-loved annual event. Santa and his snowman friend were on hand as guests enjoyed refreshments and the glorious lighting of the trees across the campus.

Longtime Newton Medical Center Foundation board member and beloved community leader George Morville Jr. was celebrated for his many contributions to the community.

Thanks to many generous sponsors and attendees, over \$130,000 was raised for Newton Medical Center!



Bob McCracken, Atlantic Health System Board Chair; George Morville Jr. Festival of Lights Community Honoree and Foundation board member; and Jo-Ellen McCracken-Hazan, C. Edward McCracken Festival of Lights Chair and Foundation board member



Festival of Lights Community Honoree George Morville Jr. and family



FOUNDATION AWARDS NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS

The Newton Medical Center Foundation recently awarded \$2,500 scholarships to two Newton Medical Center nurses as part of the Foundation's BSN/MSN/DNP/PhD Scholarship Program designed to assist nurses in furthering their education.

To be eligible for a scholarship, applicants must be a part-time or full-time Newton Medical Center employee who has a minimum of one (1) year of employment with Newton Medical Center as of the application deadline date; be accepted into or currently enrolled in a part-time or full-time BSN, MSN, DNP, or PhD program at an accredited four-year college or university for the entire upcoming academic year; and have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent).

This year's scholarship recipients are:

- **Lenore Reilly**, Nursing Education Manager, enrolled in PhD in Nursing Program
- **Stacey Schreiber**, RN, Surgical Services, enrolled in Master of Science in Nursing Program

Congratulations, Lenore and Stacey!

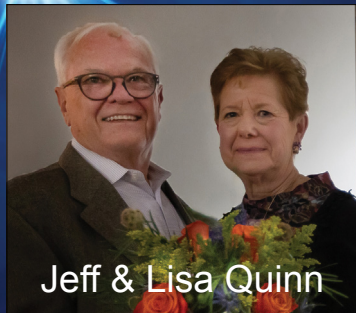


Lenore Reilly



Stacey Schreiber

DONOR SPOTLIGHT



Jeff & Lisa Quinn

For Sussex County residents Jeff and Lisa Quinn, involvement with Newton Medical Center and the Foundation is a family tradition.

In 1937, Jeff's great uncle, William A. Dolan, chaired the very first capital campaign to build Newton Medical Center. In later years, Jeff's mother, Inez Madden Quinn, made flower arrangements and baked goods to sell in Newton Medical Center's gift shop—then known as the Hospitality Shop.

Fast forward several years to Jeff and Lisa, who have continued the Quinn family tradition of strong volunteerism at Newton Medical Center for the benefit of patients in this region.

Jeff, a lifelong Sussex County resident who was born at Newton Medical Center, explains, "I'm proud that Lisa and I can continue in my family's footsteps as supporters of Newton Medical Center and the Foundation and help ensure that Sussex County residents continue to have access to the high-quality health care services and state-of-the-art technology they need."

Jeff joined the Newton Medical Center Foundation Board of Directors in the mid-1980s. He is a past Foundation Board Chair, past Chair of the Foundation's Planned Giving Committee and he also previously served on the Newton Medical Center Board of Directors.

Lisa, who moved to the area in high school, gladly helped carry on the Quinn volunteer legacy when she

married Jeff, joining the Newton Medical Center Junior Auxiliary, baking for the Hospitality Shop, volunteering in the hospital gift shop, and serving as co-chair of the Year of Women's Health Campaign to raise funds for the opening of the Center for Breast Health.

Now happily retired, Jeff and Lisa continue as donors to Newton Medical Center and currently volunteer their time and talents to create floral arrangements for various Newton and Hackettstown Medical Center Foundation fund-raising events such as An Evening of Wine & Roses, Ambassadors gatherings, the annual C. Edward McCracken Festival of Lights and Hackettstown Medical Center's "Shining the Light" fall social.

Like his mother, Jeff is self-taught in floral design, and he and Lisa are happy to put their talents to great use for the Foundations. "We convert our family room to a floral design studio for each event—we love doing it, it's an enjoyable way to give back," said Jeff.

Jeff and Lisa are proud to say that their adult children continue in the family footsteps, volunteering their time, talents, and resources in their own communities as well.

Jeff noted it can be challenging to fit in philanthropy and volunteerism, especially today with so many causes competing for time and donations, but it's well worth it and he encourages others to do so for organizations that are important to them. Newton Medical Center and the Foundation, however, remain especially close to Jeff's and Lisa's hearts.

"It's important to us," explained Jeff. "And it's rewarding to know that we can help keep our communities healthier by bringing the most current medical technology and advancements in health care to patients through Newton Medical Center."

Lisa agreed, adding, "The feeling you get when you serve and support the community where you live—that's priceless."

AMG SPARTA ONCOLOGY EXPANSION

continued from page 1

- Ease of access, with care availability within a short distance of patient's home
- Strong provider relationships and efficient, timely communication between patients, physicians, nurses, and staff

Why is this project needed?

The current AMG Oncology office, located in the Sparta Wellness Center, cannot accommodate any expansion. Renovating and expanding this state-of-the-art oncology and outpatient infusion center will create the capacity needed to continue to grow the AMG hematology oncology program in the western region.

Components of the project to be completed in the Sparta Health & Wellness facility include:

- Expansion of Newton Medical Center's Outpatient Infusion Center
- Relocation and expansion of the AMG Medical Oncology Suite
- Creation of a new USP-800-dedicated mixing pharmacy for preparation of chemotherapy drugs and potentially hazardous compounds

Highlights of expansion plans:

- The addition of one new physician and one new nurse practitioner to Dr. Waina Cheng's oncology practice
- Renovation and expansion of the existing suite on the first floor of the Sparta Health and Wellness building
- The addition of four infusion bays to the current five for a total of nine, and one private treatment room

If you know someone—a family member, friend, neighbor, or co-worker—who has experienced cancer, you understand the importance of this initiative. This project will enhance the treatment experience and quality of life for all who receive care at Newton Medical Center's Outpatient Infusion Center and AMG Medical Oncology. Be on the lookout for more information and updates in the coming weeks and months!



NEWTON ROTARY GOLF OUTING RAISES FUNDS FOR NEWTON MEDICAL CENTER

It was a great day of golf at Newton Country Club in September for the 56th Annual Newton Rotary Golf Outing. Attendees celebrated this year's honorees, Hon. Gerald B. Hanifan Sr. JSC (Ret.) and Michael J. Hanifan Sr., Esq., both Rotarians (pictured to the right).

Over the years, Newton Rotary has raised more than \$1 million to support Newton Medical Center, including proceeds from this outing.

Caring for our communities is what the Newton Medical Center and Newton Rotary do best—thank you to the Newton Rotary Club for their continued, generous support of Newton Medical Center and the Foundation!



OUR GENEROUS COMMUNITY

Margaret Christel, the mother of a Newton Medical Center team member, recently donated new toys, puzzles, and coloring sets for pediatric patients in Newton Medical Center's Emergency Department.



The **Newton Medical Center Auxiliary and American Association of University Women** held a baby shower at Bella Italia in Andover on Tuesday. Clothing, blankets, pillows, diapers, wipes, hats, and jackets were donated at this annual event. Pictured are NMC Auxiliaries and NMC maternity nurses accepting the gifts.



FOUNDATION FUNDING IN ACTION

This past year, the Newton Medical Center Foundation's mini grant program funded a Robotic Pet Therapy pilot program.



As a result, Cristen Mackwell, clinical nurse specialist for Research and Innovation at NMC and HMC, recently presented "The Impact of Robotic Pets in the Emergency Department: A New Frontier in the Patient Experience" at the World Nursing Science Conference held in San Francisco.

It is quite an honor for Newton Medical Center and Atlantic Health System, and great news for future patients who will benefit from the comfort provided by these electronic furry friends.

DID YOU KNOW? The work of the Newton Medical Center Foundation is supported and enriched by a dedicated group of volunteer board members. Thank you to the following who so generously offer their time and talents as members of the Newton Medical Center Foundation Board of Directors:



Atlantic Health System
Newton Medical Center Foundation

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FOUNDATION CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing Address: Newton Medical Center Foundation, 175 High Street, Newton, NJ 07860
Phone: 973-579-8309 | Fax: 973-579-8972 | Email: NMC.Foundation@atlantichealth.org
Website: atlantichealth.org/newtonfoundation