Dear Friends,

I want to share some of the latest developments in Atlantic Health System’s mission to improve the pediatric patient experience and access to services. Goryeb Children’s Hospital is growing and has relocated many specialties across the street to 55 Madison Avenue.

At Chilton Medical Center, the new 4,500-square-foot Children’s Center, which opened in October, will function as a one-stop center offering both specialized pediatric emergency care and pediatric inpatient care.

And, we have opened the state’s first Voiding Dysfunction Center, with pediatric urologists and nurse practitioners who can diagnose and treat the full range of pediatric urologic conditions.

You can read more about these new facilities in this issue of Well Aware Kids.

You’ll also read about Adele, who, at age four, learned that she had a rare blood cancer. By placing their trust in the medical team at Goryeb using the newest therapies, her parents are overjoyed that Adele is healthy once again.

Don’t forget your flu shot. Influenza is a very common yet serious disease, particularly in the young, those with chronic illness and in the elderly. Find out more about flu on page 4. We enjoy hearing from our readers, so email us at well.aware@atlantichealth.org if you have a story idea or want to share a comment.

Walter D. Rosenfeld, MD
Chair of Pediatrics
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Helping Your Child Calm Down (Even When You’re Not)

To help parents understand what’s going on in their child’s brain, the Chambers Center for Well Being is hosting a parent coaching workshop by Mary Funari, a Parent Coaching Institute-certified parent coach. During the workshop, parents will discover calming strategies that work for both the parent and child as well as a process for identifying the underlying tantrum issues.

Parent Coaching is a unique, creative way to support you as you raise your children. It is a collaborative process in which the coach helps you identify and address stressors that may be impacting you and your children. Other programs at the Chambers Center include private parent coaching sessions and ongoing programs. Please note, sessions are for parents only; children are not included.

For more information about the workshop, call 973-971-6301.

ORT FARMS FEATURES GORYEB CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL IN ANNUAL CORN MAZE

For over 10 years, Ort Farms has featured an increasingly elaborate corn maze as part of its fall festivities. Family-owned and operated for over 100 years, the farm began its focus of giving back to area nonprofit organizations through the twists and turns of its corn maze after the devastation of Hurricane Sandy in 2012. Past beneficiaries of the challenging family fun have included The Seeing Eye and Farmers Against Hunger.

Ort Farms chose to thank Goryeb Children’s Hospital for its service to kids in their community by featuring the Goryeb Children’s Hospital logo in their corn maze this year. The state-designated children’s hospital offers specialties including adolescent health, cardiology, diabetes, gastroenterology, hematology and oncology, neonatology, nephrology, neurology and neurosurgery, and pulmonology.

Goryeb Children’s Hospital also boasts more than 100 board-certified pediatric specialists in over 20 areas of pediatric medical and surgical care, and more than 250 community pediatricians on staff, all working together with families to treat both the simplest and most complex pediatric illnesses.

The maze opened right after Labor Day weekend, and partial proceeds from the maze admission fee will be donated to the hospital.

3 Backpack Safety Tips

Although the school year is already underway, it’s never too late to assess your child’s backpack. A backpack is something your child uses every day at school, so it’s important to find one that’s not only comfortable but also safe.

Here are some tips to help you determine whether he or she has the right one:

MAKE SURE THE BAG IS NOT TOO BIG. The National Safety Council suggests backpacks that are never wider or longer than your child’s torso. The bag should also not hang more than four inches below the waist.

LOOK FOR MULTIPLE COMPARTMENTS. Bags with multiple compartments help distribute weight more evenly, reducing back sprain and posture problems. The American Chiropractic Association recommends a backpack weigh no more than 10 percent of a child’s weight.

AVOID BACKPACKS ON WHEELS IF POSSIBLE. While they may reduce stress on the back, they can clutter hallways and become a tripping hazard for your child as well as his or her peers.

For more tips, visit the National Safety Council at nsc.org.
This past summer, Superman, Wonder Woman, Spider-Man and Batman took a break from their crime-fighting missions to celebrate Superhero Day with our young patients at Goryeb Children’s Hospital. A super time was had by all!

SURVIVING FLU SEASON

Every year, more than 200,000 people in the United States need to be hospitalized due to complications from the flu. Don’t let influenza get the better of you: One of the most effective ways to protect you and your family is the flu shot.

This season’s vaccines have been updated to fend off the most common strains. Because the flu is highly contagious, the flu shot is ideal for both adults and children.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that almost everyone six months and older receive the vaccine. In certain cases, some children may need two doses of the vaccine. Talk to your doctor about the right dosage for your child.

Christina Gagliardo, MD, pediatric infectious disease physician with Goryeb, wants everyone to keep in mind that the vaccine takes about two weeks to fully protect you against the flu. Also, only injectable flu shots are recommended. The nasal spray flu vaccine is not recommended for the 2017-2018 season.

For more information, visit cdc.gov/flu.
The holidays are upon us, and so are all the seasonal treats that come with them. Around this time of year, it may seem tough to keep your child’s hand out of the cookie jar. But there are ways to make healthy holiday eating a reality.

“During the holiday season, it can be very difficult to lose weight,” says registered dietitian Jane Harrington-Nowan. “With all the temptations around, we work with our patients to focus on maintaining their weight.”

PRACTICE SELF-CONTROL

One way to avoid holiday weight gain: limiting sugary treats at home. Harrington-Nowan suggests keeping any temptations out of sight – and preferably out of the house. Even leftovers from holiday parties should be discarded as soon as possible.

“We encourage parents to oversee the foods being brought into the home to help children make healthier choices,” Harrington-Nowan says. “Hiding foods does not teach children how to balance treats with healthier options.”

While controlling your child’s food choices can be easier at home, it can be more difficult outside the home. School festivities, family gatherings and other social situations can present a problem when it comes to healthy eating. Still, there are ways to limit the cost of indulgences.

“If you’re at a buffet with your children, make sure that half their plate consists of vegetables. If it’s a potluck, consider bringing a healthy dish to the party. The key is to be prepared for that particular situation.”

MAKE HEALTHY FOOD FUN

But what if you cannot be around to supervise your child?

“You have to trust that your child can make the right choices,” says Harrington-Nowan. “He or she has to find the motivation to not overindulge.” Another recommendation from Harrington-Nowan is to have more fun with healthy foods. Cutting veggies and fruits into creative shapes can make these foods seem as appealing as their not-so-healthy counterparts.

“Kids like to have fun,” she says. “Make them a part of the cooking process, pick out colorful foods or play around with presentation. All of these things can make nutritious food more appetizing.”

Visit choosemyplate.gov for more healthy eating tips.
an oasis of support and care
Goryeb Children’s Hospital helps bring Adele back
After Adele was diagnosed with a rare type of blood cancer, Goryeb Children’s Hospital was there for her.

Like many four-year-olds, Adele would often entertain others simply with her energy and antics. But during a two-month period, parents Andrew Johnson and Yin Wu of Somerset County, NJ, saw her energy wane alarmingly. “She was so weak many times that I had to carry her up the stairs,” Johnson says.

Trips to pediatricians resulted in few answers. “Then we took her to the Valerie Fund Children’s Center at Goryeb Children’s Hospital in Morristown Medical Center,” he says. “There, we got our answer.”

Adele had leukemia. That news in early 2014 took the entire family on a long journey. But it left them with a deep trust in and thankfulness for what they now call “an elite team” at the Valerie Center, and a sweet seven-year-old who can now just focus on being a kid again.

TREATING RARE CHILDHOOD CONDITIONS
Adele had a rare type of blood cancer called acute lymphoblastic leukemia, or ALL. As her family discovered, physicians at Goryeb have expertise in diagnosing it and other rare childhood conditions, and in treating them successfully.

Further, Goryeb Children’s Hospital is a member of the Children’s Oncology Group, made of 9,000 experts in childhood cancer from around the world. So patients also benefit from their expertise.

INNOVATIVE TREATMENTS
In addition to standard chemotherapy, young patients at Goryeb Children’s Hospital have access to new types of “immunotherapy” drugs for leukemia. Because these work by targeting specific abnormalities in the blood, they often have fewer side effects.

“We’re using some new therapies that were not even available last year,” says Steven Halpern, MD, medical director of pediatric hematology/oncology for the Children’s Center.

“These are a good example of success in treatment of childhood cancers because altogether, 90 percent of children with ALL leukemia can be cured,” he says.

AT GORYEB, IT’S PERSONAL
For Adele, multiple visits for diagnosis transitioned into innumerable visits for treatment. And during this time, her parents learned to deeply trust her medical team.

“There, caring for children is personal,” Johnson says. “They are determined to do their best to bring these kids back to good health.”

Staff members also know exactly what can bring a smile to their young patients’ faces. Child life specialists use play to explain procedures. Children looked forward to choosing a small prize from the Treasure Box at the end of each visit. The staff even celebrates their birthdays.

“Just 15 miles from our home, we found this oasis of support and care,” Johnson says.

LOOKING FORWARD
Adele has now finished the long 26 months of treatment. “In contrast to the last year or two, she’s returning to her favorite activities,” says her mother, Wu, “like ballet class with her friends, piano lessons, crafts, drawing and even writing.”

And recently, a simple, “normal” act struck Adele’s parents.

“I glanced over to see her busily just jumping up and down in place,” Johnson says. “It was then, I knew: Our little girl was back.”

ATLANTIC MEDICAL GROUP
Dr. Halpern is part of Atlantic Medical Group, a multispecialty network of health care providers. For more information, visit atlanticmedicalgroupnj.org.
As children age, issues such as bed-wetting or urinary leakage can be stressful for both parents and children. According to John Connor, MD, director of pediatric urology for Goryeb Children’s Hospital, urologic conditions impact at least 5 percent of children. He says signs to look for include “children who are toilet trained but suddenly start to wet day and night for no apparent reason, children who suddenly start going to the bathroom more than is normal for them, or children who become constipated for no reason.”

To address urologic issues in children, Atlantic Health System has opened the first Voiding Dysfunction Center in the state. “There are a lot of times when wetting or constipation can be symptoms of something else, so we have a multispecialty approach, which will include support from gastroenterologists,” says Dr. Connor. The new center has advanced technology for diagnosing and treating children, using methods such as urodynamics and biofeedback. Dr. Connor has welcomed a new partner, Michaella Prasad, MD, and two nurse practitioners who will be helping to care for these patients as well.

Dr. Connor says wetting occurs in children due to over activity of the sphincter muscle when learning to toilet train. “They’re not fully relaxing their control muscle and that causes the bladder muscle to thicken so it doesn’t store as well. That’s something that can be treated easily and noninvasively with biofeedback.”

To identify the cause of voiding issues, doctors conduct screening tests using a noninvasive technique called an electromyography (EMG) uroflow test to measure bladder pressure. “In 80 percent of kids, that is all they’ll need,” says Dr. Connor. “Biofeedback is also a way to retrain the bladder so it empties fully each time. We use a special child-friendly computer program that shows us with cartoon characters when they are relaxing their sphincter muscle properly.”

According to Dr. Connor, voiding dysfunction has “a huge social impact on their lives. They can’t do sleepovers. They are embarrassed among their peers. It’s a huge win for them to get full control and no longer wet in school or at night. From a self-esteem standpoint, correcting the voiding issue is a plus for children.”

**ATLANTIC MEDICAL GROUP**

Dr. Connor is part of Atlantic Medical Group, a multispecialty network of health care providers. For more information, visit atlanticmedicalgroupnj.org.
Earlier this year, Goryeb Children’s Hospital relocated its pediatric specialty outpatient services to 55 Madison Avenue. The move is one of the latest developments in Atlantic Health System’s ongoing mission to improve the patient experience.

PUTTING PATIENTS FIRST
Among the specialties and practices that made the move across the street:
• Cardiology
• Endocrinology
• Gastroenterology
• Nephrology
• Neurology
• Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
• Adolescent Medicine and Child Psychiatry
• Genetics
• Pulmonology
• Kid-Fit™

According to Walter Rosenfeld, MD, chairman of the department of pediatrics for Goryeb Children’s Hospital, patients and visitors can expect a range of new accommodations as a result of the move. “Atlantic Health System is always growing, and moving these specialties to another facility has given us more room to expand our patient services. This relocation – which is just across the street – has made it easier for our patients and staff alike to provide and receive quality care.”

The new space features a pediatric outpatient lab and radiology suite along with free parking, gender-neutral facilities, a lactation room, bariatric patient accommodations and a waiting room designed for everyone from babies to teenagers to young adults.

NOT EVERYONE IS MOVING
Although many specialties have made the move, others have remained in the Farris building:
• Rheumatology
• Infectious Disease
• Surgery
• Multispecialty Programs (Craniofacial and Plagio, Spasticity and Gait Disorder, Neuro-Oncology)

Pediatric Hematology/Oncology (Valerie Center) will remain on the second floor of Goryeb. “By giving our specialties and practices more room to thrive, Atlantic Health System is focused on the future. We hope our patients are as excited as we are about all these new developments,” says Rosenfeld.

For more information about patient services at Goryeb Children’s Hospital, visit atlantichealth.org/goryeb.
Household tweaks can protect your family from fire, drowning and other hazards
As the weather starts to cool down, families will find themselves spending more and more time indoors. Every parent wants his or her children to be safe, and that’s especially true at home. More than 2,200 children die from injuries that happen inside the household. One of the biggest threats around this time of year: fire.

“Parents need to have a plan in place for fires,” says K.J. Feury, RN, APN, injury prevention coordinator for Safe Kids Northern New Jersey. “Knowing where to go and what to do when a fire occurs can literally be a matter of life and death.”

“One of the first things parents need to do is make sure all smoke detector are working properly,” says Feury. “Smoke detectors should be in each sleeping room, near each sleeping area and on every level of the home to ensure full coverage. You may not be awake when a fire starts. A working smoke detector may be the only alarm you have to give you warning to get out.”

Practicing fire drills regularly is also critical to an effective fire safety plan. Once you have a plan set, run through it a few times annually so that it’s fresh in everyone’s minds. Ideally, everybody should be able to escape the house in less than two minutes.

SUPERVISION IS KEY
Besides fires, parents should watch out for water hazards. When bath time comes around, never leave your child unattended and make sure to avoid any distractions (i.e., get off your phone).

“Always keep an eye on your child in and around water,” says Feury. “You should also drain the tub right after the bath is done.”

For homes with pools, parents should consider investing in fencing with self-closing and self-latching gates. If the child is old enough, it may make sense to enroll them in swimming lessons.

COMMON SENSE PREVAILS
Each year, nearly 60,000 young children are taken to the emergency department because they ingested medicine. Feury suggests keeping prescriptions and over-the-counter medicine not only out of reach, but also out of sight.

“Children are naturally curious,” she says. “Even if you put medications on the highest shelf, they may still find a way to reach it. Storing them where they can’t be seen is more effective.”

In addition, parents may want to choose caution over convenience. A pillbox or bag can help you keep track of their dosages, but they also make it easier for children to get into your medicine. Instead, maintain everything in its original child-resistant packaging to limit any accidents.

For more home safety information, visit safekids.org.
FEATURE

A CLOSE WATCH RESULTS IN LIFESAVING CARE

No one knew that Matty would be born 10 weeks early, and weighing only 1 pound, 12 ounces. But because of close monitoring at the Atlantic Fetal Diagnostic and Treatment Center (AFDTC), specialists did know of his health issues. And so everyone – including his parents – was ready.

“All the important testing and discussions happened before he was born,” says Gaines M. Mimms, MD, a specialist in neonatal (newborn) care. “It was still an emotional time for the family, but they had time to prepare.”

He’s definitely a miracle, according to parents Jen Cirillo and Victoria Browne, of Somerset County, NJ.

MATTY’S STORY
When Jennifer became pregnant at age 44, she spent the first two trimesters joyfully tracking the development of her long-awaited child. But at her 20-week appointment, her obstetrician expressed concern. The baby was not growing as he should.

“We walked in for a normal appointment, and walked out feeling so down,” she says. She was referred immediately to the AFDTC. The medical team worked quickly, beginning extensive evaluation including genetic testing within hours. “Over the next weeks and months, our medical team became a great ray of light. They kept us informed and let us know our choices. They gave us hope.”

SPECIALIZED SUPPORT
For babies like Matty, the team at Atlantic Health System collects detailed information from a combination of genetic testing and advanced ultrasound technology, with the goal of taking every measure to know how to best care for the baby at birth, as well as support the parents during a difficult journey.

“We work in context with a whole team of specialists to support the baby, mom and family.” Dr. Mimms says. Matty was followed by neonatologists, perinatologists, pediatric subspecialists, geneticist ... and he wasn’t even born yet.

WATCHFUL EYES
Beginning with Jen’s 20-week appointment, specialists with the Atlantic Fetal Diagnostic and Treatment Center (AFDTC) monitored her and little Matty intensely, with twice-weekly scans. This close watch saved his life.

“At my regular appointment at 30 weeks and six days, my doctor discovered Matty’s heart rate was dropping,” Jen says. “I needed an emergency C-section.” Her medical team was ready and prepared for his birth.

Jen felt well-prepared for this next step, too. Staff had coached her about the meaning behind his genetic tests, the ups and downs that could come with a premature baby, and details about the range of care he might need.

She found support, as well, from her faith, and from the prayers of family and friends.

JUST STEPS AWAY
Immediately after Matty’s birth at Morristown Medical Center, he went straight to the NICU. In addition to the health challenges of being a preemie, he had other issues that required surgery during his 77-day stay. Matty will need more surgeries later, and his parents say they are at ease knowing the team at Goryeb Children’s Hospital is so close by.

Matty is now home and thriving. His parents are enjoying seeing his progress, his intense gazes and his welcomed smile.

“We just want to live life to the fullest with him,” Jen says. “And now, thanks to everyone at Goryeb, we feel we will be able to do that. They gave us the best care in the world.”
Thanks to the advanced care that Matty received, he’s now living life to the fullest.
Chilton Medical Center, an integral part of Atlantic Health System’s network of children’s health care, has opened its new Children’s Center. The 4,500-square-foot hybrid unit combines specialized children’s emergency care with beds for those who need to stay in the hospital overnight. This means that families in that community can get the right care locally and also be assured that when more specialized care is needed, Goryeb Children’s Hospital, only 20 miles away, will be ready for them.

“We do a fine job of caring for patients of all ages in our current emergency room and throughout the hospital,” says Jorge Amor, MD, pediatrician on the medical staff at Chilton. “But kids aren’t just little adults. They need different medicines, different IVs and different equipment, for example. They also need doctors and nurses with specialized pediatric training, including how to talk with them and their families. That’s exactly what we’ve created here.”

CHILD- AND FAMILY-FRIENDLY CONCEPTS
Having this separate emergency room allows children to avoid the activities of an adult emergency room.

Children admitted to the facility will also find new child-friendly rooms that are private, along with family and patient lounges. And because having family nearby is especially important to children, rooms are larger, and special furniture doubles as a bed for an adult to stay overnight.

AN EASY SHIFT BETWEEN EMERGENCY AND INPATIENT CARE
Offering both pediatric emergency care and pediatric inpatient care requires dedicated physicians and nursing staff. “Nurses who specialize in pediatrics are child-friendly; they are quick to smile and have a warm, friendly personality. This gifted combination not only makes the child feel better, but also reduces the anxiety of their hospital experience,” says Lou Faraone, MSN, RN, manager of Chilton’s emergency department. To make the best use of their skills, the center’s design allows staff to flow freely between the areas.

“This innovative one-stop center allows us to continue to offer specialized care for children here close to home,” Dr. Amor says.

Staff at the Children’s Center at Chilton will care for an estimated 13,000 children a year in the new emergency room, and about 400 children a year whom they will admit to the dedicated pediatric unit.

Visit atlantichealth.org/chilton for more information.
Foundations Look Toward the Future of CHILDREN’S HEALTH SERVICES

Higher patient volumes call for expanding pediatric services throughout Atlantic Health System. Here are the current pediatric projects in need of your support:

**THE FOUNDATION FOR MORRISTOWN MEDICAL CENTER** is fundraising to expand the inpatient unit, Joan and Edward Foley Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, and the Valerie Fund Children’s Center at Goryeb Children’s Hospital.

**OVERLOOK MEDICAL CENTER’S EATING DISORDERS PROGRAM** now offers an evidence-based family treatment program designed for 8- to 12-year-olds. Funding will allow for increased community outreach, as well as therapies such as yoga, music and art.

**CHILTON MEDICAL CENTER’S NEW CHILDREN’S CENTER** will combine emergency services and inpatient care. Funds are being raised for equipment needs, as well as programs to support creative arts, child life and music therapy.

**NEWTON MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION AND THE FOUNDATION FOR HACKETTSTOWN MEDICAL CENTER** are continuing to accept care bag donations for their emergency departments to occupy and distract children while they are being treated. Requested donations include new stuffed animals, coloring books, crayons, small toys and books.

Learn more about these projects:

**MORRISTOWN MEDICAL CENTER**
Visit f4mmc.org or call 973-593-2400.

**OVERLOOK MEDICAL CENTER**
Visit overlookfoundation.org or call 908-522-2840.

**NEWTON MEDICAL CENTER**
Visit newtonmedicalcenterfoundation.org or call 973-579-8309.

**CHILTON MEDICAL CENTER**
Visit atlantichealth.org/chiltonfoundation or call 973-831-5165.

**HACKETTSTOWN MEDICAL CENTER**
Visit hrmcnjfoundation.org or call 908-850-6876.
NEW JERSEY

ATLANTIC HEALTH SYSTEM
CHILDREN’S HEALTH

Main Locations
1 Goryeb Children’s Hospital at Morristown Medical Center
   100 Madison Avenue, Morristown, NJ 07960
2 Goryeb Children’s Center at Overlook Medical Center
   99 Beauvoir Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901

Satellite Locations
3 Newton Medical Center
   175 High Street, Newton, NJ 07860
4 55 Madison Ave. Morristown, NJ 07960
5 Sparta Health & Wellness
   89 Sparta Avenue, Sparta, NJ 07871
6 The Children’s Center at Chilton Medical Center
   97 West Parkway, Pompton Plains, NJ 07444
7 194 Route 31, Flemington, NJ 08822
8 579 Cranbury Road, Suite H,
   East Brunswick, NJ 08816

Please call 973-971-5000 for information on all Children’s Health locations and services and/or contact the specific department on the previous page.

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