Care to getner Atlantic General Health System



ATLANTIC GENERAL HOSPITAL Care givers

Visit our website or join the conversation on Facebook ... www.agh.care

From the President

care.givers

It has been a remarkable summer. We have been blessed with abundant sunshine and warm weather, and an endless supply of summertime activities on the Eastern Shore. As a newcomer, I have enjoyed immersing myself in all that our community has to offer. I have had the great pleasure to meet so many interesting and incredible people who are proud to call the lower Eastern Shore of Maryland their home or their favorite summer inspiring has been the support Atlantic General Hospital has received from the community. On behalf of our Board of Trustees and nearly 1,000 associates. we thank you for entrusting your health care to us. This is a responsibly we do not take for granted.

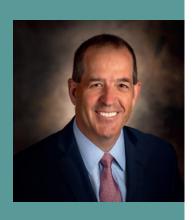
This newsletter

provides a glimpse into the generous support demonstrated by our community. It highlights the focus of our community health initiatives, shares new initiatives and clinical advancements being made at Atlantic General Hospital, and offers a preview of our key priorities moving forward.

As we reflect on fiscal year 2022, hospitals across Maryland have faced unprecedented economic challenges. Atlantic General Hospital is no different. With continued surges of COVID-19 and increased labor and supply costs, operating expenses outpaced revenues, causing the hospital to rely upon the philanthropic support so generously provided by our community. As noted in the pages to follow, AGH has been able to advance its mission and has made important investments

to keep care close to home. AGH has expanded access to behavioral health services and has purchased new robotic surgery technology to support our total joint replacement programs. We have also been fortunate to be able to reinvest in our people. Health care has been incredibly challenging and our dedicated staff of associates and medical providers have demonstrated a remarkable resolve in maintaining a high level of focus on meeting the health needs of our patients. We thank each and every health care worker for the dedication and commitment they show daily. Reinvesting in our care givers remains an ongoing pursuit.

As we head into 2023 and beyond, we anticipate that the road will not get easier. With the national economy struggling, health care costs continuing to rise, and labor challenges continuing, AGH will stay



focused on 4 key areas: Strengthening Care, Building Relationships, Leading Responsibly, and Improving Health. You can learn more about these on Page 3.

As summer has closed and fall has set in with winter looming on the horizon, I am reminded that time marches on.
As much as I appreciate the past and the fond memories created, I am equally optimistic about the future. Together, let's make health care better.

Onward and upward,

Don Owrey, MBA, FACHE *President & CEO*Atlantic General Hospital

Fiscal Year₂₀₂₂

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

WE BILLED

For services to our inpatients and outpatients.....\$202,937,272

REDUCTIONS FROM BILLED SERVICES

Discounts through third party payers	\$52,240,019
Maryland State Assessments	\$2,033,618
Uncompensated care (financial assistance & bac	debt).\$6,143,298
Total reductions	\$60,416,935

REVENUE RECEIVED

Total Revenue	\$153,321,612
Other operating revenue	\$10,801,275
from patient care and other services	\$142,520,337
Therefore, the revenue we actually received	

EXPENSES INCURRED TO RENDER SERVICES TO OUR PATIENTS

Salaries, wages, and benefits	\$80,433,963
Supplies, rent, professional fees, etc	\$51,047,268
Utilities	\$1,763,358
Maintenance & Repairs	\$8,783,010
Insurance	\$2,170,878
Interest, depreciation, amortization	\$9,928,615
Total cost to render services	\$154,412,092

NET INCOME/LOSS

rioni providing services to our community	\$(005,400)
NON-OPERATING REVENUE	
Generous philanthropic/endowment support	
from our community	.\$2,178,169
Realized and unrealized gains on investments	\$93,722

NET REVENUE

Total revenue from operations & charitable	
gifts, less expenses	\$1,466,411

Strengthen Care

Atlantic General Hospital will be a high reliability health care organization as demonstrated by our quality and patient safety results.

- Capitalize on Value Based Reimbursement Programs, achieving quality and outcome targets set under the Maryland Total Cost of Care model
- Pursue zero harm to patients, by eliminating patient falls, medication errors or hospital acquired conditions
- Reduce hospital readmissions

Build Relationships

Atlantic General Hospital will deliver a positive experience to our patients, medical staff, associates and the community through an environment built on trust and transparency.

- Improve our patient experience across the health system and all sites of care
- Advance a culture of high engagement and accountability
- Partner effectively with other health care providers to advance local access to care

Lead Responsibly

Atlantic General Hospital will be a good steward of resources and ensure sound financial principles are in place to sustain our mission.

- Achieve targeted operating results to reinvest in our people, technology and clinical program development
- Ensure optimal efficiency that enhances patient access, equity and affordability
- Optimize investments in new technologies and services to meet growing population needs

Improve Health

Atlantic General Hospital will drive transformation of care delivery across our service area.

- Deliver improved access to primary care services
- · Recruit medical staff necessary to meet the diverse and growing needs of our community
- Advance population health strategies to improve health equity and outcomes

Community Benefits

Atlantic General Hospital is committed to our community's best health by promoting healthy lifestyles, proper self-management and support for chronic diseases and improved health literacy with preventative screenings and health education. Here are the highlights of just a few of our efforts during Fiscal Year 2022.



Community Flu Clinics

Our main goal is to increase access to influenza vaccines; however, we have a specific focus on offering vaccines to underserved communities, our homeless population, first responders and county employees.

1,301 Encounters — 890 regular dose flu vaccines and 411 high-dose vaccines for our higher risk 65+ population

Diabetes Screenings, Education and Support Groups

In our two most recent community health needs assessments, our community identified diabetes as a top health concern. The rates of prediabetes and diabetes in Worcester County are higher than the rates in the state of Maryland, especially in minority populations and in underserved areas of the county. Atlantic General continues to provide outreach, education and support to members of our community with diabetes, their caregivers and families. Our outreach occurs through many venues including health fairs, food banks, faith groups and shelters.



3,119 Encounters



Emergency Department: Community Benefits

Our AGH Emergency Department participates in numerous community outreach and education events, as well as provides education to medical, nursing, nursing assistant and EMS students. Our Emergency Department leadership team represents AGH and contributes to local advocacy and outreach efforts by participating on numerous county and state committees and boards.

338 Encounters

Community Impact

Supporting the Local Economy and Our Quality of Life

- More than 992 year-round staff positions for local residents
- Total payroll of more than \$67 million, which is spent in the communities we serve in Delaware, Maryland and Virginia
- A medical staff of 267 includes specialists in:
 - Anesthesiology/pain management
 - Cardiology
 - Dermatology
 - Emergency medicine
 - Endocrinology
 - Family practice
 - Gastroenterology
 - General surgery
 - Gynecology
 - Hospitalist services

- Infectious diseases
- Intensivist services
- Internal medicine
- Nephrology
- Neurodevelopmental disabilities
- Neurology
- Nurse practitioner services
- Oncology/hematology
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopedics
- Pediatrics
- Physician assistants
- Psychiatry
- Pulmonology
- Radiology
- Rheumatology
- Urology

AGH/HS

Atlantic General Health System Locations

(Outpatient physician offices providing family medicine, internal medicine, general surgery, bariatrics, gynecology, pediatrics, neurology, rheumatology, oncology, endocrinology, urology and/or pulmonology)

- Berlin
- Ocean City
- Ocean Pines
- Ocean View
- Pocomoke
- Selbyville
- West Fenwick
- West Ocean City



Providing 7-day-a-week walk-in urgent care services.

• Ocean City (Monday-Friday in off season)

In September, Atlantic General Hospital became the first hospital on the Eastern Shore to offer Mako SmartRobotics™ to patients undergoing joint replacement. This advancement in joint replacement surgery, which received FDA approval in 2015, has transformed the way total knee and hip replacements are performed.

Demands for total knee replacements in the United States are expected to increase 189% by 2030, yet studies have shown that approximately 20% of patients are dissatisfied after conventional surgery.

Mako Total Knee combines Stryker's advanced robotic technology with its clinically successful Triathlon Total Knee System, which enables surgeons to have a more predictable surgical experience with increased precision and accuracy.

The Mako system better addresses the increasing need for hip replacement in the community's active aging population as well. During surgery, the surgeon guides the robotic arm to prepare the hip socket and position the implant according to the predetermined surgical plan. Results suggest greater bone preservation for Mako Total Hip compared to manual surgery.

Robotic-arm assisted surgery is a newer approach to joint

When precision counts in joint replacement

Mako SmartRobotics™ consists of three unique components:

- 3D CT-based planning,
- AccuStop™ haptic technology, and
- insightful data analytics

high degree of accuracy.

In clinical studies, the Mako system demonstrated the potential for patients to experience less pain and therefore less need for opioids to manage pain, less need for inpatient physical therapy, reduction in length of hospital stay, and improved soft tissue protection in comparison to manual techniques.

Mako-assisted knee replacements were found to result in improved joint flexion compared with manual techniques, and risk of dislocation of the joint was reduced for hip replacements.

"With Mako SmartRobotics, I know more about my patients than ever before, and I'm able to cut the bone more precisely. For some patients, this can mean less soft tissue damage; for others, greater bone preservation," said Sean Hooker, M.D., medical director for orthopedics at Atlantic General Hospital. "Mako's 3D CT allows me to create a personalized plan based on each patient's unique anatomy all before entering the operating room."



The surgeons of Atlantic General Orthopedic Surgery and Atlantic Orthopaedics perform knee and hip surgeries at Atlantic General Hospital using the Mako SmartRobotics system.

About the Surgeons

Atlantic General Orthopedic Surgery

- Christopher Farrell, MD
- M. Sean Hooker, MD

314 Franklin Avenue Suite 201 Berlin, MD 21811 410-629-0366

Atlantic Orthopaedics

- Thomas Beck, DO
- Philip Spinuzza, DO

314 Franklin Avenue Suite 105-B Berlin, MD 21811 410-641-1900

Regaining Life with Mako



When David Koontz, of Selbyville, DE, came in for a total knee replacement on September 12, he literally could not walk. The pain was just too much. He had been wheelchair bound for the past 18 months as other health concerns continued to take priority. First a replacement of his right shoulder, then surgery on his left elbow after

recurring bursitis and then treatment for blood clots in his lungs that traveled from his legs – a result of being in a wheelchair.

Baltimore firefighter, David

out floors and lifting and

has spent a lifetime climbing

ladders, falling through burned

swinging heavy hoses and tools

A retired

"I have a reason to get out of bed now...You take these simple things for granted until you can't do them anymore."

- David Koontz, Mako knee replacement patient

in the line of duty. Combined with side careers as an auto mechanic and carpenter, his occupation took an incredible toll on all the joints in his body.

When it came time to address his right knee, David became the first patient to undergo a joint replacement using Atlantic General's new Mako robotic arm-

> assisted joint replacement system. His surgeon, Sean Hooker, M.D., could not have expected better results.

The cartilage that typically

prevents the bones of a joint from grinding together was completely worn away, and David had significant damage in the knee due to the prolonged bone-on-bone wear and tear to

Mako continued, p.30

Mandy Bounds, DNP, MSN, RN, CPQH, CCRN, joined Atlantic General Hospital and Health System in October 2022 to serve as the new



Chief Nursing Officer and Vice President of Patient Care Services.

Mandy has more than 16 years of experience in healthcare, with a background in nursing administration; hospital

quality, safety and patient experience; and nursing education. Most recently, she has overseen acute and critical care services. infection prevention, patient safety and patient experience initiatives in various roles at University of Maryland Shore Regional Health. Mandy started her nursing career as a licensed practical nurse in long term care after completing the certificate program at Wor-Wic Community College, and 9 months later, joined University of Maryland Shore Regional Health as a bedside critical care registered nurse (RN) after earning an associate degree in nursing at Wor-Wic Community College. In 2010, she earned her BSN from Wilmington University and transitioned to Clinical Coordinator of the Critical Care Unit at Shore. Mandy served as Director of Patient Safety, Experience and High Reliability at Shore Regional Health for nearly two years before becoming their Director of Acute and Critical Care Services in March. Mandy strives for excellence in patient care, with a focus on quality, safety and patient experience, and is committed to building a strong workforce. She is well-versed in Magnet recognition programs, Leapfrog Safety Grades, Joint Commission accreditation, and shared governance programs. Mandy is a visiting professor for Chamberlain University's doctoral nursing practice (DNP) program and is an adjunct faculty member for the nursing programs at Wilmington University, where she strives to inspire and empower nurse leaders to have a strong impact on healthcare delivery. She has lived on the Eastern Shore, where she met her husband and started her family, since 2004.



Bonita Conner, MSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA, NE-BC, has been named PeriAnesthesia Manager, overseeing the ambulatory surgery unit (ASU), post-anesthesia care unit (PACU) and pre-admission testing for surgical services at Atlantic General Hospital. Bonita has worked in

Atlantic General's PACU/ASU for the past two years, most recently as charge nurse. Prior to joining Atlantic General Hospital, Bonita was the Director of Nursing at Three Lower Counties Community Services and nurse manager of an internal medicine practice with TLC. She has a background in surgery, trauma and gynecological nursing. Bonita holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a master's in nurse executive leadership from Wilmington University. She is currently pursuing her Doctorate of Nurse Practice.



Michael DiClemente, M.D., a boardcertified gynecologist, joined Atlantic General Health System in August of 2022 to provide care at Atlantic General Women's Health in Selbyville, DE, and West Ocean City, MD. He specializes in the

evaluation and treatment of a wide variety of health issues unique to women, such as annual gynecologic examinations, menstrual irregularities, menopause evaluation and treatment, birth control and contraceptive counseling, and STD screening and treatment, among others. He has a special interest in minimally invasive surgical procedures such as hysteroscopy, endometrial ablation, and laparoscopy. Dr. DiClemente has been providing comprehensive women's healthcare for nearly 21 years. After earning his medical degree at Georgetown University School of Medicine, Dr. DiClemente completed an internship in obstetrics and gynecology at Cook County Hospital, in Chicago, IL, and his OB/GYN residency at University of Massachusetts, in Worcester. To schedule an



appointment, please call 302-524-5007.

Kerri Ellinger, PA-C, joined Atlantic General Health System in February 2022 to provide care at **Atlantic General Women's Health** in West

Ocean City. Kerri earned her degree in physician assistant studies at State University of New York at Stony Brook and has more than 25 years of experience. She is certified by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants. Kerri settled down on the Eastern Shore of Maryland in 2000 and since then has focused on women's health and urology. She is passionate about helping women at all stages of life take care of themselves – physically, emotionally, and mentally. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 443-728-1050.



Amy Holloway, MBA, BSN, RN, CNOR, NE-BC, has been promoted to the new role of Perioperative Manager, overseeing the operating rooms and central sterile in Atlantic General Hospital Surgical Services

Department. Amy has worked at Atlantic General Hospital for 20 years, most recently as perioperative educator and OR charge nurse. Prior to returning to the OR, she spent seven years as the supply chain contracts coordinator for the Materials Management Department, where she helped achieve award-winning cost savings across the organization through evaluation of supply purchase and utilization practices. Amy also led multiple performance improvement projects and served as the orthopedic service line coordinator, value analysis coordinator, charge nurse and registered nurse first assist during her more than 13 years of experience in the OR. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Salisbury University and completed an MBA at University of Maryland.



Marguerite (Meg) Russo, PhD, FNP, PMHNP, cares for children and adults at Atlantic General Behavioral Health Crisis Center. As a certified psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner, Meg provides both medication management

and psychotherapy services for individuals in crisis. Her compassionate approach to care is informed by extensive nursing experience in critical, medical-surgical, pediatric and psychiatric care, mostly at academic medical centers. Meg became a family practice nurse practitioner in 2008 upon completion of her Master of Science in Nursing

from University of Maryland Baltimore, where she went on to earn a PhD in 2015. She earned a post Master's certificate in psychiatric mental health in 2020 from the University of Cincinnati. As a nurse practitioner, Meg brings primary and palliative care experience to her practice, focused on 'whole person' care to live the best quality of life possible. Before joining Atlantic General, Meg was a nurse practitioner and clinical program manager in palliative medicine, working with patients and families at University of Maryland Medical Center, in Baltimore. She serves on the faculty of the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy, teaching in the Master of Science in Palliative Care program. To learn more about the Atlantic General Behavioral Health Crisis Center, visit www.agh.care/crisis.



Steven Tyson recently joined the Atlantic General Hospital (AGH) Foundation as the new **Donor Relations Officer.** He brings over 20 years of development, fundraising, non-profit and healthcare experience along with a strong personal commitment and passion for his work to the AGH Foundation team.

This includes working for a large community health care system and developing, obtaining and managing funding for building a new Federally Qualified Health Center located in a largely Hispanic community in addition to continuing and expanding medical care, education and prevention services including implementing a new breast cancer education, prevention and treatment program and cardiovascular health education program. He has raised in excess of \$80 million for various non-profit causes with the majority being focused on health care and public health issues. Steven is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and Johns Hopkins University with a dual Master's Degree in Public Health and Public Administration. He is also a member of the American Fundraising Professionals and the American Association of Health Care Fundraising Professionals. He is very excited to join such an amazing group of people that are so dedicated to continuing and advancing Atlantic General Hospital's vital and exemplary mission to provide a coordinated care system with access to quality care, personalized service and education to create a healthy community. •

Awards & Recognition

AGH Garners Three More Awards from Coastal Style Readers alllalin



Melissa Braniff, FNP-C



Alae Zarif, MD

The readers of Coastal Style magazine have selected two AGH medical providers -- as well as all of Atlantic General's healthcare heroes -- as among the Best on the Eastern Shore!

In addition to the entire staff of Atlantic General, the two medical staff to receive awards are:

- Melissa Braniff, MSN, CRNP, FNP-C (Best Of OB/ GYN)
- Alae Zarif, MD (Best Of general surgeon)

Winning the Coastal Style Best Of Readers' Poll is widely regarded as one of the most prestigious media awards in the region.

Congratulations to all!

To All Our Staff: You are *truly* health care heroes!

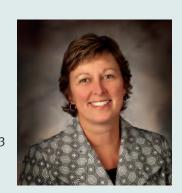


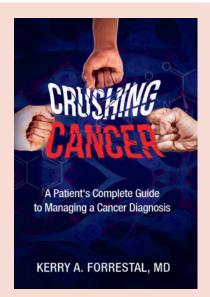
Congratulations!

Atlantic General's Cheryl Nottingham Named President of Maryland Chapter of Healthcare Financial Management Association

Cheryl Nottingham, Vice President of Finance/CFO for Atlantic General Hospital and Health System, assumed the role of president for the Maryland chapter of the Healthcare Financial Management Association (HFMA) in June.

Cheryl has been CFO at Atlantic General since 1998. She has been a member of HFMA since 1993 and became an HFMA Fellow in 2011. HFMA Maryland Chapter's mission is to facilitate experiences that support educational and relationship development across all providers, payers, regulatory bodies, vendors/consultants, and other stakeholders.





As an emergency medicine physician, with an oncologist? Will they be OK -Dr. Kerry Forrestal encounters all manner of illness and injury in his daily practice. Fortunately, a good number of his patients are placed on a relatively clear-cut path to recovery. With the follow up care of specialists and primary care providers, broken are removed. Infection subsides. It's the most complex patients he sees, those who are found to have suspicious lesions or concerning

lab results pointing to cancer, that

An ER Doctor's Best Advice to Patients on the **Cancer Journey**

AGH Physician publishes new book of tools and tips to address the social, financial and emotional aspects of cancer diagnosis, treatment and survivorship

preoccupy Dr. Forrestal after he ends a shift in the ER.

What happens to those scared and bewildered individuals once they leave to pursue the recommended appointments physically, emotionally, financially?

It's more than a professional concern. Dr. Forrestal has a regrettable legacy of high cancer rates in his family. A grandmother had uterine cancer. A grandfather had bladder cancer. His father has had skin cancer. His mother bones mend and flesh heals. Stitches is now on her third bout of lung cancer, and most recently, one of his cousins was diagnosed with brain cancer.

> Dr. Forrestal's frustration as a physician and his own personal experiences with cancer inspired him to do more about it.



Kerry Forrestal, M.D.

In July 2021, he published "Crushing Cancer: A Patient's Complete Guide to Managing a Cancer Diagnosis."

As he is careful to point out, Dr. Forrestal's book does not offer patients medical advice about how to treat their cancer. That's the oncologists' job. Rather, his goal is to give patients the financial, legal, spiritual and social tools they need to bolster the outcome of the surgery, radiation, chemotherapy or other medical treatments prescribed by their cancer care team. It's not meant to be read from cover to cover; instead,

Crushing Cancer continued, p.14

Upcoming Events

Walk with a Doc – educate, exercise, empower

3rd Saturday of every month - 9 a.m.

Join us for our monthly Walk with a Doc! An Atlantic General medical expert will hold a brief discussion about an important health topic, then lead the group for a morning walk. The first 10 participants to arrive will receive Wal-Mart gift cards. For guest and location information, visit us on Facebook @AtlanticGeneralHospital

Diabetes Support Group

First Wednesday of every month • 3:30-4:30 p.m. **Ocean Pines Library**

The group provides discussion, education, and a speaker on the topic of diabetes. We will be meeting in-person at the Ocean Pines library. An online Zoom call option is available as well. For more information or to request the Zoom call link, please contact Darlene Jameson at:

410-208-9761 or djameson@atlanticgeneral.org.

Parkinson's Support Group

Second Tuesday of every month • 3:15 - 4 p.m Atlantic General Neurology office, Berlin

For individuals suffering from Parkinson's, as well as their caregivers. Group provides discussions and mutual support, as well as education on exercise, nutrition, coping techniques, medications, and developments in treatment. For more information, contact Kay Kinnikin at 410-641-4765 or kkinnikin@atlanticgeneral.org.

Breast Cancer Support Group

Third Wednesday of every month ● 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. **Burbage Regional Cancer Care Center**

For survivors and current patients battling breast cancer. Please call Women Supporting Women at 410-548-7880 for more information.

CPAP Mask Fitting – *appointment necessary*

1st and 3rd Thursdays of every month **Atlantic General Hospital Sleep Disorders** Diagnostic Center, Berlin

Atlantic General Hospital's Sleep Disorders Diagnostic Center hosts a mask-fitting clinic for patients who are having trouble adjusting to their CPAP equipment. This is a FREE service, but you must call ahead to set up an appointment. To schedule, contact Robin Rohlfing at 410-641-9726.

T.O.P.S. of Berlin – Group #169

Every Monday • *5* − *6*:30 p.m. Conference Room 1, Atlantic General hospital

Take Off Pounds Sensibly is a weekly support and educational group promoting weight loss and a healthy lifestyle. Contact Rose Campion at 410-641-0157 for more information.

Grief Support Group

Fourth Wednesday of every month ● 5:30 - 7 p.m. Conference Room 1, Atlantic General hospital

Our goal is to instill hope for the future and give you skills to help you find your way, by providing a supportive place where members can share stories confidentially and spend time with others who understand. Please contact Gail Mansell at 410-641-9725 or gmansell@atlanticgeneral.org for more information.

Stroke Support Group

Third Wednesday every month \bullet 3 – 4 p.m. **Atlantic General Neurology**

For stroke survivors, family and friends. Call 410-641-4765 or email bglime@atlanticgeneral.org. for more information.

Visit www.agh.care/calendar for other upcoming events and dates.

2022 - 2024 CHNA

What We Have Learned About the Health Needs of our Community

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) of March 23, 2010, includes requirements for nonprofit hospitals to maintain their tax-exempt status. The regulations include a requirement that all nonprofit hospitals must conduct a community health needs assessment (CHNA) every three years, and develop an implementation strategy to address those needs. A Community Health Needs Assessment provides an overview of the health needs and priorities of the community. The results of the CHNA must be made publicly available.

Data collection for the most recent CHNA took place through late 2021, with analysis and reporting occurring in the spring of 2022. This represents the fourth time that Atlantic General Hospital has completed the Community Health Needs Assessment process. Completed surveys were collected by community outreach staff in paper form as well as through the Atlantic General Hospital website.

According to survey takers, the top health concerns were high blood pressure/stroke, followed by overweight/ obesity, diabetes/sugar and cancer. Heart disease, smoking and substance use, mental health issues, access to healthcare, asthma/lung disease and dental health also made the list. All of these health concerns have made an appearance on the Top 10 list since the first CHNA was conducted in 2012, with cancer dropping from No. 1 to No. 4 and high blood pressure/stroke rocketing into the No. 1 slot from 6 and 7 in previous years and obesity and diabetes

jockeying for spots 2 and 3 in more recent surveys.

Atlantic General uses these results, along with social

determinants of health and publicly available data about health disparities and how common various health conditions are in our community, to create plans to better address the health needs of area residents. These plans focus on certain needs based on size and severity of a problem,

	То	p 10 Health Concerns
ו פ	#1	High Blood Pressure / Stroke
	#2	Overweight / Obesity
	#3	Diabetes / Sugar
	#4	Cancer
	#5	Heart Disease
	#6	Smoking, Drug or Alcohol Use
	#7	Mental Health Issues (depression, anxiety)
•	#8	Access to Healthcare / No Health Insurance
	#9	Asthma / Lung Disease
	#10	Dental Health

health systems' ability to make a positive impact, and whether needed resources already exist.

To read the complete results of the 2022-2024 Community Health Needs Assessment as well as action plans put in place to address our community's needs, visit www.agh.care/CHNA.



The days are shorter, the traffic is lighter, and summer company is long gone.

It's a great time to volunteer at Atlantic General Hospital! Much of the efficiency of the hospital depends on the volunteers. We make beds, we guide patients around the hospital and outlying offices, we help with

paperwork and we raise money for the hospital, mainly through our Thrift Shop.

Please tell all your friends, neighbors, and family that we need them to volunteer. It's the most flexible job they will ever have. They can pick their department, the day they want to volunteer and in many cases the hours they want to work. They can volunteer as much or little as they like. We only require 48 hours a year, or as little as 4 hours a month.

An application can be found at www.agh.care/volunteer. We look forward to meeting you and your friends.

-The AGH Auxiliary Recruitment Committee

Helping our community navigate mental and behavioral health challenges. Research shows that nearly one in five adults are living with a mental condition that affects their ability to lead fulfilling lives. To make matters worse, it can take weeks or months of waiting for an

For more information about TRIBE and our crisis center services, visit us online at agh.care/TRIBE.

Or, call 410-641-3340.

Walk-in Behavioral Health for Individuals in Crisis

In January 2022, we launched a new walk-in service for individuals in acute distress, the Atlantic General Behavioral Health Crisis **Center.** The center was created as part of the TRIBE partnership and offers:

- An initial assessment by a nurse and social worker, with therapy sessions available
- Evaluation and management of current medication

appointment to get the help so desperately needed.

- On-site consultations and tele-visits with mental health specialists, as needed
- Real-time connection with needed resources, provided by agencies located onsite
- Transfers to a higher level of care, if needed
- Insurance and financial counseling services for uninsured or under-insured patients.

What is TRIBE?

TRIBE stands for Tri-County Behavioral Health Engagement – a newly formed regional partnership between Atlantic General Hospital, TidalHealth Peninsula Regional, plus 16 behavioral health community partner agencies with the mission to provide behavioral health urgent care or crisis stabilization centers to the community. In August 2022, TidalHealth Peninsula Regional opened their crisis center in Salisbury. Individuals can receive behavioral health crisis respite, observation and intervention in a warm, friendly, homelike community setting.

Crushing Cancer continued from p.11

individuals should page to the chapter or chapters most relevant to their current situation and stage in the cancer journey, much like soon-to-be parents do with the popular "What to Expect When You're Expecting."

"You find that often there are a lot of problems individuals encounter with their cancer treatment that could have been avoided if only they were better equipped with the

right information and armed with what questions to ask," Dr. Forrestal said. "And, it's just an overwhelming process. I'm trying to make it a little easier to manage so that patients can fight their cancer more effectively."

Dr. Forrestal joined Emergency Services Associates 16 years ago and has been providing emergency medicine care at Atlantic General Hospital since that time. He's been a writer of both fiction and nonfiction material for 20 years. His book can be found on Amazon, and he's currently exploring opportunities to make it available locally at Barnes & Noble. The book is an offshoot of the Warrior Stance Project, a cancer journaling project open to patients in treatment or survivorship Dr. Forrestal founded more than three years ago. The end goal will be to turn the journal submissions into a peers' guide for newly diagnosed patients. More information can be found at www.warriorstance.com.

New Bivalent COVID-19 Boosters Bring **Protection Back** Ahead of Predicted

Winter Surge

by Jeff Kukel, Pharm D. **AGHRx RediScripts Pharmacy Manager**

Updated COVID-19 booster shots that target omicron variants rolled out across the United States in September, and a new study argues they came at just the right time.

Protective antibody levels tend to decline by at least 15% each month after a person receives a single COVID booster shot, researchers reported in a study published in the New England Journal of Medicine in September. That said, getting a new booster dose will completely restore antibody levels and provide strong protection against severe COVID.

In late August, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved

If you would like

the new bivalent

agh.care/vaccine.

booster, please visit

appointment to receive

to schedule an

the new COVID booster vaccines from Moderna and Pfizer. The new boosters are designed to protect against both the original coronavirus and

Omicron subvariants.

This new study comes at an opportune time given that pharmacies and medical offices across the nation are now providing the new bivalent booster, including AGHRx RediScripts, which currently offers both the Pfizer and Moderna bivalent booster shot options.

In this study, researchers tested blood from 46 health care

professionals at Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center who had received an initial two-dose mRNA vaccine as well as one booster shot.

They found that protective antibody levels declined between 18% to nearly 20% every 30 days, depending on the specific COVID variant. That means antibody levels are likely cut in half within 95 to 108 days after receiving a booster.

Declines were slightly less steep in vaccinated people who also had a COVID infection, with antibody levels falling 9% to 17% per month.

However, blood tests done on two health care professionals who received a second booster showed that getting

> another shot brought protection back to full strength. Those two people had an almost complete loss of protective antibodies against the Omicron variant three to four months after they got their first booster shot. But they had

a complete recovery of their antibody response following a second booster.

These results make sense because humans already tend to lose their natural immunity against regularly circulating coronaviruses that cause the common cold.

The new bivalent boosters are available to those ages 12 and older (Pfizer) or 18 and older (Moderna) who have already completed their initial vaccination series.



AGHRx RediScripts Pharmacy is Taking Care of our Furry

Friends

by Karan Bealla, Pharm D. **AGHRx RediScripts Pharmacist**

AGRx RediScripts Pharmacy at Atlantic General Hospital has been serving patients and employees of our hospital, health system, and community for the last eight years. This past year, we took initiative to look at some members of our community and households that are near to our hearts, but sometimes underserved in terms of medications...our pets. As of June 2022, AGRx RediScripts Pharmacy expanded our scope of medication dispensing one foot (or should we say a few paws) forward to offering pet medicine and select supplies.

Survey data suggests that of people who had taken their pets to the veterinarian in the last 12 months, 78% of dog owners and 62% of cat owners purchased medications. Unlike the plethora of pharmacy choices that humans have, our pets can only be served at select in-person locations with a majority of services being offered from various online companies. In addition to this, about 60% of pet owners admit to spending more than \$100 for each

Pet Meds continued, p.31

Care Choice at Atlantic General Hospital





Can you wait 24 hours to see your **OWN** provider?

- Allergic Reactions
- Bug or insect bites
- · Cough, cold or flu
- Ear or sinus infections
- Minor cuts, burns or wounds
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Skin conditions
- Sprains or strains
- High blood pressure or cholesterol
- Diabetes
- Regular health screenings
- Mental health
- Check ups for physical exams

An Atlantic General Health System Provider is AVAILABLE 24/7 for any **URGENT** questions.





Can you wait a few hours for medical care when your OWN provider is **NOT** available (after office hours or weekends)?

- Allergic Reactions
- Bug or insect bites
- Cough, cold or flu
- Ear or sinus infections
- Minor cuts, burns or wounds
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Skin conditions
- Sprains or strains
- Cuts that need stitches

NOTE: Please make sure to follow up immediately with your OWN provider if your medical condition does NOT improve.

Townsend Medical Center 10th Street, Ocean City, MD (410) 289-0065 Memorial Day – Labor Day 8 a.m. – 6 p.m., every day Off Season 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., M - F



SSSS

Do you need medical care NOW?

SERIOUS life- or limbthreatening conditions **REQUIRE** EMERGENT CARE. Call 911 or proceed IMMEDIATELY to the **EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT**

- Chest pain, palpitations
- Shortness of breath
- Signs of STROKE: difficulty speaking, numbness or weakness of limbs
- Coughing or vomiting blood
- UNCONTROLLED bleeding
- SEVERE abdominal pain
- SUDDEN altered mental status OR LOSS of consciousness
- SEVERE burns
- Broken bones or SEVERE traumatic injuries
- Poisoning or overdose
- Mental health emergencies



Call our Physician Referral Line at 410-629-1500 or visit www.agh.care/PCP



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The AGH Associates Campaign Fundraising Committee consists of Atlantic General Hospital and Health System employees who conduct various fundraising activities to support our not-for-profit community hospital.

Each year, the committee is tasked with meeting a financial goal to help the hospital and health system provide the excellent quality care our community depends on. Fundraising efforts by our employees enable Atlantic General to continue to provide that care.

The committee's fundraising efforts include an annual Associates Pledge Drive and a variety of monthly sales (AGH apparel, baked goods, candy, etc.), spirit days, raffles, dine & donate events, and more - conducted by and for our associates!

Funds raised help support Atlantic General Hospital and Health System projects and equipment; recruitment of physicians and other health care providers; and the many free and low-cost programs and services the hospital and health system provides to OUR community such as health fairs, screenings, vaccine clinics, health education, school partnerships, and more!

Thank you to all of the AGH Associates who participated in fundraising efforts which raised more than \$12,000 in support of AGH's programs and services!

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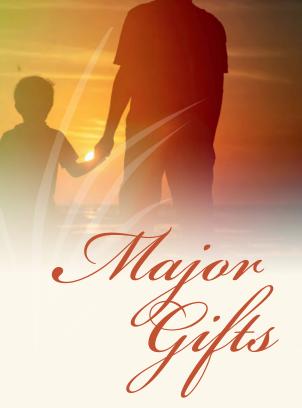
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2022 Anniversary

Celebration

Atlantic General Hospital Foundation was thrilled to be able to hold an in-person Anniversary Celebration this year! The event was held at the beautiful waterfront home of Kevin Myers and his family in Berlin.



A special thank you to Anniversary Celebration Committee Co-Chairs Emily Tunis and Sara Hambury for their tremendous leadership and unwavering commitment to coordinating what proved to be another unforgettable event, celebrating the phenomenal hospital that we, as a community, built 29 years ago.

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Continued on page 29

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Continued from page 27

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With a forecast for rain, overcast skies and air temperature near 60, more than 875 Penguins participated in this year's swim on Saturday, January 1st excited to ring in the New Year by courageously dashing into the freezing Atlantic Ocean in support of our local notfor-profit hospital and health system. The 2022 Penguin Swim raised more than \$103,000, which will enable the Atlantic General Hospital and Health System to strengthen programs, enhance services and medical technologies, attract the best clinical staff, fund renovation projects, and maintain a healing environment in the coming year.

Special thanks to event co-chairs S. Michael Cylc & Ryan Kirby and the many AGH Associates and Community Member Volunteers who helped with this event!

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Team - Celebrity Challenge

- 1. Sally Dowling, MD, with License to Chill (Ocean City, MD), \$3,595
- 2. Mike for Mayor (Westchester, PA), \$450
- 3. Delmarva Aces (Berlin, MD), \$25

Top Fundraisers

Team - Business

- 1. Bull on the Beach (Ocean City, MD), \$20,000*
- 2. OC Wasabi (Ocean City, MD), \$2,000
- 3. The Dispatch (Berlin, MD), \$1,150
- *The Bull on the Beach team has contributed more than \$662,000 to the AGH Penguin Swim since its first year in 1995.

Team – Community Groups

- 1. Ocean City Ravens Roost #44 (Ocean City, MD), \$9,058**
- 2. OPST Hammerheads (Ocean Pines, MD), \$815
- 3. The Atlantic Club (Ocean City, MD), \$400
- **The Ravens Roost team has contributed nearly \$153,000 to the AGH Penguin Swim over the last 13 years.

Team - Youth/Family

- 1. "Believe" (Denver, PA), \$2,295
- 2. Zoo Crew (Breinigsville, PA), \$2,100
- 3. Ice Ice Kirbys (Berlin, MD), \$1,450

- 1. James King (Selbyville, DE), \$1,330
- 2. Michael Nelson (Rosedale, MD), \$1,285
- 3. Ellen Waters (Ocean City, MD), \$1,025

Individual - 18 & Under Division

- 1. Dennis Tice, Jr. (17) (Lusby, MD), \$275
- 2. Leila Attia (13) (Fallston, MD), \$125
- 3. Joel Smith (13) (Elkridge, MD), \$75

Individual Celebrity Challenge

1. Michael Boyle (Ocean Pines, MD), \$100

Special Recognition for ...

- Youngest Penguin: Charlie Draeger (Landsville, PA) - 1 year, 11 months and 3 days old
- Oldest Penguin: June Barnes (Fallston, MD) - 91 years, 4 months and 5 days
- Traveled the Farthest: Karl Perkins from Euless, TX

Costume Contest

Best Youth: Sloan Aye as "Mermaid Princess" - Baltimore, MD

Best Adult: Butch Lorditch as "Genie" (Denver, PA)

Best Couple: Kelli & Matthew Brozena as "Lifeguard & Shark" (Telford, PA)

Best Group: Bridgette Garchella & Family/ Friends as "Kiss Covid Goodbye" (Ocean City, MD)

"BLINGIEST" sponsored by Park Place Jewelers: Lindsey Reed, Reagan Reed, Kate Reed, Layla Hamrock, Brooklyn Paul as "Frosty Friends" (Berlin, MD)

Individual - Adult

29th Annual Penguin Swim

2023 Icy Dip Coming in Hot!

We invite you to join us as we support our community's Healthcare Heroes at the 29th Annual Penguin Swim on New Year's Day, Sunday, January 1, 2023!

Once again, the swim will be held at the Princess Royale Oceanfront Hotel at 91st Street in Ocean City, Maryland.

The Penguin Swim is a fun annual event to support our not-for-profit community hospital! Each year, hundreds of Penguins raise funds to help AGH provide the excellent quality care on which our community depends.

Individual and Team fundraising efforts by Penguin Swim participants enable Atlantic General to continue to provide that care — but they can't do it alone! Business sponsors help make the event a great success, as the Penguin Swim is one of our largest fundraisers in support of AGH's mission to provide a coordinated care system with access to quality care, personalized service and education to improve individual and community health.

Event day check-in and registration runs from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The swim will take place at 12 p.m. on the beach. ALL swimmers MUST register either online or in-person AND checkin to receive a wristband to gain access to the Swim Area!

We offer a special invitation to all participants to come to the advance check-in and registration at the Princess Royale from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on New Year's Eve.

The registration fee is \$25 per swimmer on or befor December 30th. The

registration fee is \$30 per swimmer on December 31st and January 1st. All swimmers who register on or before December 10th will receive an official 2023 Penguin Swim short-sleeve t-shirt. Shirts for swimmers who register after December 10th will be available while supplies last.

Register online at AGHPENGUINSWIM. ORG. If you are a returning Penguin from last year's Penguin Swim, please LOGIN first before signing up for this year's event. Thank you!

Event Schedule

New Year's Eve at The Princess Royale

2 - 4 p.m. - Pre-Registration and Advance Check-in

Avoid long lines at the event! Wristbands and shirts can be picked up early!

New Year's Day at The Princess Royale

 Registration and Check-in 9 a.m. **BEGINS**

11:30 a.m. – Registration and Check-in **ENDS**

12 p.m. – The Swim!

Use #OCPenguinSwim when posting about the Penguin Swim on social media, and make sure your post is PUBLIC so everyone can see it! Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!

Become a Penguin **Swim Sponsor!**

We invite you to become a sponsor of the 29th Annual Penguin Swim. The



Penguin Swim has grown exponentially with 1,000+ participants, and has tremendous reach via social media.

Sponsorship benefits are many! All sponsors are recognized on our event website, AGH's Facebook pages, on a sponsor banner at the event, in all press and social media up to and following the event, and in the annual donor recognition edition of our care.together magazine.

Also, all sponsorships include ads in our Event Program that will be distributed to all participants and spectators.

To learn more about how to become a Penguin Swim sponsor, contact the Foundation office at 410-641-9671 or penguinswim@atlanticgeneral.org. Or visit www.aghpenguinswim.org. All proceeds benefit Atlantic General Hospital Foundation. *AGH* is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization and contributions to the Penguin Swim are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

The upcoming Penguin Swim promises to be filled with fun and excitement! We truly appreciate the generosity of all of our sponsors. With your support, the upcoming Penguin Swim will be a tremendous success!

AGH'S 28[™] ANNUAL FALL

SEPTEMBER 23, 2021



Robert E. Warfield, Sr. May 22, 1940 - January 22, 2016

Ocean City Golf Club - Berlin

The Atlantic General Hospital Foundation is honored to share in recognizing the generous commitment and loyal service of the late Robert E. Warfield, Sr. through the establishment of the Robert E. Warfield Memorial Tournament to benefit Atlantic General Hospital.

An alumnus of Montgomery Blair High School in Silver Spring, MD and Western Maryland College (McDaniel College) in Westminster, "Bob" dedicated his busy life to giving to others in service and in spirit. A veteran of the United States Army, Bob served as a second lieutenant in the Army's 29th Division in Korea before moving to Ocean City and co-founding Moore, Warfield & Glick Realtors.

A Trustee at McDaniel College, Bob and his beloved wife of 47 years, Margaret "Peggy" Warfield, endowed an undergraduate scholarship for students from Worcester County who major in economics or business. An avid

sportsman, Bob also donated a set of tennis courts on the campus and has been an integral member of the AGH Fall Golf Classic Committee since he joined the Foundation's Board of Directors in 1999. A founding member of the hospital's Board of Trustees, former Chairman of the Board of Directors for the AGH Foundation, he was also a member and served on the board of directors for the Ocean City Golf and Yacht Club and on the board of directors for the Maryland Economic Development Corporation and Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund.

A great family man, Bob loved life to the fullest and never passed on the opportunity to help out someone in need. Renowned on the local links, his magnetic personality and community involvement allowed him to touch the lives of many people. Although his generous being will infinitely be missed by all, his legacy will persevere.

to our Tournament Co-Chairs, Steven Sweigert and Daniel Bunting, and to to Buddy Sass and Ocean City Golf Club, and all volunteers who generously gave their time and talents to this worthwhile event.

Legacy Sponsor

The Carousel Group for 22 **Consecutive Years as Title Sponsor**

Eagle Sponsors

AGH Auxiliary American Legion Synepuxent Post #166 **CORE Design Group** The Intermed Group

Eagle Sponsors

Labcorp

Sina Companies

Birdie Sponsors

Dan Ryan Builders

Deeley Insurance Group

M&T Bank

Park Place lewelers

Lunch Sponsor

Ocean 13

Reception Sponsor

Shenanigan's Irish Pub & Grille

Dinner Sponsor

Boxcar40

Medical Staff of AGH

Golf Carts / Greens Fees Sponsor

Ryan Homes

The Warfield Family

Hospitality Cart Sponsor

Quest Diagnostics

Putting Contest Sponsor

Bay Area Receivables, Inc.

Floating Green Contest Sponsor

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Hole-In-One Sponsors

i.g. Burton

Park Place Jewelers

Pohanka of Salisbury

Snowden Lane Partners

Orange Crush Bar Sponsor

Harborside Bar & Grill

TOURNAMENT WINNERS

Top 3 Teams

- 1. Lou Taylor, Buzz Taylor, Dan Parker, Penny Parker
- 2. USI Insurance Services Jim Brannon, Steve Niewinski, Mark Scott, Bryan Shepherd
- 3. i.g. Burton Charlie Burton, Bob Earle, Mike Larking, Danny Michaels

Golden Ball Challenge

Atlantic Orthopaedics - Tom Beck, Munna Garg, Dan Pascucci, Phil Spinuzza

Women's Longest Drive

Penny Parker, Poppy Granite

Men's Longest Drive

Lou Taylor, Brendan Murphy

Men's Closest to the Pin

Taylor Ballard, Richard Silberstein

Putting Contest

Matt Zaleski; Doug Taylor; Brandon Mallon

Floating Green Contest

Bob Yocubik; Bryan Shepherd; Tom Bradshaw; Andrew Wagner; Les Dennis; Dan Pascucci; Joe Sise; Rick Holland

Beverage Sponsor

Coca-Cola Consolidated

Giveaways Sponsors

The Carousel Group

Castle in the Sand / Coconuts

Frost Law, Matthew P.

Kraeuter, Esq.

Deeley Insurance Group

i.g. Burton

Lighthouse Healthcare

Advisors

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Services

Ocean City Elks Lodge #2645

Oracle Healthcare

Voya Financial

Team Sponsors

AThe Adkins Company

Advizex Technologies

Allen + Shariff Corporation

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Post 166

Atlantic Dental Cosmetic &

Family Dentistry

Atlantic Orthopaedics, P.A.

Ayres, Jenkins, Gordy &

Almand, P.A.

Bank of America Merrill Lynch

The Bank of Delmarva

Bank of Ocean City

Bradshaw's Drywall

Bunting Construction

The Carousel Group

Castle in the Sand

Charles T. Capute LLC

CORE Design Group

Dan Ryan Homes

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Delmarva Physical Therapy

Lester Dennis

Dough Roller Restaurants

D.R. Horton

Forever Media

The Freedom Center - Abba

Bonds

Frost Law, Matthew P.

Kraeuter, Esq.

Home Instead

Hospital Support Services, Inc.

i.g. Burton

The Intermed Group

Labcorp

Continued on page 34

The 2021 Robert E. Warfield Memorial Tournament rank You!

Continued from page 33

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M&T Bank

Mann Properties Marshall Hotels & Resorts

Nickle Electrical Companies

Ocean 13

Ocean Downs Casino

Oracle Healthcare

Park Place Jewelers

Peninsula Imaging

Pohanka of Salisbury

Quest Diagnostics

RCM&D / SISCO

Royal Plus, Inc.

Shenanigan's Irish Pub & Grille

Shore United Bank

SIG

Sina Companies

Taylor Bank

Tecta America East, LLC

The Kite Loft

The Real McCoy Group

Coldwell Banker Realty

TidalHealth

UKG

USI Insurance Services

Value Carpet One

Voya Financial

Dr. Stephen & Ellen Waters

Willow Construction LLC

Tee Sponsors

Allen + Shariff Corporation

Atlantic Dental Cosmetic & Family

Dentistry

Bank of Ocean City

Tee Sponsors, cont.

Bayside Skillet

Beacon Executive Services

The Berlin Sconer

CG Accounting Group

Charles T. Capute LLC

Christine Glick in memory of Hal

Glick

Christopher D. Hoen, CRPC,

Ameriprise Financial

Claudia Nicholls - State Farm

The Dispatch

Sally H. Dowling, M.D.

Frankford Custom Woodworks

Gismondi Insurance Associates

George & Emily Tunis - Hardwire

Home Instead

Kelly Foods / Bil-Jac

Long Life Treated Wood, Inc.

Marshall Hotels & Resorts

McAllister, Detar, Showalter &

Walker LLC

Neff & Associates

Nickle Electrical Companies

Old Dominion Investment Corp -

Max Hutsell

Peter Buas for Ocean City Council

Senator Mary Beth Carozza

Steve Morgan Real Estate

Taylor Bank

The Hobbit Restaurant

The Real McCoy Group

Coldwell Banker Realty

Vova Financial

Wilmington University

TOURNAMENT AWARDS & PRIZE DONORS

99 Sea Level

Blue Water Development Corp.

Courtyard by Marriott

Delmarva Shorebirds

Eagle's Landing Golf Course

Effectv

Fast Eddie's

Grand Hotel & Spa

Harpoon Hanna's

Higgins Crab House

Montego Bay True Value

Nutters Crossing Golf Club

Ocean City Golf Club

Ocean Resorts Golf Club

Paul Williams Inc.

Pines Public House

Rommel's Ace Home Center

Ruark Golf Properties

Ruddo's Golf

Salted Vines Winery

Sea Level Designs

Splash Mountain Water Park

The Hobbit Restaurant

The Peninsula Golf & Country Club

Thrasher's French Fries

Under Armour

West-O Bottle Shop & Bar





The Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore – \$5,000 to support training of Forensic Nurse Examiners for Atlantic General Hospital's Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) Nurses Program.

FCC Connected Care Pilot Program – \$1,960,950 in partnership with Kennedy Krieger Children's Hospital to provide video consults and remote patient monitoring to low-income patients suffering from chronic health conditions and mental health concerns. Atlantic General Hospital will provide patient referrals for the program.

FEMA's Nonprofit Security Grant Program - \$150,000 to support upgrading security system software and cameras.

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene – \$371,637 in partnership with Local Behavioral Health Authority to support crisis peer expansion.

Maryland Community Health Resources Commission's Pathways for Health Equity – \$1,100,000 in partnership with Tidal Health to support the Rural Equity and Access to Community Health (REACH) Program.

Maryland Department of Health's Small Rural Pharmacy **Grants Program** – \$17,185 to support AGH RediScripts Pharmacy.

Maryland's National Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness **Program** – \$25,000 to support response planning and training.

Small Rural Hospital Improvement Grant Program – \$12,836 to support activities that improve data collection to facilitate quality reporting and improvement.

State of Maryland Grant to Support Hospital COVID-19 **Activities** – \$188,209 to assist in efforts to address urgent needs for more staffing, supplies, and COVID-19 testing and therapeutics.

State of Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and **Prevention Violence Against Women Formula Grant** – \$18,000 to support Atlantic General Hospital's Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) Nurses Program.

In Memory of Bennett Bosman Elizabeth and Clayton Warrington

In Memory of WJ Cunningham Karen Furda

In Memory of Christine Cropper Rayne

Leslie and Raymond Coates Rita and Howard Taylor

In Memory of Ann Carolyn Struble

Ronald Cline Chris Lev Ronald Lebedz Sandra Peck

In Memory of Chuck Webb

Lisa Stashak & Jeffrey Cynwinski

In Memory of John Staton Whaley, Jr.

ributes

Joan W. Jenkins Foundation, Inc. Jane and William Bunting Hugh and Susan Cropper Allen Curtis William and Gloria Esham

Elizabeth B. Ludlam Daniel and Mary Moore Raymond Nichols and Carole McNew Mitchell and Nancy Parker Wm. Timothy Rayne Jr. Kimberly and Gary Richins Janet Trimper Elizabeth Walker

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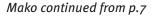
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FY22 GRATEFUL PATIENTS

Hongr A aregiven

Edwin Bollack Jeanne Butcher Ronald Cline Nancy and John Engquist in honor of Mary Mullins Mildred and Jacob Gatrell in honor of Dr. Castaneda Wayne Grossman

Laura and Neil Haimm in honor of Dr. Jonathan Bell Stephen W. Kolarik Sandra Peck William R. Reise James and Diane Skolka Alfred Stabile Victoria Weddle



the joint. The Mako system, which analyzes a CT image of the knee so the surgeon can create a computeraided guide for the cutting tool, allows the surgeon to preserve as much bone as possible while reducing trauma to the surrounding soft tissues.

Less than two weeks after surgery, David went from sitting in a wheelchair to climbing onto his riding lawnmower to mow the grass for the first time this year. He credits Dr. Hooker and the new Mako system for his rapid recovery as well as his dedication to his physical therapy exercises and

determination to get back to normal life.

Despite what's still ahead his left shoulder replacement is scheduled for December with the left knee to follow, a huge weight has been lifted for David. Depression had been plaguing him as much as the pain.

"I have a reason to get out of bed now. I can walk to the bathroom easily, I can stand up and shave. You take these simple things for granted until you can't do them anymore."

For more information and videos about how Mako improves the joint replacement process, visit www.agh.care/mako.



VISION

To be the leader in caring for people and advancing health for the residents of and visitors to our community.

MISSION

To provide a coordinated care systemwith access to quality care, personalized service and education to create a healthy community.

VALUES

We become the leaders in caring through these values:

Compassion

Accountability

Respect

Error-Free

OUALITY STATEMENT

We deliver care that is accessible, safe, appropriate, coordinated, effective, and centered on the needs of individuals within a system that demonstrates continual improvement.

SAFETY

We are committed to Zero Harm for our patients, providers, care givers, and associates.

PATIENT EXPERIENCE

Welcoming

Outstanding

Warm

We communicate with and treat our patients as loved ones.

ETHICAL COMMITMENT

To conduct ourselves in an ethical manner that emphasizes community service and justifies the public trust.

> Thank you for helping us carry out our vision, mission, and values.



Pet Meds continued from p.15

of their pet's medications. To help fill this gap in care, AGRx Rediscripts Pharmacy created a formulary of veterinary medications, as well as over-the-counter supplies, at prices comparable to competitors. Our current formularly contains medications available for both cats and dogs.

Each of our full-time AGRx Rediscripts Pharmacists completed a Veterinary Medicine Certificate through PowerPak CE and obtained access to a gold standard reference for veterinary medicine in order to provide the best care to our pet patients. All staff have been trained to ensure that each pet medication is dispensed in a safe and effective manner that is in compliance with all of our policies and procedures.

Our staff at the AGRx Rediscripts Pharmacy is eager to help care for the needs of your veterinary companions, and we are willing to navigate any requirements necessary to help fill needed prescriptions for our fourlegged friends.

If you have any questions or would like to know more about our pet medicine formulary, or even how AGRx Rediscripts Pharmacy is now suited to meet the needs of your entire family, please give us a call at 410-641-9240 or email rediscripts@atlanticgeneral.org.



We value the opinions of our patients and their families. If you have a positive experience, we would love to share kudos with our associates, volunteers and medical staff. On the other hand, if your experience with us is less than excellent, please share it with us too, so we can improve how we provide care.

We strive every day to bring you the best care possible. There are several ways you can share your opinions with us to help us in our mission:

Fill out and return surveys you receive in the mail.

An agency conducts surveys on our behalf to collect important information about our patients' experiences. All survey responses are confidential, so please share your honest observations.

Fill out a comment card.

These are available in every hospital department and physician office of Atlantic General Health System. Just hand in the completed survey to any associate.

Send us an email.

Drop us a line at **pr@atlanticgeneral.org**. We'll respond to your comment or question within 72 hours.

Write or call.

Letters can be sent to: Atlantic General Hospital, Patient and Family Relations, 9733 Healthway Drive, Berlin, MD 21811.

Or, call our Patient and Family Relations Representatives at 410-629-1500.

Consider giving to our *Grateful Patient Program*.

If you've had a particularly positive experience at AGH, this is a wonderful way to honor a caregiver while sustaining quality healthcare for our communities. More information and details about this program can be found at www.agh.care/ honoracaregiver.





9733 Healthway Drive Berlin, MD 21811

Friends and Neighbors of Atlantic General Hospital

care.together

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Physician Referral Line (410) 641-1100 (877) 641-4244

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