

JUNE 2024

## MONTEFIORE EINSTEIN COMPREHENSIVE ORTHOPEDIC AND SPINE CENTER NOW OPEN

*Montefiore Nyack Hospital hosted a dedication ceremony for the grand opening of this Center of Excellence in West Nyack.*

Montefiore Einstein Comprehensive Orthopedic and Spine Center has

opened its new multi-specialty, outpatient facility at 3 Centerock Road in West Nyack, N.Y. The opening was celebrated on June 11, 2024, with a dedication ceremony that included remarks by **Philip Ozuah, MD, PhD**, President and

CEO of Montefiore Einstein; **Mark Geller, MD, FACR**, President and CEO of Montefiore Nyack Hospital; **Neil Cobelli, MD**, Chairman Orthopedic Surgery of Montefiore Einstein; **Jason Fond, MD**, Director of Orthopedic Surgery at Montefiore Nyack Hospital and **Scott Edelman, MBA, CPA, CFE**, Executive Director, Burke Rehabilitation Hospital.

This two-story, 60,000-square-foot building offers integrated comprehensive orthopedic medical and surgical care, advanced orthopedic and spine imaging, spinal interventions and expert physical rehabilitation services from academic experts at Montefiore Einstein Orthopedic and Spine Surgeons, Montefiore Nyack Hospital and Burke Rehabilitation Hospital. The Center is home to the largest orthopedic physician practice in Rockland County and one of the largest in the Hudson Valley region.

**Congressman Mike Lawler, of New York's 17th Congressional District**, and **Ed Day, County Executive of Rockland County**, attended the event, issuing proclamations declaring June 11, 2024, as Montefiore Einstein Comprehensive Orthopedic and Spine Center Day in Rockland County. **George Hoehmann, Town Supervisor of Clarkstown**, recognized the West Nyack-based Center's impact and availability of services to both the local community and the larger Hudson Valley area.

This new Center of Excellence promises to bring unparalleled orthopedic care to Rockland County! Learn more at [montefiorennyack.org/orthopedic-spine](https://montefiorennyack.org/orthopedic-spine).



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## EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the employees who are celebrating a milestone work anniversary. We thank them for their years of service.

### 5 YEARS

Ana Margarita Artieda  
Angela Bernal Paguay  
Aneisha Christie  
Sarah McGwyne  
Yandira Melon  
Allen Nettleton  
Mira Zymet

### 10 YEARS

Jincy George

### 15 YEARS

Osmond Mullings  
Ricardo Roman

### 20 YEARS

Natalia Platon

### 25 YEARS

Christine Rodney  
Venus Rulona  
Sharon Simmonds

### 30 YEARS

Patricia Flynn

### 40 YEARS

Marie Fortune  
Kay Murray

- **Nicole Felix**, RN, Recovery Center - Detox
- **Angela Garcia**, Surgical Technician, Labor & Delivery
- **Tiffany Gebhard**, RN, Medical ICU
- **Rico-Gaye Grant**, Patient Access Coordinator
- **Anya Hiss**, RN, 4 Doctors
- **John Huebner**, Administrative Associate, 4 Doctors
- **Nathalie Jeremie**, Environmental Services Aide
- **Katelyn Mastin**, RN, Pediatrics
- **Elizabeth McKenna**, RN, 6 Doctors
- **Ivan Mejia**, Histology Technician, Laboratory – Pathology
- **James Milien**, MRI Technologist, MRI
- **Kimberly Morales**, Patient Access Coordinator
- **Sendy Morette**, PCA, 5 Doctors
- **Kevin O'Neill**, Administrative Nursing Supervisor, Nursing Administration
- **Ashley Ortiz**, Medical Office Assistant, West Nyack Ambulatory Surgery Center
- **Eric Padua**, Ambulatory Scrub Tech, West Nyack Ambulatory Surgery Center
- **Francisco Quiroz**, Security Officer, Safety & Security
- **Annalee Reid**, Midwife, Prenatal Center
- **David Ryerson**, PCA, 5 Doctors
- **Brian Sanchez**, Patient Access Coordinator
- **Kristina Sanchez**, Clinical RN Coordinator, Hematology Oncology Center
- **Sarah Sarfati**, RN, Emergency Department
- **Roque Taveras**, MRI Receptionist, MRI
- **Charles Tejada**, Nurse Manager, Emergency Department
- **Janine Traikoff**, Wound Ostomy Continence Nurse, Float
- **Alexander Viggiano**, RN, Emergency Department
- **Theodora Yeboah**, PCA, 5 Doctors

## WELCOME NEW EMPLOYEES!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest employees.

- **Sarah Bellew**, RN, Emergency Department
- **Brianna Bertolino**, PCA, Float
- **Mark Burgess**, RN, Behavioral Health
- **Jimmy Camay**, Environmental Services Aide
- **Denisha Campbell**, Behavioral Health Counselor, Behavioral Health
- **Jennifer Cassidy**, RN, Home Care
- **Korally Cepero**, RN, Labor & Delivery
- **Olivia Ciastoch**, Ambulatory Circulator, West Nyack Ambulatory Surgery Center
- **Marie Dely**, RN, Emergency Department
- **Shayenne Destin**, Psychiatric Assessment and Referral Specialist, Behavioral Health
- **Annaica Domercant**, RN, Labor & Delivery
- **Galilea Estrella Rosario**, Clerical Coordinator, Prenatal Center
- **Shannon Flynn**, Patient Safety Attendant, Float

## IN MEMORIAM



We are sad to announce the passing of **Levi Burnett, retired Chef and Cook**, who worked in the Food and Nutrition Services Department for an astounding 60+ years before his retirement in 2021. Levi will forever remain in the hearts of

those he touched here with his bright smile, warm demeanor and super-secret fried chicken recipe.

Levi is survived by his wife Jacqueline and his children, Anthony, Jarrett, Sharon and Tia (Rick). He was predeceased by his son Clifton and siblings: Roosevelt, Shirley, Evenly, Joe, Norman and Annie Mae. He will be deeply missed by his extended family and many friends. A celebration of life service was held for Levi on June 14th at St. John's Deliverance Tabernacle Church in Nyack. And what a life it was! We will remember him for his decades of dedication and hospitality! Rest in peace, Levi.

## IN REMEMBRANCE



On June 12<sup>th</sup>, a plaque dedication ceremony was held in memory of **Richard "Dick" Kohlhausen**, former Chairman Emeritus of the Montefiore Nyack Hospital Board of Trustees, in the main lobby.

Mr. Kohlhausen passed away on January 23,

2024, at the age of 78. He joined the Hospital's Board of Trustees in 2007, where he brought an immeasurable wealth of experience and expertise to Montefiore Nyack Hospital.

His memorial plaque is located across from the Visitors' elevators on the ground floor near the Gift Shop for high visibility. Mr. Kohlhausen regularly rounded throughout the hospital at all hours of the day, so it is only fitting that his plaque be equally visible so his good deeds and outstanding leadership can serve as inspiration for us all.

## STAFF PROMOTIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Congratulations to **Roberto Perez, Security Supervisor**, who was recognized for **"Excellence in Service"** by Nursing. On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, a Rapid Response Team was called to the Hospital's parking lot. Roberto was making rounds outside of the Hospital when a woman pulled up beside him in her car and asked for help. She informed him that she was having difficulty breathing. The patient had been stung by a bee and anaphylaxis was imminent. Roberto immediately called a Rapid Response code to assist the patient. Roberto's quick thinking and action saved this woman's life. Without him, she would not have made it to the ER for treatment. Roberto was recognized for his heroism with an On-the-Spot Award as part of the Hospital's **Rewards & Recognition Program**.

**Congratulations to the following employees who were recently promoted to new positions or retired after years of dedicated service to Montefiore Nyack Hospital:**

**Tyra Moses, RN** was promoted from Patient Care Associate to Registered Nurse.

**Claudia Rhanes, RN** was promoted from Registered Nurse to Nurse Practitioner.

**Brian Latimer, RN** was promoted from Registered Nurse to Assistant Nurse Manager of the Emergency Department.

Congratulations to our newest retirees: **Lissy Mathew, Registered Nurse**, who retired after nearly 16.5 years of caring for patients; and **Denise Roma, MS, RDN, CDN, CDCES**, Community Health/Diabetes Educator, who retired after 14 years of service in the Community Health & Wellness Department.

## FOUNDATION NEWS

**The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW),** Rockland Section in Nyack, generously donated items for our Patient Closet.

The Hospital's Patient Closet is in urgent need of new sweatpants, sweatshirts, tee shirts, undergarments, socks, phone chargers, hearing aid batteries and puzzle books. All items must be brand new. New items with tags and gift cards are being accepted by the Montefiore Nyack Hospital Foundation.



*Pictured from left to right - Dr. Anthony Matejicka, VP, Chief Medical Officer, Helen Hayes-Perkins, Director of Volunteer Services, Joan Birnbaum, NCJW, Dr. Mark Geller, President & CEO, and Paul Adler, Foundation Board Chair.*

## MEN'S HEALTH

Men's Health Month is a great time to get a checkup. Many major health problems common in men can be prevented through lifestyle changes, early detection, and treatment. Doctor visits commonly include tests for the following conditions:

- **High blood pressure.**
- **High cholesterol.** Routine cholesterol screening every five years is recommended for all men 35 and up with no known risk factors for heart disease. More often if you have diabetes, heart disease, kidney problems or certain other conditions.
- **Diabetes.** All adults who do not have risk factors for diabetes should be screened starting at age 35 and repeated every 3 years. If you have other risk factors for diabetes, such as a parent, sibling or child with diabetes, overweight or obesity, high blood pressure, prediabetes, or a history of heart disease, you may be tested more often.
- **Colorectal cancer.** Beginning at age 45, earlier if there is a family history of the disease or polyps. Screening may also be considered if you have risk factors such as a history of inflammatory bowel disease or polyps.

- **Prostate cancer.** Starting at age 50, men should talk to a healthcare provider about the pros and cons of prostate cancer testing so they can decide if testing is the right choice for them. If you are African American or have a father or brother who had prostate cancer before age 65, you should have this talk with a healthcare provider starting at age 45.
- **Lung cancer.** Smokers or former smokers ages 55 to 74 should ask their doctor whether they are candidates for lung cancer screening.

*If you or a loved one need confidential counseling about health concerns, contact the EAP at **845-638-8880** or email us at [EAP@montefiorenyack.org](mailto:EAP@montefiorenyack.org).*





## PRIDE MONTH

In 1994, a coalition of education-based organizations in the United States designated June as LGBTQ+ Pride Month to commemorate the anniversary of the Stonewall uprising and riots, which occurred in New York City's Greenwich Village on June 28, 1969.

LGBTQ+ Pride Month reflects a positive stance against discrimination and violence toward the LGBTQ+ community and promotes self-affirmation, dignity, equality and rights of LGBTQ+ persons while celebrating sexual diversity and gender variance.

The purpose of this commemorative month is to recognize the impact that LGBTQ+ individuals have had on history locally, nationally and internationally. Many pride events and celebrations were held, including pride parades, picnics, parties, workshops, symposia and concerts, to recognize the impact LGBTQ+ people have had in the world. Memorials were also held during this month for those members of the community who have been lost to hate crimes or HIV/AIDS.

On June 9th, medical professionals from Montefiore Nyack's Jacobs Family Pride Wellness Center showed up to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Rockland County Pride Parade and Street Festival in Nyack.

*If you are interested in learning more about the affirming and confidential medical care that focuses on the needs of the LGBTQ+ community, visit [montefiorenyack.org/pridewellnesscenter](https://montefiorenyack.org/pridewellnesscenter) or call 845-348-7284 to make an appointment. For confidential counseling, contact the EAP at **845-638-8880** or email us at [EAP@montefiorenyack.org](mailto:EAP@montefiorenyack.org).*



## OBSERVING JUNETEENTH

**Montefiore Health System is proud to be the first major health system in New York State to observe Juneteenth.** Short for "June Nineteenth," the day marks when federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas in 1865 to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people be freed. The troops' arrival came a full two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. On June 17, 2021, Juneteenth officially became a federal holiday and is a day to honor the end of slavery in the United States.



**Free Breast Cancer Screenings**  
for Uninsured, Eligible Participants\*

**Friday, July 19, 2024 | 8:00 am – 3:30 pm**

- Mammograms and Clinical Exams
- Women ages 40 and up
- Resident of Rockland, Orange, Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess, Ulster Counties in NY

**For eligibility and registration call 845-348-8511**  
\*eligibility determined by NYS Cancer Services Program

Hudson Valley Region  
**Cancer Services Program**  
Your partner for cancer screening, support and information

**THE BREAST CENTER**  
AT MONTEFIORE NYACK HOSPITAL

## SAVE THE DATES

**Mary's Garden**

**Closed Until Further Notice**

**Transamerica Retirement Session (Virtual only)**

**Tuesday, July 9, 2024**

**8 AM to 4 PM**

Transamerica is currently handling retirement education via phone appointments only. To schedule a one-on-one virtual consultation, please call 319-355-3534. You can also click on [MAKE AN APPOINTMENT](#) to register for an appointment. As a reminder, you can always access your Transamerica retirement plan account online at [www.transamerica.com](http://www.transamerica.com).

**Blood Drive at Montefiore Nyack Hospital**

**Thursday, August 1, 2024**

**1 PM to 7 PM**

To prevent a critical blood supply shortage in the summer, The New York Blood Center's Bloodmobile will be in the Physician's Lot hosting a blood drive. Appointments are encouraged, but walk-ins are welcome. You must be in good health and weigh at least 110 lbs. Please note an automated red cell takes a bit longer and has additional eligibility requirements. If you are not sure if you qualify, schedule a whole blood appointment, and ask our staff when you arrive if you qualify for an auto-red procedure. Visit [Donor Portal - New York Blood Center \(nybc.org\)](#) to register online.

## ANNUAL EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS

For those employees who celebrated a milestone anniversary in **2023** (10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 and 50 years of service), the **Employee Service Awards** will be held in the Cafeteria Conference Room on **Thursday, September 19, 2024**.

More information to follow on this annual event. Eligible employees will be notified the end of July via invitation. Should you have any questions, please contact Linda Taff in Human Resources at ext. 2151 or [ltaff@montefiorenyack.org](mailto:ltaff@montefiorenyack.org).

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Rides & Strides**

**Saturday, October 26, 2024**

**Rockland Lake State Park, Congers, NY**

**9 AM start time**

**Check-in: 8:30 to 9:45 AM**

Rides & Strides is a fundraising event hosted by the Montefiore Nyack Hospital Foundation. Proceeds raised will benefit The Breast Center at Montefiore Nyack Hospital's efforts to ensure that individuals who are under-insured, uninsured or medically underserved can receive vital cancer screening services they need on an annual basis. For more information, call 845-348-2770 or register online at [Rides & Strides 2024 - Campaign \(montefiorenyackfoundation.org\)](#).



**3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL RIDES & STRIDES**

**Saturday, October 26, 2024**  
**Rockland Lake State Park**  
**Congers, NY** NEW LOCATION!

HOSTED BY **Montefiore | Nyack**  
**FOUNDATION**

**CHOOSE YOUR ROUTE**  
 5K Timed Run | 5K Family Walk | Family-Friendly Bike Ride | Kids Fun Run

Celebrating three years in making a difference in the lives of our patients at the **Breast Center at Montefiore Nyack Hospital**. Join us for an inspirational day for all ages with live entertainment, kids activities, complimentary refreshments, awards and much more.


**Rain or Shine!**

## MILE MARKER SIGNS \$100


Honor or recognize a loved one in memory with a sign placed throughout the route.

**FREE SWAG BAG GIVEN OUT AT THE EVENT WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!**


Visit [montefiorenyackfoundation.org](http://montefiorenyackfoundation.org) or for more information email [mnh-foundation@montefiorenyack.org](mailto:mnh-foundation@montefiorenyack.org) or call (845) 348-2770.



SCAN THE QR CODE! Register



Fundraise



Start or Join a Team!

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Montefiore | Nyack