

# Monitor

GNGH  
FOUNDATION

News on how your generous contributions are improving patient care at the Greater Niagara General Site

## We are in the Home Stretch!!!

### Niagara Falls Dialysis Satellite

"I am pleased to announce to the residents and families of Niagara Falls and vicinity that at long last we are in the home stretch!" states Jane Cornelius, Interim Director, Health Programs "by September 2012, hemodialysis services will be available in Niagara Falls". This will mean the burden of traveling to St. Catharines or Welland for dialysis treatment will be no longer be necessary for the majority of our patients living in the Niagara Falls vicinity.

The 16,000 square foot Satellite will be located in downtown Niagara Falls right next to City Hall. In 12 months, this area will be transformed into a 21 station hemodialysis location. Approximately 20 staff will provide care in three shifts for patients, meaning 63 patients can receive dialysis each day.

The Niagara Falls Dialysis Satellite will be an extension of the Hospital in the community. The landlord has been very accommodating of our needs, such as designated parking close to the building for our patients and a new elevator to serve the dialysis centre. There is also good public transportation access. This location is going to be more convenient for patients to navigate than going to the Hospital.

cont'd on pg 3



RN Maria Rickman checks the dialysis machine for patient Riley Gaultieri at Welland Hospital Auxiliary Dialysis Centre, which opened in 2008

## GNGH Foundation has changed their look.

Above is our brand new logo! The old logo was designed back in the 80's and we felt it was time to modernise our look. We hope you like it.

While we are modernising, we also have a brand new website, and you can follow us on Facebook and Twitter as well.

Go to our website [www.gnghfoundation.com](http://www.gnghfoundation.com) to stay up to date on what is happening.

Log on to [www.facebook.com/GreaterNiagaraGeneralHospitalFoundation](http://www.facebook.com/GreaterNiagaraGeneralHospitalFoundation) And [www.twitter.com/gnghfoundation](http://www.twitter.com/gnghfoundation)

## #1 Priority Cardiac Monitoring System



**Cost: \$100,000**

**Greater Niagara General Hospital Foundation 2011/12 Annual**

### Equipment Needs Campaign

This year the total needed to purchase new and replacement equipment is \$6,144,235.00

Moving to a new and improved monitoring system will be a dream come true for clinicians in the Intensive Care and Stepdown Units at the Greater Niagara General Site. With a new system in place, the staff can take advantage of monitoring capability that allows patients more mobility through the use of wireless units.

The Cardiac Monitoring System wirelessly transmits and records cardiac activity in patients suffering from chest pains, shortness of breath, or other indicators of heart problems. This new system makes the data immediately available to the doctors, nurses and care givers. Patients can be monitored from a nurse's station during transport if necessary.

Improving care for our patients is the most important thing. You can help by making your "Gift for Today."

**Please watch the mail this fall for your chance to make your "Gift for Today"**

## Honoring Commitment to Nursing

The Helen Martindale Ferguson Annual Education Award winner for 2011 is Danielle Ricketson. Danielle is a registered nurse practicing on Unit C, and she is currently pursuing a Master of Nursing Degree from Memorial University. Congratulations Danielle!



In photo: (l-r) Tracey Davey, Health Program Director, Quality & Education, Danielle Ricketson, R.N., Pam Ferguson, Carol Maidens, GNGH Foundation Chair, Lisa Belford, Manager Clinical Services Unit C & D

The annual award is designed to provide funding support for continuing staff education for Registered Nurses at the Greater Niagara General Site in order to enhance their ability to provide comprehensive, holistic, quality care to patients and their families.

The award was created by Helen's family to honour her life and commitment to nursing.

(Visit our website [www.gnghfoundation.com](http://www.gnghfoundation.com) for the story on Helen in our Spring 2011 edition)

## Minor Procedure Rooms Officially Opened at GNGH – July 6, 2011

On July 6th the "Minor Procedure Rooms" officially opened at the Greater Niagara General site. The rooms are located in a wing of the Ambulatory Care Unit and are designed to enhance the patient experience and make the most efficient use of hospital resources.

Dr. Ian Brown and Patty Welychka, R.N. - Health Program Director Perioperative Services for the NHS, described the advantages for patients being treated in this area as follows:

- Our patients will spend less time (usually 1 to 1½ hours) in a hospital setting as opposed to having the procedure done in a day surgery setting which requires a much longer visit and ties up operating room resources [cont'd on pg 3](#)



In photo: (l-r) Tammy Martin, Dr. Ian Brown, Pat Garrow (RN)

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### Correction – from our Spring 2011 issue

We would like to apologize to the organizers, of the Al Reid Memorial Hockey Tournament, Doug Aitchison, Jim Sparkman, Winston Auld. A yearly hockey tournament is held to honour the memory of Al Reid with proceeds donated to GNGH Foundation. Thanks for your continued support.



## Message from the New Chair

It is both a privilege and an honour to serve as chairperson of the GNGH Foundation. I am extremely fortunate to be part of a board with members whom I have the utmost respect for as leaders in our community. These are individuals who believe in the value of the foundation as a vehicle to raise money to support the equipment needs of the GNGH. Equipment costs are not funded through the Ministry of Health which makes the role of the Foundation that much more important in our community if we want to have up to date medical equipment available at our hospital.

A strong hospital is vital for the well being of any community. When you and members of your family require hospital care it is important to know that we have a hospital with up to date equipment to assist the medical staff in providing the best possible care for our residents of Niagara Falls.

Despite some recent challenges to our health care system, the GNGH Foundation continues to work hard to raise funds so that our Hospital has the necessary equipment which will enable us to provide a level of care people have come to expect. We view the Minister of Health's announcement to appoint a supervisor at the Niagara Health System as a positive opportunity to strengthen the work of the Foundation.

On behalf of the Foundation, I would like to extend our thanks to you for believing, supporting and standing up for our hospital's equipment needs through your generous donations of your resources. If it was not for your kind acts of generosity we would not have a place to go to when we or our loved ones are ill. I encourage you to continue to choose the GNGH Foundation as one of your charities of choice.

Looking forward to a terrific year.

Most Sincerely  
Ruth-Ann

## GNGH Foundation Welcomes New Board Members



Richard N. Chehowski – C.A., B.A

Rich is a partner with Durward Jones Barkwell & Company LLP working out of their Niagara Falls offices. He received his Chartered Accountant designation in 1982 and holds memberships with the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario.

Rich has an extensive history of public service and volunteerism including time spent as a Director with: St. Catharines Chamber of Commerce, Tender Wishes Foundation, Big Brothers of South Niagara, Crimestoppers of Niagara, Niagara District Chartered Accountants Association and the St. Catharines YMCA. He has been a director and coach for several basketball organizations.

He is a current member of the Rotary Club of Niagara Falls Sunrise and the Canadian Italian Business and Professional Association.

Mr. Chehowski is a lifelong resident of the Niagara Region and currently resides with his wife, Nancy, in Fonthill.



Larry R. Vaughan – C.E.T.

Larry currently works in his family's business as Vice President Ground Aerial Maintenance Services Ltd. (GAMS). A graduate of Niagara College with a Diploma in Electrical Power Engineering Technology, he is also certified by the Ontario Association of Certified Engineers Technicians and Technologists.

Larry has always believed in giving back to the community and has served with numerous organizations including: Niagara Falls Big Brothers Big Sisters, Niagara Falls International Marathon, Terry Fox Run and the Canadian Standards Association promoting workplace safety and worker advancement. Larry is a member and Past-Chair of the Niagara Falls Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Vaughan was invited into the Knightly Order of St. George and was knighted in a ceremony in Ottawa in June 2011. Larry was born and raised in Niagara Falls and continues to live here with his two sons.



## Returning Board Member

GNGH Foundation welcomes back Ms. Laura Menechella as a Board Member.

A former teacher, educated in Canada and the United States, Ms. Menechella, joined the family business in 1997 when her father, Cosmo Menechella opened the Niagara Falls Marriott Fallsview hotel.

Laura was awarded the 2007 Women in Business Award which honours the achievements of Niagara business women who not only succeed professionally but also contribute to the betterment of their community.

In addition to her professional achievements, Ms. Menechella has been involved in several community-based groups and causes. Niagara Falls Tourism, Niagara Falls Chamber of Commerce and the Board of Governors of Niagara College.

The mother of three has also given her time and effort to support a number of local charities including the United Way, Project SHARE, Hospice Niagara, the Boys and Girls Club of Niagara and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Niagara Falls.

Ms. Menechella's steadfast commitment to our community through her business practices, philanthropy and volunteerism has touched the lives of thousands of Niagara's citizens.

Welcome back Laura.

## Carol Mae Maidens will continue to serve our Hospital

The Board members and staff of the GNGHF want to acknowledge the tireless efforts of Carol (our out-going Board Chair) on behalf of the residents of Niagara Falls. Carol's energy, dedication and advocacy on behalf of the GNGHF have allowed us to continue our success in fundraising for the equipment needs of our Hospital. She has been an inspiration to all of those involved with the Foundation as she has battled with her own health care problems while never once flagging in her efforts on our behalf.

Carol – Thank You!



## Retiring Board Members

A number of our valued members of the GNGH Foundation Board of Directors completed their terms of office in June 2011. Our thanks and appreciation goes out to:



Joyce Morocco

Joyce has served as a Board member of the GNGHF for nine years. During this time she has held the position of Board Chair and also Co-Chaired the team of volunteers raising funds for the It's Our Time Campaign bringing needed improvements to the GNGH along with new facilities for cardiac and cancer care services in our region.



John Beyer

John joined the Board of Directors for the GNGHF in 2002 and has completed three full terms. John has served as Chair of the Board of Directors of the GNGHF and, along with Joyce, Co-Chaired the It's Our Time Campaign division for Niagara Falls.



Ray Casey

Ray has completed his first 3-year term as a member of the Board of Directors of the GNGHF. Ray played a key role in the design and procurement of the donor recognition display located in the main lobby of the GNGH. In addition Ray was the driving force behind an annual fashion show held at the Fallsview Casino in support of the GNGHF.

Thanks Joyce, John and Ray – your dedication and commitment to the work of the Foundation and the provision of health care for our community is truly appreciated.

### Greater Niagara General Hospital Foundation BOARD OF DIRECTORS June 2011 – June 2012

#### EXECUTIVE

**Ruth Ann Nieuwesteeg**  
CHAIR  
OWNER, PATTERSON FUNERAL HOME

**Joe Maggiolo**  
VICE CHAIR  
STAFF SERGEANT, NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE

**Dalton Lindsay**  
SECRETARY TREASURER  
CIBC (RETIRED)

**Carol Maidens**  
PAST CHAIR OF THE BOARD  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF NIAGARA (RETIRED)

**Michael Somerville**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GNGH FOUNDATION

#### DIRECTORS

**Richard Chehowski**  
PARTNER-DURWARD JONES BARKWELL, LLP

**Peter Conradi**  
VICE PRESIDENT OF LINE 2 REVENUE SYSTEMS

**Dr. Drew Girard**  
PHYSICIAN – GNG

**John Hopkins**  
LAWYER, BRODERICK & PARTNERS

**Laura Menechella**  
COO, NIAGARA 21ST GROUP

**Kerry Painter**  
PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER  
SCOTIABANK CONVENTION & CIVIC CENTRE

**David Thorpe**  
BRANCH MANAGER SCOTIABANK

**Larry Vaughan**  
VICE PRESIDENT, GROUND AERIAL MAINTENANCE SERVICE LTD.

#### APPOINTEES

**Sandra Lundy**  
GNGH AUXILIARY REPRESENTATIVE

**Dr. K. N. Reddy**  
MEDICAL SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVE

**Bala Kathiresan**  
INTERIM GNGH SITE ADMINISTRATOR

## GNGHF Reaches 77% of It's Our Time Campaign Goal:



The GNGH Foundation continues to receive fantastic support from our community in our efforts to raise \$8 million in support of the It's Our Time Campaign. In Niagara Falls we have commitments totaling \$6,157,431 equaling 77% of our campaign goal! With your support, we hope to achieve 100% by the end of 2011.

### Where does all this money go?

The money we are raising is being used for the purchase of new and replacement equipment at the Greater Niagara General Hospital and for the new Walker Family Cancer Centre and the new Cardiac Care and Mental Health facilities being constructed in St. Catharines to serve all residents of Niagara.

### In Niagara Falls, our \$8 million goal will be used to fund: \$4.4 million for Equipment for the GNGH —

• New anaesthetic equipment	\$480,000
• Satellite Dialysis Centre	\$710,000
• Echocardiograph unit	\$240,000
• Ultrasound – cancer care diagnostics	\$300,000
• Endoscopy equipment	\$330,000
• Ultrasound (2) DI	\$550,000
• Gamma Camera	\$900,000
• Mammography	\$800,000
• Medical school facility	\$90,000
<b>• Sub Total</b>	<b>\$4,400,000</b>

The balance will be used to fund —

Regional Services (cancer, cardiac, mental health)	\$3,600,000
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**Grand Total \$8,000,000**

Regionally, the goal for the It's Our Time Campaign is \$40 million. At the time of writing \$36,255,554 has been raised representing 90.6% of goal.

The thanks and appreciation of the GNGH Foundation goes to all those who have made contributions in support of this campaign and to those who have volunteered their time and energy to assist us in our fundraising efforts.



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## WE ARE IN THE HOME STRETCH!!!

The City of Niagara Falls has been very supportive throughout the whole planning exercise and is now in the process of creating a drop off & pick up zone to help patients and their families.

The support and assistance from the Ministry of Health and the elected officials and staff from the City of Niagara Falls in making this satellite a reality is greatly appreciated by all patients and the Niagara Health System. The Province is investing \$ 3.5 million dollars to create the Satellite and the GNGHF is seeking community support to raise the \$710,000 "local share" through the Niagara Falls division of the It's Our Time Campaign. As with all capital projects undertaken by the Hospital, the support of the Foundation is essential in ensuring we have the equipment needed for the provision of patient care at this site.

## What is Dialysis?

Dialysis is a mechanical process that performs the work that healthy kidneys would do. It is a life-sustaining treatment that clears wastes and extra fluid from the body and restores the proper balance of chemicals (electrolytes) in the blood. When chronic kidney disease becomes so severe that a person's kidneys are no longer working properly, they most likely will need dialysis to replace the work of the kidneys. Typically patients must have three separate four-to-five-hour dialysis treatments every week. Dialysis is also used as a short-term measure for patients waiting for a kidney transplant.

**Comedians Helped Beat the winter blah's by providing some HA's for a great cause**



### The 3rd ANNUAL KOMEDY FOR KIDNEYS RODNEY PENTLAND MEMORIAL BENEFIT SHOW

was held at the Greg Frewin Theatre (5781 Ellen Ave., Niagara Falls) on February 3rd, 2011 at 8 PM and featured some of Canada's funniest comedians including Niagara's own Mark Matthews! Proceeds benefit the construction of the new Dialysis Centre in Niagara Falls.

For further information: [info@niagarafallscomeyfest.com](mailto:info@niagarafallscomeyfest.com) or [www.NiagaraFallsComedyFest.com](http://www.NiagaraFallsComedyFest.com)

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR MARCH 1, 2012!**  
*You won't want to miss it!*



In photo (at the Greg Frewin Theatre): (l-r) Michael Somerville, Executive Director GNGH Foundation, Dino Fazio, Comedy for Kidneys Organizer and GM, Winter Festival of Lights

## Tell us your story.

The GNGH Foundation invites you to share your experience(s) with us on the health care you received at GNGH and/or why you support your local hospital. We want to feature stories in upcoming editions of our newsletter. Please include your contact information ie. phone number, email address.

Thank you for your "Good News" Story.  
Contact information: 905-358-4900  
email: [gnghfoundation@niagarahealth.on.ca](mailto:gnghfoundation@niagarahealth.on.ca)

With summer winding down, our thoughts turn to the next school year and the holiday season. This year we hope you will plan on honouring those who have touched your life in some way while remembering those you may have lost. It is our hope that you will take a moment and reflect on the past year while looking ahead to the new one. Consider a gift in memory of a loved one, or to honour someone special such as a friend, parent, child, grandchild, or to celebrate a special event in your life. Watch for more information in November on how you can make your Holiday Gift.

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## Minor Procedure Rooms Officially Opened

- All minor procedures will be provided in one setting thus improving the patient experience – they are treated where seen and do not have to register on arrival and go through the normal booking paperwork
- Wait times will be lower with enhanced access to care and improved interaction between the patient and the doctor
- This allows us to keep our "out-patients" away from the main areas of the hospital thereby reducing the risk of exposure for infection
- This space will provide a very private patient focused setting with dedicated staff

Patty noted: "Hospital resources and staff will be used more efficiently due to optimizing the use of the right resources in the right place in the right setting". Physicians will be able to treat more patients in this setting which also means better use of the new equipment on the unit.

What activities will be involved? Typically, urology such as cystoscopy, vasectomy, plastic surgery which would include carpal tunnel release, and orthopaedic procedures such as removal of bunions, along with removal of "lumps and bumps" will be performed in the new procedure rooms.

"From a doctors perspective this makes our job easier and the provision of care less nerve wracking for our patients" states Dr. Brown. "If this model proves successful, and I'm sure it will, it will become the model for minor procedure rooms in St. Catharines and Welland".

Tammy Martin, Perioperative Clinical Manager, is responsible for operating room, recovery room and the day surgery unit, also oversees the new Minor Procedure area. Tammy and her team were instrumental in the planning, organizing and implementation of the new program. Tammy says "the minor procedure rooms will be open two days a week and physicians will see approximately 25 patients per day. Plans to expand the area are currently underway as evaluation and monitoring of the program progresses". ■

# Because They Care ...



## ▲ Imperial Court

The Imperial Court of St. Catharines and the Great Niagara Area Region is a not-for-profit organization. Our purpose is to collect charitable contributions from individuals and organizations, to distribute those contributions to other charitable causes, and to have fun while doing it. Our uniqueness is that we model our organization after that of a monarchial society.

Each year we choose one or two major charities and devote a year to hosting events and at the end of the year distribute the monies raised to those charities. This year we have made a \$5,000 donation to the GNGHF in support of breast cancer services at the Niagara Falls Hospital.

In photo (l-r) Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg and Frank Stante



## ▲ Making Our Vision a Reality

The Jim Pattison Group Supports Health Care in our Region by making a donation to the Walker Family Cancer Center. By supporting their community the Pattison Group of companies is also supporting their over 800 employees along with their families and friends. Thanks for helping to make Our Vision a Reality.

In photo - Ruth Ann Nieuwesteeg (Chair-GNGH Foundation) was happy to accept a cheque from Tim Parker, General Manager, Ripley's Niagara Falls (a Pattison Group holding)

## All About Alio ▶

Saturday, June 11, 2011 was "All About Alio"

The day was dedicated in memory of Alio Stirpe, who was a proud owner of Papa Nick's Bakery. ALL Proceeds from sales and activities, raffles etc. being donated to the Walker Family Cancer Center. Thanks to all who joined Debbie Bessey-Stirpe and her dedicated staff in their fundraising efforts, over \$7,500 was donated.

On hand to celebrate the memory of Alio was (l-r) Mayor Jim Diodati, son Jim Jr., Debbie Bessey-Stirpe, and MPP Kim Craitor



## ◀ Sunstrum's Support Ongoing

Deborah and Dennis Sunstrum make a donation to GNGH Foundation Chair, Carol Maidens

### SUNSTRUM'S FLORIST

and their  
**EASTER BUNNIES RAISE**  
**\$1,536<sup>00</sup>** for GNGH

"Sunstrum's Florist had a successful Easter week collecting donations for the GNGH Foundation. Volunteers dressed in bunny suits and accompanied the drivers on deliveries all week long. The bunnies handed out chocolate Easter eggs and solicited donations. All proceeds from deliveries and the "bunny money" during Easter week were donated. The deliveries raised \$1,536.00 and the bunnies collected \$593.50 for a total of \$2,129.50 donated to the GNGH Foundation."

*Thank you to everyone in the community who supported this worthwhile event.*



## ◀ Concert Sets Park on Fire!

Ontario Conservatory of Music Niagara Falls Annual Summer Concert was held at Fireman's Park in Niagara Falls on Saturday, July 16th, 2011.

Guests were treated to great weather and the entertainment was provided by very talented students. Funds raised will be used to purchase a bassinette and cart for the Rainbow Family Health Center at GNG hospital.

This will be the sixth year proceeds are being donated to GNGH with close to \$15,000 raised over the years.

Students were given a list of equipment/items needed so they could decide where they would like the funds directed. They chose to purchase a bassinette and cart for the Rainbow Family Health Center at GNGH.

Thanks to teachers and organizers of the concert and parents, family, friends and guests, the hospital has been able to purchase a Cast Removal Saw, Paediatric Resuscitation Cart(s), Parallel bars for Physiotherapy, and last year a Bassinette and Cart. The Ontario Conservatory of Music Niagara Falls also teaches lessons in philanthropy!

VISIT [www.z101.fm](http://www.z101.fm) and [www.snapniagarafalls.com](http://www.snapniagarafalls.com) for additional photos.

Students and teachers came to see the one of the new bassinettes that they purchased through their hard work and dedication.

In photo (l-r) Anthony, Michael, Bill McMillan, Tim Miller, Carol Munro, Olivia



# Because They Care ...



## ◀ Club Italia Holds Annual Golf Tournament

Which supports our hospital and healthcare in our community.

Club Italia's Annual Golf Tournament was held Sunday, June 5, 2011 with proceeds being donated to GNGH Foundation.

Thanks Club Italia for your continued support and generosity to our hospital.

Golf Committee, preparing the Roast Pig (l-r) Nick D'Ascenzo, Angelo Toto, Nick Cecchino, Miss Club Italia Karley Kerrio, Tom Carlini, Nick Radice, Tony Barranca, John Notte.

Missing: Joe Berardi, Tara Santo



## Rankin Cancer Run Sets a Record

Over 8,200 people crammed the grounds of the Grantham Lions Club on Saturday May 28, 2011 to participate in the sixth annual Rankin Cancer Run.

For many, the one-kilometre walk or five-kilometre run was done in someone's memory who had died from cancer.

Every dollar raised in the charity run stays in Niagara for cancer treatment. This year, \$604,000 was raised.

For the third year in a row, GNG Palliative Care Services have been the recipient of \$50,000. Thanks for offering comfort to our patients.

Last year, the \$520,000 in donations helped nearly every hospital in the region in a variety of ways from purchasing diagnostic imaging to palliative care. Local causes and services such as the Niagara Health System oncology unit at St. Catharines General hospital, Wellspring Niagara, Hospice Niagara, diagnostic imaging at the NHS, Welland General hospital, Greater Niagara General hospital in Niagara Falls, Douglas Memorial hospital in Fort Erie, and West Lincoln Memorial Hospital in Grimsby all benefitted.

Every year you see it getting bigger and bigger and bigger."

Rankin Run organizer Mary Ann Edwards said "with a new hospital and cancer centre currently under construction on Fourth Ave. in St. Catharines, residents want to know that the money they raise is going to help pay for the best equipment and doctors".

Over the past six years, the event — whose lead sponsor is Rankin Construction Inc. — has raised \$2.5 million for cancer care.

"We have to keep the money home," Edwards said.



## ▲ Health Care Wins as Niagara Casinos Hand Over a \$500,000 Cheque

Mr. Art Frank (head of Niagara Casinos) handed over a cheque in support of the Walker Family Cancer Centre currently under construction, as part of the new hospital in the west end of St. Catharines.

"Giving back to the communities where we do business is integral to our corporate philosophy," says Art Frank. "Enhancing healthcare and quality of life contributes to a stronger local economy and helps our Region build a more prosperous future. It's good for our health, good for businesses and good for the community," said Frank.

For almost two years Art Frank has been face-to-face with the gravity of health care. "When my daughter was diagnosed with leukemia at the age of seven, it brings you to your knees," Frank stated. "But when you get up off your knees, you realize you need great health care. I know it's a cliché, but if you don't have your health or if one of your loved ones doesn't have their health, then the rest of it really doesn't mean too much."

"Cancer is a disease that will touch almost everybody directly or indirectly during their lifetime," Mr. Frank said. "This is something that will impact our employees, their families, the region for the next couple of generations. We couldn't think of a better way to spend the money."

In photo (l-r) Niagara Falls Mayor Jim Diodati, Carol Maidens, Betty Lou Souter, Art Frank, Dr. Janice Giesbrecht, Olivia Frank.



## October 23, 2011

The Niagara Falls International Marathon is proud to announce that its primary charity will be The Walker

Family Cancer Center. The Niagara Falls International Marathon will support the state-of-the-art health-care complex "*It's Our Time*" Campaign, recognizing that our commitment will make a difference in the lives and future of our community.

Funds raised through the Niagara Falls International Marathon support the building of The Walker Cancer Center thereby enhancing patient care for those suffering from cancer. **Help us continue this important work by asking friends and family to run and raise pledges with you.** After you register, you can link to an online pledge form. Copy this link and send it to friends and family who wish to support you and help those fighting this dreadful disease. It is easy and it is for a great cause. Run in memory of or to honour a loved one — a family member, a friend, a colleague at work who has suffered from this terrible disease. Collect pledges or make a donation yourself or sponsor a participant — a charitable tax receipt will be issued to all donors.

### The Marathon course is a Boston Qualifier.

The Niagara Falls International Marathon starts by the Albright-Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo N.Y. The first 6.5km (4 miles) of the race travel the majestic parkways of Buffalo before crossing the Peace Bridge into the historic old town of Fort Erie, Ontario. The route then follows the beautiful Niagara River Parkway and finishes at the magnificent Niagara Falls. It is the only marathon in the world that starts in one country and finishes in another.

For information and to register, go to [www.niagarafallsmarathon.com](http://www.niagarafallsmarathon.com)



## ◀ Ride for Dad

"Shoulda, Coulda, Woulda — There's no excuse for dying of Prostate Cancer. A simple PSA test and a rectal exam can save your life. Get serious. Get going. Get your prostate checked."

On Sunday, May 29th, 2011, the Niagara Chapter of Canada's Motorcycle Ride for Dad held its second annual fundraiser at Queenston Heights in an effort to raise money for prostate cancer research and awareness with proceeds going

to the Walker Family Cancer Center in St. Catharines. The weather cooperated and some 278 motorcycle enthusiasts joined organizers for a great day in the fight against prostate cancer.

Over \$54,000 was raised. Great big thanks to organizers, all who sponsored, volunteered and participated in this year's ride. Without you we would not have had such a great success. We can only get bigger and better.

Public awareness is key to avoiding prostate cancer and catching it as early as possible.

Hope to see you at next year's event! Log on to [www.motorcycleridefordad.org](http://www.motorcycleridefordad.org) for information.

Go to [www.facebook.com/GreaterNiagaraGeneralHospitalFoundation](http://www.facebook.com/GreaterNiagaraGeneralHospitalFoundation) for more photos.



# Because They Care ...

## ◀ Making an Impact on Their Community

While planning their wedding Lauren Maggiolo and Michael Sommise along with their families felt strongly that in celebration of their love they wanted to make an impact on their community.

On Sunday, May 1st, at her bridal shower Lauren made a donation, in lieu of favors to GNGH Foundation Chair, Carol Maidens. She wanted her guests to know that after much thought and consideration, she chose a meaningful way to say thanks for sharing in her day that will benefit members of our community.

At their wedding reception on June 25th, 2011, a \$2500 donation was made to GNGH Foundation and Walker Family Cancer Centre. Thanks to Lauren, Michael and their families for making a difference.

Best Wishes Lauren & Michael as you start your new life together — one that demonstrates a willingness to help others. Congratulations!

In photo at left: Lauren Maggiolo makes a presentation to Carol Maidens (Chair, GNGH Foundation) at her bridal shower held at Club Italia.

In photo at right: Joe and Teresa Maggiolo, Lauren & Michael Sommise, Debbie Sommise and Michael Sr.



## ◀ Niagara Parks BBQ

“Over 200 people enjoyed the BBQ treats prepared by the Niagara Parks Culinary Team at Queenston Heights Park on May 25, 2011 during the annual Spring BBQ. Proceeds raised during the event are part of Niagara Parks \$100,000 commitment to the GNGH Foundation and the Walker Family Cancer Centre.”

## City of Niagara Falls ▶

Mayor Jim Diodati presents a cheque for \$50,000 on behalf of the City to Ruth-Ann Nieuwesteeg, Chair of the GNGHF. The gift will be used to help fund four new anaesthetic machines used during surgeries at the GNGH. The Foundation wishes to express thanks and appreciation for your commitment to better health care in Niagara Falls.



## ◀ Scotiabank

GNGHF Executive Director Mike Somerville accepts a cheque from the employees of the Pine Street Plaza (Thorold) Scotiabank branch. Each year the branch holds community BBQs with funds raised this year going to help finance the new Walker Family Cancer Centre, benefiting all Niagarans.



## Pilot Club

Pilot Club of Niagara Falls Annual Fashion Show was May 1, 2011 and funds were donated the GNGH Foundation to purchase wheelchairs. To date over \$11,000 has been donated to GNGH.

Thanks to all members for their commitment to improve the quality of life for residents of Niagara!!

New Members always welcome. If interested in joining the Pilot Club call 905-356-5049



## ◀ Eric's Tent Event — Premier Affair of the Heart

On Saturday June 4, 2011, Eric's Tent Event held its inaugural fundraiser “Premier Affair of the Heart” in support of the new Regional Cardiac Catheterization Lab in St Catharines and Cardiac Care at the Greater Niagara General Site. The event was limited to two hundred guests and raised approximately \$18,000.

The day of the event started out with what can only be described as a torrential downpour creating massive puddles all around the event site. A great group of volunteers spent most of the morning keeping the tent area dry as preparations continued.

All was not lost as the rain stopped late in the morning and the sun appeared so that the event area could dry out. When the first guests began to arrive around 2:00 pm the puddles had disappeared and the party was underway.

Our gracious host, Eric Wiens, was soon greeting the bus loads of guests as they were shuttled in from the parking area courtesy of Niagara Air Bus. As the guests arrived they were treated to a display of vintage and new automobiles including the impressive Mercedes Benz SLS AMG. While strolling around the grounds, guests were served refreshments and appetizers before embarking on



Eric greeting guests



one of the main highlights of the event - a Helicopter Tour over the new St Catharines Hospital Complex courtesy of Ruedi Hafen and Niagara Helicopters.

Guests were treated to a delicious banquet provided by Tony Visca and his staff from Johnny Rocco's Italian Grill. While the guests enjoyed numerous dishes prepared for their dining experience, Danny Zzzz (Hypnotist, Illusionist, Mentalist and Magician) entertained with a fabulous show of illusions and magic.

The GNGH Foundation and Eric Wiens would like to take this opportunity to thank the generous sponsors who made this event a reality: Eric Wiens Construction Ltd., Niagara Tents & Events, Niagara Helicopters, Danny Zzzz, Johnny Rocco's Italian Grill, Croce Consulting, Robbins Towing, Heart of Niagara, Rief Estate Winery, Konzelmann Estate Winery, Lapennaco Super Centre, Vincor Canada, Magic Carpet Ride, Mr. Marcel Dionne, Stark Lumber Co. Limited, Performance Mercedes Benz, Performance BMW, Pontello Concrete, Executive Chef Mark Walpole, Giardino General Contracting, Salvador (Niagara Fine Arts & Photography), Andrews Ceramic Tile Ltd., NAT Management Services, Rempel Maximum Ice, Niagara Air Bus & Bullet News Niagara.



In previous issues of the Monitor a number of articles have been written about Charitable Donations and Leaving A Legacy bequest in your will.

Unfortunately, many charities have experienced a decline in donations due to the recent economic conditions and as a result have seen a spending shift away their true goal (funding equipment purchases, building campaigns etc.) towards paying for increased costs associated with fundraising activities. Almost all charities have some form of expenses (administrative costs, supplies, postage, printing etc) and it is the charities obligation to keep their operating expenses to a minimum so that the donation dollars have the greatest impact on fulfilling their mandate. The GNGH Foundation continues to maintain an operating cost lower than the national average.

Recent media coverage regarding the “cost per dollar spent on fundraising” raises an important question - “Are your donation dollars being utilized to support the issues that you deem important”?

A checklist has been compiled that will help you make your donation decisions more efficient, prudent and meaningful:

**FIRST AND FOREMOST** - When you make a charitable gift you should, at the very least, contact the charitable beneficiaries (anonymously if you prefer) so that you / your lawyer / your financial planner / your insurance agent has the correct legal name of the charity you have chosen.

The Greater Niagara General Hospital Foundation (GNGH Foundation) would like to know about your donation and / or bequest early in the process so that we can recognize your donation(s), ensure the information is accurate and keep you informed about how donations are being utilized to support the Greater Niagara General Hospital.

**USE OF BEQUESTS** – What is the GNGH Foundation’s policy for the use of undesignated bequests and planned gifts?

The Foundation uses undesignated donations for the “Area of Greatest Need” fund. This fund designates the donation towards a campaign or equipment need based on the priorities established by the hospital’s doctors, nurses and allied health professionals.

**ACCOUNTABILITY** – Is the Foundation’s annual report and audited statement available to the public?

The GNGH Foundation’ audited statements can be found on the Canada Revenue Agency Web Site under “The Greater Niagara General Hospital Foundation” and on our website at: [www.gnghfoundation.com](http://www.gnghfoundation.com)

**GIFT DESIGNATION** – Does the GNGH Foundation enable donors to designate to a particular area or activity?

The Foundation accepts donations that are designated for a very specific area or piece of equipment for our Hospital. For details please contact the GNGHF office.

**PERSONAL ENDOWMENT FUNDS** – Does the GNGH Foundation have an endowment that is invested to provide an annual payout for its charitable activities? We have a small endowment fund and would like to see that fund grow. Please contact the GNGH Foundation if you would be interested in supporting an endowment fund.

**PRIVACY POLICY** – Does the GNGH Foundation have a privacy policy? Yes, the Foundation has a privacy policy and keeps all our donor information confidential. When you make a donation and wish to remain anonymous, that wish will be respected.

**DONOR RECOGNITION** - Are donors of bequests and planned gifts recognized after the gifts are received?

The GNGH Foundation recognizes all donors (unless they choose to remain anonymous) when their gift is received. In addition the GNGH Foundation has established the Heritage Society that will recognize donors who have designated a bequest / insurance policy to the GNGH Foundation. The Monitor newsletter also contains a number of stories in each issue on donors who have left or are planning on leaving a bequest.

**OTHER TYPES OF PLANNED GIFTS** – Does the GNGH Foundation help donors explore tax-advantageous alternatives to bequests, such as charitable gift annuities, life insurance and gift of RRSP / RRIFs?

The Foundation has a number of qualified individuals who will discuss tax-advantageous strategies available for our donors. This includes Certified Financial Planners, Lawyers and Accountants who belong to, or have been members of the GNGH Foundation Board of Directors.

**STAFF GIFT PLANNER** – Does the GNGH Foundation have a staff member responsible for Legacy Giving?

The Foundation has a Development Officer (Mr. Rick Powers) who will assist you with any Gift Planning / Planned Giving / Leave A legacy donations / bequests that you may wish to make.

**FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP** – How long has the Executive Director of the Foundation been in his / her role?

Mr. Michael Somerville (Executive Director) has been associated with the Greater Niagara General Foundation for over ten years and has been involved in senior leadership roles with Charities and Foundations for over thirty years.

**FOUNDATION EFFECTIVENESS** – Can the GNGH Foundation provide a concise summary of its charitable mission?

The GNGH Foundation’s Mission is “To develop, manage, and distribute charitable resources to support and enhance the provision of patient care program and services at the Greater Niagara General site and for the Niagara Health System”.

The key consideration in making a donation to the GNGH Foundation is “How important is the Greater Niagara General site to you and you family in terms of Health Care”

Please contact us so that we can answer your questions, discuss options for donations and ultimately earn your trust so that your donations / bequests will be utilized for the intent that you desire – Improved Health Care in Niagara.

*Note: Contents of this checklist have been sourced from Canadian Donors Guide 2011-12 – Charity Checklist by Mr. Malcolm D. Burrows*



**Lauchlan Bruce**

We are saddened to learn of the recent passing of long-time friend and supporter of the GNGHF Mr. Lauchlan Bruce. Mr. Bruce served twelve years with the Hospital Board of Governors including two years as Board Chair. His leadership, commitment and vision for health care in Niagara helped make the GNGH one of the best hospitals in our region.

Lauchie’s commitment to the Hospital extended well beyond volunteering his time. He has left a substantial legacy gift through insurance to the GNGHF. Mr. Bruce had decided to let the Foundation direct how his gift will be used: “They know what’s needed more than I do and I trust their decision will do the most good for the Hospital”. We want to express our condolences to Mr. Bruce’s family and to thank Lauchie for his belief and trust in the work we do.

**Yes! I want to help my hospital.**

Enclosed is my tax deductible gift of: \_\_\_\_\_

\$30  \$65  \$120  I prefer to give \$

Please accept my payment by: (Check one)

Cheque payable to: **the GNGH Foundation** P.O. Box 1018, Niagara Falls, ON L2E 6X2

Credit Card (check one)  Visa  MasterCard

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  Please email my receipt.

Yes! I have already named the GNGH Foundation in my estate planning.

I would like to receive all correspondence via email.

Please send me more information about the Heritage Society.



5546 Portage Road,  
P.O. Box 1018 Niagara Falls, ON L2E 6X2  
Ph: (905) 358-4900 • Fax: (905) 358-7443  
[gnghfoundation@niagarahealth.on.ca](mailto:gnghfoundation@niagarahealth.on.ca)

**Thank you for your support!**

## Thanks Ladies...

The **Pink Ladies Classic 13th Annual Golf Tournament** was held on August 3, 2011 at Rolling Meadows with 106 ladies golfing and raising over \$7,000. The weather was amazing and the food was exceptional. There were great prizes and a lot of fun had by all.

Proceeds are being directed to the five hundred thousand dollar pledge by the GNGH Auxiliary to the It's Our Time Campaign for our hospital in Niagara Falls.

Thanks to all for their continued support of the GNGH Auxiliary and their dedication to their hospital and community.

**HOLD THIS DATE:** The 14th Annual Tournament will take place on August 8, 2012. See you there.

**AND THE WINNERS ARE!!!** (Again)

(l-r) Sandy Lundy, Joyce Morocco, Carol Dionne, Sandy Muise



GNGH Auxiliary "Ladies in Pink" setting out on the **'WALK-A-BLOCK' for GNGH.**

The walk was held on Tuesday, June 21st and began at the Main Entrance of the Hospital. An amazing \$4791.00 was raised.

The GNGH Auxiliary have pledged \$500,000 to the It's Our Time Campaign for local site needs and offer many fun, exciting ways you can help. Visit the gift shop, located in the main lobby of the hospital and support this hard working group in their efforts to help all of you.

Sheila Hosking (in photo) is a huge supporter of the GNGH Auxiliary Walk a thon and continues to collect pledges. She has walked in every one since 1999.



Please visit the **GNGH Auxiliary's Gift Wrapping Station** generously sponsored by Niagara Square and staffed by volunteers, during the month of December, beginning on December 3rd, 2011 and right up to mall closing time on Christmas Eve for those procrastinators. Check [www.niagarasquare.com](http://www.niagarasquare.com) for times.

A **Holly Jolly Christmas Basket Draw** to be held on Tues. Dec. 6th, 2011. Tickets \$2 ea. or 3 for \$5. Proceeds benefit the GNGH Auxiliary's commitment to site improvements. Tickets available from auxiliary members as well as in the Gift Shop.

## Donor Wall Updated - July 2011



The wall reflects the names of the many individuals, groups and companies, who over the years have made contributions to the Greater Niagara General Hospital through the GNGH Foundation.

The wall is updated once a year with names of new donors and existing donors who qualify to be moved to another category.

Take a moment to view our donor wall, located just inside the front entrance of the Hospital.

Please contact the GNGH Foundation at 905-358-4900 to see if you have reached the \$5,000 mark and join the growing list of supporters whose names appear on the wall.

## GNGH Sponsored Seminars

A series of Health Care related seminars sponsored by Stamford Estate Retirement Residence and the GNGH Foundation were held at Stamford Estates in April, May and June.

A new series of Health related seminars, sponsored by the GNGH Foundation, to keep our community informed about the changing role of Healthcare and how to stay healthy, have been planned for the fall. They include:

**Preventing Diabetes** – October 18, 2011

**Overview of Cancer Now and in the Future** – November 22, 2011

**Income Tax Preparation** – January 24, 2012

**Reducing Your Risk for Chronic Conditions** – February 21, 2012

**Estate Planning** – March 20, 2012

**Designing for the Future** – April 17, 2012

An additional series of seminars is being planned for the fall including:

**Estate Planning, Building Your Legacy**

**Wills or Testament /Power of Attorney**

**The Role of an Executor**

For additional information, location and time please contact the GNGH Foundation at (905) 358-4900 or [gngfoundation@niagarahealth.on.ca](mailto:gngfoundation@niagarahealth.on.ca)

# Monitor

Fall 2011

**GNGH FOUNDATION**

News on how your generous contributions are improving patient care at the Greater Niagara General Site



5546 Portage Road,  
P.O. Box 1018  
Niagara Falls, Ontario  
L2E 6X2



**Follow Greater Niagara General Hospital on Facebook and Twitter.**



Check back often for event updates and information.

### OUR MISSION

The Greater Niagara General Hospital Foundation's mission is to develop, manage and distribute charitable resources to support and enhance the provision of patient care programs and services at the GNG site and for the Niagara Health System.