

9 Healthy Partners

Business & Industry
Spotlight - Citizens &
Northern Bank

Your Contributions at Work - The Gatehouse

Telemedicine Expanding Access to
World-Class Care

Driving the Future of Nursing



n behalf of our nurses, physicians, and clinical and support staff, I would like to thank you for your continued support in our mission to serve our community. Your contributions allow us to provide our professional teams with advanced education, research, and technological innovation with a goal of rendering outstanding, high-quality care — while simultaneously shaping tomorrow's health care delivery system.

Susquehanna Health Foundation

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Kelly Regan regankm2@upmc.edu 570-320-7460 As we mark two years since affiliating with UPMC, I am reminded of how far we've come as a health care organization and recognize that our journey of excellence is a team effort with many milestones captured and more to achieve along the way. You are part of that team.

During this exciting time of growth at UPMC Susquehanna, we must continually prepare our nursing and clinical workforce for the rapidly changing health care environment around us. The need for local and national recruitment, along with ongoing professional development of clinicians, has never been more vital to our community.

As we continue to evolve as an organization, we face challenges associated with the demand for highly qualified registered nurses (RNs) to support the rapidly growing services at UPMC Susquehanna. Cultivating our own outstanding nursing talent from within our surrounding counties is a key goal.

We're seeking to add exceptionally well-prepared nurses from our local communities to our elite group of dedicated nursing professionals. To accomplish this, we are looking to create funding channels to support local nursing students and UPMC Susquehanna employees who wish to attend local universities to advance their education with plans to join our diverse and committed nursing team at one of our facilities.

In addition, RNs currently employed at UPMC Susquehanna are seeking advanced degrees and are filling vital roles such as Certified Nurse Practitioners, Certified Nurse Anesthetists, and doctorial-prepared nursing professor roles. The demand for these professionals is ever present.

At UMPC Susquehanna, our nurses are continually investing in themselves to advance their knowledge to better serve their patients. By doing so, they are driving the future of nursing practice, degree by degree, innovation by innovation — bringing us all to a new level of scientific and clinical expertise.

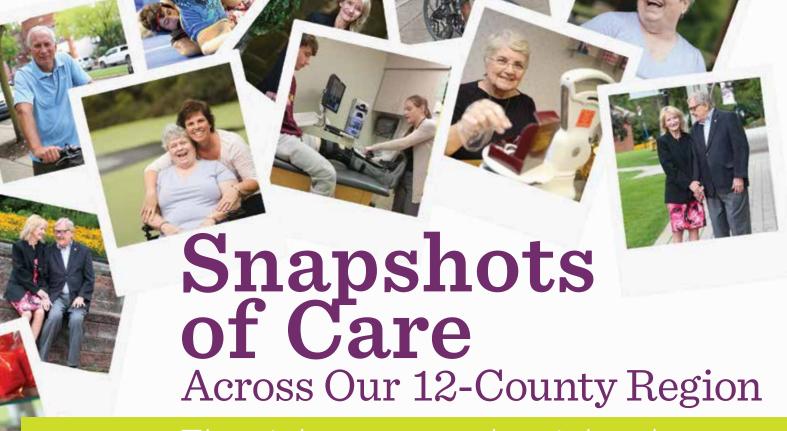
As a donor, you play an important role in helping us achieve our mission of building a dynamic and prolific nursing team from within our own region. On behalf of our dedicated employees, who rely on your support to help us create a place where people want to work and that patients choose, I am humbled by and grateful for your generous gifts.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Lori Beucler, MSN, RN, BCNE, FACHE Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer UPMC Susquehanna





The right care, at the right place, at

ith the expansion of UPMC Susquehanna to include UPMC Susquehanna Lock Haven and UPMC Susquehanna Sunbury, the health system now serves the residents of 12 northcentral Pennsylvania counties. According to **Patti Jackson-Gehris**, vice president, market development and communications, one goal of the expansion is to enable more patients to receive the care they need closer to where they live.

"We believe every community deserves to have high-quality care close to home," Jackson-Gehris says. "Across our footprint, we're learning the needs of each community and the disease conditions there. We then use this information to determine what services we can provide for these patients." Jackson-Gehris says the most complex surgeries and procedures will still take place at UPMC Susquehanna Williamsport, the system's most advanced hospital, but, whenever possible, the majority of a patient's care will take place in their local community.

"While other health systems use community hospitals to funnel patients to their largest, most advanced hospitals, we choose to add specialty services and advanced care to our community hospitals. We built a cancer center in Wellsboro because we know it's a hardship for people to drive to Williamsport for cancer care," Jackson-Gehris says. Additionally, UPMC Susquehanna cardiologists,

digestive disease specialists, and orthopaedic surgeons are now traveling to locations throughout the service area for consultations and post-surgical appointments.

UPMC Susquehanna is also hiring new doctors whose practices will be based in smaller, more rural communities. "There are many physicians who want to practice medicine in rural areas," Jackson-Gehris says. "We're doing a lot of recruitment to bring the best and brightest to these locations."

Leveraging Innovation

Telemedicine is helping UPMC Susquehanna provide additional access to specialists. It's allowing top UPMC neurologists in Pittsburgh to evaluate stroke patients at UPMC Susquehanna, patients with high-risk pregnancies to see experts in maternal-fetal medicine from outside the region, and patients in need of other services — such as behavioral health or dermatology — to see specialists via the technology platform. (*For more on UPMC's telemedicine services, see page 36.*)

Another way UPMC and UPMC Health Plan are improving access to care across the health system's expanded service area is through **UPMC AnywhereCare**, an app that gives patients access to physicians through their smart phone, tablet, or laptop.

"While sitting at my desk, I can call a physician, and he can see me using the camera on my cell phone," Jackson-Gehris says. "The physician may ask me a lot of questions, but he will likely be able to diagnose me from that interaction and tell me if I need medication or an in-person follow-up with a primary care physician. If I do need medication, he'll call in a prescription to my pharmacy — and within minutes, I'm done."

Better Decisions for Care Delivery

Jackson-Gehris adds that the integration of the UPMC Health Plan is another important tool that is enabling UPMC Susquehanna to improve care throughout the region, helping the health system provide the right care, in the right place, at the right time — and at the right price.

"The health plan will help patients in their journey through the health care system," Jackson-Gehris says. "Our health plan team and providers will be able to connect to ask, 'Does this person need to be in the hospital for this service, or can we take care of him or her in an outpatient setting?' Our goal is to meet our patients where they are — and provide care that's best quality and convenient."



Our Hospital Locations

Now, with six hospitals located in Williamsport, Muncy, Wellsboro, Sunbury, and Lock Haven — and, primary care and specialty physician practices and outpatient services in those areas as well as Mansfield, Knoxville, Jersey Shore, Bloomsburg, and Berwick — UPMC Susquehanna is positioned to serve the residents of 12 counties.

Our service area now comprises Lycoming, Clinton, Northumberland, Tioga, Bradford, Montour, Sullivan, Union, Centre, Columbia, Snyder, and Potter Counties.

UPMC Susquehanna Williamsport

700 High Street Williamsport, PA 17701 570-321-1000

UPMC Susquehanna Muncy

215 East Water Street Muncy, PA 17756 570-546-8282

UPMC Susquehanna Soldiers + Sailors

32 Central Avenue Wellsboro, PA 16901 570-723-7764

UPMC Susquehanna Divine Providence

1100 Grampian Boulevard Williamsport, PA 17701 570-326-8000

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350 North 11th Street Sunbury, PA 17801 570-286-3333

UPMC Susquehanna Lock Haven

24 Cree Drive Lock Haven, PA 17745 570-893-5000

For more information about the locations of UPMC Susquehanna services and providers, please visit our website at UPMCSusquehanna.org/Locations.

Continue reading our Snapshots of Care on pages 6 & 7.

Patient Snapshots

The expansion of UPMC Susquehanna gives more patients in more areas better access to the expert care and advanced technologies that improve their outcomes. The following stories provide real-life examples of how this is happening across the expanded coverage area.



Patient: Timmy Ward Area: Canton, Bradford County Service Lines: Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation

Timmy Ward was off to an impressive sophomore year as a student athlete, with notable achievements in football. So, he was hoping to achieve even more during the wrestling season at Canton High School.

The 2017 wrestling season started strong. But, on the second day of the New Oxford Tournament — held a month before the beginning of Timmy's run for the State Tournament — he was injured during a match.

An x-ray showed no fracture. But, concerned about Timmy's MCL and meniscus, his athletic trainer sent him to UPMC Susquehanna Sports Medicine, where **Justin Kelchner, PA-C,** ordered an MRI, diagnosed an MCL sprain, and confirmed a high ankle sprain. A rehab program was designed to get him back to what he loved doing.

You don't have to go to Baltimore to get the best.

Some of the best minds are right here at UPMC Susquehanna.

- Sue Malin

Dr. Sue Malin had just been promoted to full professor at Lock Haven University in July 1995 when she learned she had an aggressive form of breast cancer. For years, Sue had faithfully performed monthly breast self-exams and received annual mammograms. The diagnosis came as a complete shock.

Her doctor referred her to the UPMC Susquehanna Breast Health Center and oncologist **Dr. Warren Robinson.**

Sue underwent aggressive treatment that included a lumpectomy, six months of chemotherapy, and 36 radiation treatments. She was able to return to her job the following fall.

Sue is grateful for the compassionate, expert care that has allowed her to be in remission for 23 years and counting. Unfortunately, Sue's sister, who lived in another state, didn't have that same access.

"My sister was diagnosed two years after me," Sue says. "She didn't make it. I always say, if she had had Dr. Robinson and UPMC Susquehanna, she'd be with us today."

Sue is very happy to see UPMC Susquehanna's expansion into more rural areas.

"You don't have to go to Baltimore to get the best," Sue says. "Some of the best minds are right here at UPMC Susquehanna."



Patient: Dr. Sue Malin Area: Woolrich, Clinton County Service Lines: Breast Health Center and Oncology

When you own a chocolate company, you can't miss Valentine's Day. So when $Marge\ Burfeindt$, owner of Purity Candy Co., learned she had a mass on her kidney, she considered delaying surgery. Then she discovered that robotic surgery could get her back on her feet in no time.

Urologist **Christopher Reilly, MD,** performed the surgery using the newest generation da Vinci® Xi Surgical System for robotic-assisted surgery. This technology allows doctors to perform even the most complex and delicate procedures through very small incisions. Patients typically have a quicker recovery because it requires only five small punctures rather than a large incision.

"I only spent one night in the hospital, and I was back at work a few days later," Marge says. "Which is good, because I needed to help my family dip several thousand chocolate-covered strawberries."

After surgery, Marge received good and bad news — the mass was cancerous, but her surgeons were able to remove it all, and she didn't need chemotherapy or radiation treatments.



Patient: Marge Burfeindt Area: Montoursville, Lycoming County Service Lines: Urology and Robotics



Patient: Jane Stine
Area: Mifflinburg, Union County
Service Lines: Cardiothoracic Surgery
and Cardiology

When **Jane Stine** arrived at UPMC Susquehanna Williamsport, her daughter **Natalie Laukaitis** wasn't sure she would live. On a breathing machine and a heart pump that was failing, Jane had already experienced two heart attacks and a torn iliac artery prior to arriving at Williamsport, and her two main arteries were 99 percent blocked.

Jane's last hope would involve cardiothoracic surgeon **Michael Lazar, MD**; cardiologist **Leslie Webb, MD**; and a piece of lifesaving equipment known as an **ECMO** (extracorporeal membrane oxygenation) machine.

Buying time for doctors to treat Jane, the ECMO machine pumped her blood to an artificial lung, and, with the force of a healthy heart, sent oxygenated blood back to her body. While on ECMO, Jane was able to have cardiac-bypass surgery and a procedure to open her blocked arteries.

Jane spent 60 days in the ICU, 21 of them on ECMO. She is grateful for the expert health care providers at UPMC Susquehanna and also for the ECMO.

"The hands that used the ECMO machine, and the people who made the decisions with the ECMO machine, saved her life," says Natalie.

After a biking accident, **Kevin Connelly** was rushed to the emergency department at UPMC Susquehanna Soldiers + Sailors, where staff immediately began working to make him comfortable.

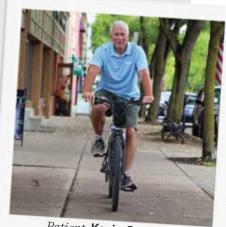
"That was a clear indication of what was ahead," says Kevin. "Their dedication to getting all patients into care as quickly as possible was really evident."

An x-ray revealed a broken hip and the need for hip replacement surgery. Kevin chose orthopaedic surgeon **Donald Golobek, MD,** to do the surgery.

"I wanted to be here," Kevin says. "This is my community, and I think it's tremendously important to support our local hospital. I'm very grateful to have it here."

Following Kevin's successful hip replacement, he has returned to biking to work — a 15-mile round trip — thanks to the care he received at UPMC Susquehanna Soldiers + Sailors as well as his experience with UPMC Susquehanna's Physical and Aquatic Therapy Rehabilitation Center.

"I was so impressed by the care and professionalism I experienced," Kevin says. "The extra care of a small town that sees you as a person, not just as a patient."



Patient: Kevin Connelly
Area: Wellsboro, Tioga County
Service Lines: Orthopaedics and
Rehabilitation



THE REPORT

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Healthy Partners

For the Health of It

PMC Susquehanna has teamed with more than 100 employers throughout the region to improve the health of their employees, and it's making quite an impact.

As the primary health care provider in the community, UPMC Susquehanna is uniquely positioned to offer wellness programs designed to improve the overall health of the community's population. As rising health care costs create an increasing burden for many employers and employees, a successful employee wellness program not only produces a healthier workforce but also decreases health care costs.

Workplace wellness isn't a new concept, but **Sam Sawyer,** employer relations specialist for UPMC Susquehanna's Healthy Partners Program, says having an in-person, on-site program yields better results than the telephone-based programs many health insurance companies traditionally offer.

"Participation rates for wellness programs, in general, are about 33 percent. With Healthy Partners, we see an average of 50 percent participation," Sam says.





there are four key areas to the Healthy Partners program:

1. Awareness - Health Risk Assessments

Learning the diseases your employees are at risk for and what they can do to prevent and manage these conditions.

2. Engagement - Biometric Screens and Basic **Blood Chemistry**

Providing individuals with information about their current health status.

3. Accountability - Incentives

Offering employees incentives for healthy behaviors.

4. Culture of Wellness

Providing wellness initiatives on a year-round, consistent basis.

"It can be challenging to incorporate wellness into the workday," Sam says. "I work with employers to create a plan that fits their work environment."

The Healthy Partners Program begins by assessing the health risks of an employer's workforce and giving individuals information about their health status. The information empowers the employer to create a better work environment. For example, if a significant percentage of the workforce has high cholesterol, the company can encourage healthy habits throughout the workday that are designed to help individuals lower their cholesterol. One employer did just that and saw 23 of its employees drop a collective 797 points in their total cholesterol.

Healthy Partners also empowers individuals. After receiving a full health assessment, employees know in what areas they can improve. Why would they want to improve? That's where employer incentives come in.

"The programs with the most success are the ones that offer the best incentives," says Sam.

Williamsport-based Hope Enterprises recently completed its first year with Healthy Partners and is now fine-tuning its program to include a better incentive.

"Now in our second year, we've been able to tailor our program based on reports from last year and can focus on what is truly wanted and needed by our employees," says Mark Thompson, Hope's vice president for human resources. "We have pushed for a slightly more aggressive incentive goal, while providing a greater level of benefit for reaching those goals."

Ward Manufacturing, LLC has been working with Healthy Partners since 2016. Senior Safety Specialist Brad Coolidge says the company reviewed several outside groups but chose Healthy Partners because of Sam's knowledge, desire, and willingness to not only lead Ward's wellness efforts but also actively participate in the journey.

"Sam and his group took the lead from the start and helped us lay out the road map of a successful program," says Brad. "He assisted us in developing a corporate wellness committee and is a key, active member of that same group. The partnership between Ward Manufacturing and UPMC Susquehanna has been a wonderful success."

Under the partnership, Ward's employee participation in biometric screenings has doubled, more employees have reported using exercise facilities, employees have increased well visits to physicians by 21 percent and have participated in more than 100 health coaching sessions, and employee body mass index (BMI) has improved.

Perhaps the best part of the Healthy Partners program is that the team at UPMC Susquehanna uses its expertise and resources to work with each employer to develop a fully customized plan.

"I had an eight-week BeHIP Wellness Program in place, but I needed to add health screenings and additional support and resources to get a comprehensive plan," says **Carmen Terry**, health and wellness coordinator for Lycoming County Insurance Consortium. "Healthy Partners told me I was in control of how to run our program. That's not something other companies do."

In contrast, some employers welcome more support. When it's needed, Sam and his team are happy to provide it.

The ultimate goals of the Healthy Partners program are improving population health and saving money.

"One perk is feeling good about taking care of your employees, which I hear a lot," says Sam. "But there are others that directly impact the bottom line for business." Employers benefit from having a healthier workforce. According to the *Harvard Business Review*, for every dollar invested in wellness, employers see an average savings of \$2.71. The return on investment is significant. As a result of its involvement with Healthy Partners, Ward experienced a total annual cost savings of more than \$227,000.

Healthy Partners also worked with eight nearby school districts through the Lycoming County Insurance Consortium to develop a comprehensive program that included initial health screenings, program support, and follow-up screenings.

"We saw over \$1 million in savings for our program participants over the course of the 2016-2017 year," says Carmen. "Among the health benefits — we had 15 people who lost a total of 130 pounds."

"Ward Manufacturing, LLC has been tremendously blessed with the success of our corporate wellness program," says Brad. "We realized that we not only impact our employees' lives, but also those of their family members and friends and the communities we live in, too."

The UPMC Susquehanna Healthy Partners Program is available at no cost to employers in the community. Employers of 50+ employees who are interested in the program should contact Sam Sawyer at 570-321-2289.

Sam and his group took the lead from the start and helped us lay out the road map of a successful program.



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When you give to Susquehanna Health Foundation, you can be sure that your donations will stay in our area. Although UPMC Susquehanna is now a part of UPMC, your gifts to Susquehanna Health Foundation will never leave our region.

Every dollar you give here stays here to benefit those we serve in our local community. And, every dollar you give stretches a little further because of UPMC Susquehanna's affiliation with UPMC and the additional health system resources it brings.

Each issue of the *Foundation Focus* shares stories of those who give and those who have been helped by those who have given. UPMC, UPMC Susquehanna, Susquehanna Health Foundation, and YOU—together, we can help in more ways than we may have ever dreamed possible.

Thank you for all that you do to help UPMC Susquehanna continue its mission of providing world-class health care to those in our community.



2018 Lifetime Achievement Awards Event





ajor donors and individuals who make a significant impact on UPMC Susquehanna and the care provided in our community received recognition at Susquehanna Health Foundation's 4th Annual Lifetime Achievement Awards Celebration. The event, sponsored this year by UPMC Health Plan, was held at DiSalvo's Restaurant in Williamsport with a reception and dinner sponsored by Stantec. Citizens & Northern Bank sponsored the entertainment following the awards ceremony.

The awards program began with recognition of new major donors of \$10,000 or more and major donors who reached a new giving level. They received UPMC Susquehanna pens as a token of appreciation. Overall, major donors have provided more than \$66.5 million in contributions since 1984 to help meet the health care needs of the region.



common mission: high-quality, easily accessible health care for our family, friends, and neighbors at an affordable cost.

- Steven P. Johnson



"From industry to nonprofit, from education to medicine, we're all here to support one common mission: high-quality, easily accessible health care for our family, friends and neighbors at an affordable cost," said **Steven P. Johnson**, UPMC Susquehanna president. "Your gifts make it possible to excel in what we do, including earning recognition as a top-performing health system at the national level, and continuing to grow through the addition of medical professionals and state-of-the-art technology."



One individual and two couples received Lifetime Achievement honors for their service and leadership in the community and to UPMC Susquehanna.











PHYSICIAN AWARD

Dr. F. Ardell Thomas received the Physician Lifetime Achievement Award for his leadership and vision, which significantly advanced the delivery of health care in Tioga County. Throughout his distinguished career, Dr. Thomas guided UPMC Susquehanna Soldiers + Sailors through the quickly evolving world of health care, serving in multiple leadership roles while maintaining a reputation as an excellent physician, lifelong learner, and pillar of the Wellsboro community.

PHILANTHROPIST AWARD

George and Shirley Durrwachter were honored with the Philanthropist Lifetime Achievement Award. Through their exceptional generosity, service, and commitment to education, the couple has made a profound impact on the lives of others in the greater Williamsport community through scholarships, medical teaching tools, and support of significant capital projects, including the Tower addition at UPMC Susquehanna Williamsport. They also have demonstrated outstanding civic and charitable responsibility while encouraging others to make leadership contributions in the community.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Tim and Ruthanne Crotty received the President's Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of their role as exceptional leaders. They have donated their personal time through several decades of leadership and service to building their community. Through their service and financial contributions to UPMC Susquehanna and other organizations, they have had a positive impact on the financial and physical health of the region. These contributions, along with their character, integrity, and strong relationships, have provided a bridge of support that extends to the future.





BUSINESS & INDUSTRY GIFTS

Business & Industry Gifts

recognizes businesses that supported Susquehanna Health Foundation with a contribution of \$5,000 or greater. Donors are listed through **June 30, 2018.**

\$1,000,000 +

Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania Ward Manufacturing LLC

\$250,000-\$999,999

The Muncy Bank & Trust Company Verizon Wireless

\$100,000-\$249,999

AutoTrakk, LLC

Citizens & Northern Bank

Dominion Foundation

M&T Bank

McCormick Law Firm

The Park Home, Inc.

PRIMUS Technologies Corp.

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Shell Exploration & Production Company

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TurnKey Construction, Inc.

TurnKey Electric, Inc.

Welliver McGuire Inc.

Wolyniec Construction, Inc.

In Memory of James T. Wolyniec Sr.

\$50,000-\$99,999

Alexander Building Construction Co. Anadarko Petroleum Corporation

Bayard Printing Group

Glenn O. Hawbaker Inc. Charity Golf Outing

Hudock Capital Group, LLC

iHeart Media

Jersey Shore State Bank

Larson Design Group

PPL Electric Utilities

Weis Markets, Inc.

\$25,000-\$49,999

ARAMARK Healthcare

Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP

BB&T

Beiter's Inc.

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 $In \, Honor \, of \, Construction \, Special ties,$

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Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc.

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L. F. Driscoll Company, LLC

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In Memory of Richard G. Thomas

McNerney, Page, Vanderlin & Hall

Ronald McDonald House Charities of N.E.P.A., Inc.

Santander Bank

Shell Appalachia Charity Golf

Tournament

Stantec

Talisman Energy USA Inc.

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Lundy Industrial Realty, L.P.

Norcen Industries Inc.

Pennram Diversified Mfg. Corp., Andrew and Karen Hooker

Steinbacher Enterprises, Inc. - Dave and Karen Steinbacher

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. James Steinbacher

In Memory of Karen Steinbacher

Wm. L. Robinson Concrete

\$5,000-\$14,999

Aquarius Pool & Patio, Inc. - Gene and Mary Ann Schurer & Pam Keefer

Ausley Construction Co., Inc.

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Brodart Co.

Central Equipment Company

Ruth Croyle and East End Lumber Company

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EmCare, Inc.

Forrester Environmental, Inc.

Fraternal Order of Eagles - Williamsport Aerie #970

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The Herman O. West Foundation

Hermance Machine Company

Houseknecht's Machine & Tool Co., Inc.

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Keystone Data Systems, Inc.

L-3 Communications Electron Devices

Lezzer Lumber Co. - Pennsdale

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Little League Baseball, Inc.

McDonald's - Doug and Frani Doherty

 $\label{eq:mid-State} \mbox{Mid-State Beverage Co. - Don and Betty} \\ \mbox{Jo Heim}$

Montgomery Plumbing Supply Company Murray Motors - Brian Peace and Bill

Brown PATHS, LLC

Patterson-Brandt, Inc.

Penn Cabling Services, Inc.

Penn Recycling, Inc.

PMG Advisors, LLC

Quandel Construction Group, Inc.

Schneider Valley Farms Dairy

In Honor of Schneider Valley Farms Dairy Employees

SelecTrim Corporation, James Wood and Marcus Annicelli

Sher Properties, Inc.

Susquehanna Paper & Sanitary Supply Corporation

Trojan Tube Sales and Fabrications, Inc.

Wellsboro Electric

Wellsboro Rotary Club

Williamsport Moving Company

In Memory of Jack Decker





"Brad" Scovill has been in his role for almost four years, but the partnership between the bank and UPMC Susquehanna Soldiers + Sailors has been in place for decades. Over the years, several bank directors also served as directors of the hospital's board. Today, Citizens & Northern Bank is one of UPMC Susquehanna's Signature Gifts Donors and sponsors the UPMC Susquehanna Invitational Golf Tournament and Lifetime Achievement Awards event.

"It's a natural partnership to encourage both financial and physical health in our community," Brad says. "As President and CEO, I'm carrying the torch of those before me."

Citizens & Northern Bank was chartered in Wellsboro 154 years ago. UPMC Susquehanna Soldiers + Sailors opened its doors about 75 years later. As Citizens & Northern Bank grew, offices began to reach into Lycoming County, an area with a familiar neighbor — UPMC Susquehanna. Because the bank already had a connection with the health system, it was, as Brad says, "a relationship that became strengthened with the natural progression of Citizens & Northern Bank's growth in the Lycoming County community."

Brad and his wife, Joanne, live in Wellsboro, just a few houses away from Soldiers + Sailors — and they are personally active in supporting the health system, most

BUSINESS & INDUSTRY SPOTLIGHT // CITIZENS & NORTHERN BANK



(6) It's a natural partnership to encourage both financial and physical health in our community.

recently as co-chairs of the Friends of Soldiers + Sailors
Annual Campaign. Citizens & Northern Bank matched
20 percent of the funds raised through the campaign,
bringing the total amount to \$40,000. In addition, UPMC
Susquehanna Soldiers + Sailors contributed \$10,000, bringing
the campaign total to \$50,000 — enough to purchase two
baby warmers for the hospital's obstetrics unit.

UPMC Susquehanna is just one of the causes the team at Citizens & Northern Bank supports. Through the bank's "Giving Back, Giving Together" program, the team chooses a new cause to raise money for each year. Citizens & Northern Bank certainly embraces a culture of giving — one that UPMC Susquehanna is grateful to be a part of.



CADUCEUS SOCIETY

The Caduceus Society recognizes physicians who

made a commitment of \$2,500 or greater to Susquehanna Health Foundation. Donors are listed through **June 30, 2018.**

\$500,000+

Dr. and Mrs. Francis M. Powers Jr.

\$100.000-\$499.999

Anesthesia Associates of Williamsport Dr. and Mrs. Rodwan and Zokaa Rajjoub Dr. Hani and Eiman Tuffaha

\$50,000-\$99,999

Jean and John Burks

In Memory of Joseph R. Calder, MD Dr. and Mrs. George A. Manchester

\$25,000-\$49,999

Dr. and Mrs. John Becker

Dr. and Mrs. E. Lee Bellinger

Dr. Ronald E. DiSimone

Dr. and Mrs. Daniel R. Gandy

Dr. Barbara Heere and *Dr. Bernard Butkiewicz

*Dr. Ted Jr. and Jane Larson

Dr. and Mrs. David J. Lopatofsky

Dr. William C. and Beverly H. McCauley Drs. Timothy and Kathleen Pagana Dr. and Mrs. Donald Shaw *Dr. and Mrs. Gordon A. Shaw In Memory of Joseph R. Calder, MD Susquehanna Urologic Associates

\$10,000-\$24,999

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Anonymous

Darius Abadi, DO

Dr. and Mrs. Victor P. Becker

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Jim and Peg Redka

Dr. Christopher Reilly and Dr. Teresa Bianco

Dr. René and Diana Rigal

Dr. and Mrs. Warren L. Robinson

Dr. and Mrs. Sandeep and Maria Sagar

Dr. Phyllis Scott

Dr. and Mrs. Mohammad Shafique

Keith and Pam Shenberger

In Memory of Ann L. Shenberger In Memory of Lynn A. Overdorff Jr.

Dr. and Mrs. Rohit G. Singh

Dr. and Mrs. F. Ardell Thomas

Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Weber

\$2,500-\$9,999

Anonymous (6)

Dr. and Mrs. Carl R. Albright

Dr. and Mrs. David N. Ambrose

Charles and Karla Anderson

In Memory of Albert Confer

Dr. Elizabeth and Eric Anderson

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Drs. David and Susan Borys

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Drs. Dilip Elangbam and Subadani Angom

Dr. and Mrs. Joseph G. English

Durriya S. Esaa, MD

Dr. and Mrs. Todd W. Fausnaught

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Dr. and Mrs. Steven W. Geise

Dr. Kenneth I. Glaser

Dr. and Mrs. Russell Gombosi

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In Memory of Elizabeth Pagana

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Rosemary Wiegand and Brett Homan

Dr. and Mrs. Daniel E. Wolfe

Edward G. Wyshock, MD

The Keystone Society lists those who make a

commitment to contribute \$250 or more annually to Susquehanna Health Foundation.

Listed below are all Keystone Society members through June 30, 2018.

\$1,000-\$9,999

2016-17 WAHS Women's Soccer Team

David and Rita Alexyn

American Legion Riders Post #36

Helen L. Antrim

Bank of America Charitable Foundation.

Inc.

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Brandon Davis

Melissa and Robert Davis

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Annette M. Di Eugenio

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Tiffany T. Eisner

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continued on page 27



Donate to Make a Wish Come True

Susquehanna Health Foundation asked our patient care managers to share their wish lists — items that operational funding cannot cover this year. The Foundation is asking the community to provide the necessary funds, or a portion of the funds, to purchase the items below. If you would like to make a gift to purchase one or more Wish List items, please enclose your check in the magazine's attached envelope and note which item(s) you wish to fund. You also can make a gift at UPMCSusquehanna.org/Donate, and note in the comments section which item(s) you would like to fund.



Supplies for Grief Backpacks for Children *Heartworks*

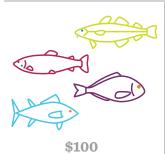
Heartworks provides free grief support for children and teens. Grief support for a child after losing a loved one, whether a parent, grandparent, or sibling, is vital for the emotional health and development of the child. As funding becomes available, Heartworks is expanding its program by placing reusable grief support backpacks in local libraries and schools. The backpacks include grief support books for various ages as well as a packet the children can keep. Your support will replenish the packets and assist grieving children.





Step2 Ride-On Cruiser and Toy Kitchen *Pediatrics*

The pediatric department moved this fall to a new location within UPMC Susquehanna Williamsport. This dedicated space for pediatric patients is larger and includes a bigger playroom. Your support in purchasing the cruiser or kitchen will bring joy to children while they are healing and staying at the hospital.



Fish for Aquarium UPMC Susquehanna Cancer Center

The salt water aquarium in the Cancer Center's lobby at UPMC Susquehanna Divine Providence is in need of additional fish. Aquariums are known to reduce stress and anxiety for patients and their loved ones. Your gift to add to the Cancer Center's aquarium will help offer enjoyment and a moment of peace to patients and their families.



\$250-\$400 per piece

Local Artwork UPMC Susquehanna

Art can play an important role in healing and can transform areas into a more enriching environment that nourishes patients' well-being, improves recovery, and even boosts staff morale. Your gift will help create a healing environment that incorporates elements from nature and our local history.

continued from page 25

\$250-\$499 Continued

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Your Contributions at Work The Gatehouse

he Gatehouse may be located on the third floor at UPMC Susquehanna Divine Providence, but when you step through the doors, you immediately know it's different than other areas of the hospital. Instead of beeping monitors, you find quiet and peace. Even the appearance of The Gatehouse is different — it's a little less clinical and a little more like home.

When nearing the end of their lives, many patients want to spend their final days, weeks, and months at home. Unfortunately, in some cases, that isn't an option. The Gatehouse, an acute care facility that provides inpatient hospice care, allows patients to experience the next best thing to being at home while receiving the care they need. The result is that families don't have the responsibility of caring for their loved ones but can simply enjoy being with them during the time they have left.

"We do everything we can to make patients and their families comfortable," **Michele Guiswhite, LPN,** says. "We also do our best to grant any of their special requests."

In the past, those special requests have involved everything from spending time with pets, who are welcome at The Gatehouse, to hosting a private concert for a patient in the facility's family room. During the holidays, individuals and community groups come together to provide festive decorations for The Gatehouse and meals for the families who come to stay with loved ones during that time.

The Gatehouse has seven private patient rooms, a kitchen, a family room, a playroom, and a meditation room. Many of the patient rooms are furnished with a recliner and/or pull-out sofa to accommodate guests.

"We share the final moments as the patient's caretaker, but often families begin to see us as an extension of their family," Michele says. "And we feel the same way."

While nurses are essential to providing patient care, volunteers also play an integral role in creating the homelike environment. Before becoming a nurse, Michele volunteered at The Gatehouse, and she credits that experience with inspiring her to become an LPN. Volunteers at The Gatehouse play music, offer entertainment, and listen to patients, providing additional support to them and their families.

Wendy McCormick has volunteered at The Gatehouse since it opened in 2006. She helps in several ways, including playing the harp for patients and their families.

"At a time when patients may be restless, and their families are feeling anxious or stressed, they express that the sounds of the harp provide a calming feeling," Wendy says.

With a background in music therapy, Wendy enjoys playing the harp, but her reason for volunteering at The Gatehouse is more personal.

"My goal is to share my presence with the patients and their families — I'm there to connect with them on a personal level when they need someone to listen or talk to," Wendy says.

Several years ago, Wendy lost both of her parents as well as her father-in-law within a short time frame. One spent time under hospice care at home, another at a nursing home, and yet another at The Gatehouse. Because of these experiences, Wendy understands the hospice environment from different perspectives — something she notes as being key to helping her relate to patients and families.

In addition to benefiting from the homelike environment, comfort, and care The Gatehouse provides, each patient also receives a homemade quilt or afghan. Veterans are recognized with one that features red, white, and blue. After a patient passes, the quilt or afghan becomes a keepsake for his or her family.

Donations from the community are an integral part of enabling The Gatehouse to remain open, because insurance reimbursement does not cover the costs of providing care. In fact, The Gatehouse loses money annually and is truly a mission service for our community. Even after the health system's affiliation with UPMC, all donations to the Susquehanna Health Foundation remain local. Supporting The Gatehouse gives you an opportunity to help provide end-of-life comfort and care to those in our community.

Families can choose to honor their lost loved one with a memorial leaf, inscribed with his or her name, that is

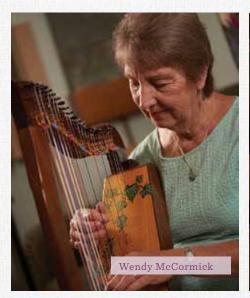
placed on a Tree of Remembrance in the hallway at The Gatehouse. Donating to provide this legacy not only helps offer closure for families but also provides a financial gift that will help future Gatehouse patients.

You can make an impact on The Gatehouse and the patients it serves by making a gift online at UPMCSusquehanna.org/Donate or by using the envelope inside the magazine.



We share the final moments as the patient's caretaker, but often families begin to see us as an extension of their family, and we feel the same way.

- Michele Guiswhite, LPN





LEGACY SOCIETY The Legacy Society recognizes those who made a planned or

estate gift to Susquehanna Health Foundation. The "past" designation distinguishes our members who have passed away but whose estate or planned gifts to the Foundation reflect the lasting legacy they left to help others.

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Plan Now For Your 2018 Tax Break

It's not too early to plan for this year's tax break. If you and your spouse are at least age $70\frac{1}{2}$, you each can transfer up to \$100,000 from your IRA directly to a charitable organization.

Top 3 Benefits:



Satisfies your required minimum distribution



Reduces your taxable income



Allows you to help the charity of your choice with a gift to continue its mission

How to complete an IRA charitable rollover:

Step 1:

Contact your IRA custodian to learn the company's procedures.

Step 2:

Contact Susquehanna Health Foundation for complete instructions to ensure you receive the proper deduction.



Consult with a Tax Professional

Although the process is simple, you should consult with a tax professional to ensure you receive the maximum benefit from your gift.

To learn more about this option or how you can make a gift that will help improve health care in your community, call Tom O'Connell, Gift Officer, at 570-320-7612; or Stephanie Steinbacher, Gift Officer, at 570-320-7041.





A Legacy of Community

What we learned from Williamsport was a sense of community — it always seemed like everyone was looking out for everyone else.

Charlie Santangelo

Retired CFO still making smart financial decisions

harlie Santangelo and his wife, Mary, were a part of the UPMC Susquehanna and Williamsport communities for many years. Charlie spent 14 of those years as chief financial officer at UPMC Susquehanna.

Before making their home in Williamsport, Charlie and Mary had also lived in Harrisburg and northeastern New Jersey, close to New York City. Charlie has something positive to say about each of their previous locations, but he always felt that something was missing. To him, and to Mary, Williamsport is different.

"What we learned from Williamsport was a sense of community — it always seemed like everyone was looking out for everyone else," Charlie says.

Charlie is particularly passionate about the role UPMC Susquehanna plays within the community, providing residents with high-quality health care. That's what motivates him and

Mary to continue investing in UPMC Susquehanna from their current location in Mechanicsburg.

Charlie supports UPMC Susquehanna with a gift that comes directly from his IRA each year, an option that was made available permanently by the IRS a few years ago. Supporting charities this way, allowable only for those over age 70 ½, comes with its share of benefits.

Like Charlie, many retirees are in a similar situation — they have a fixed income and are paying less in taxes than they were when they were working. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017 doubled the standard deduction from \$12,000 to \$24,000 for those who are married, filing jointly, in 2018 — and those over age 65 receive an additional \$1,300 per person added to the standard deduction. For many, this means a shift from itemized deductions to the standard deduction on their personal tax return.

Normally, charitable contributions are only deductible to taxpayers who itemize their deductions. However, the IRA charitable contribution is an option for those who take the standard deduction. What's the benefit? Charitable distributions that come directly from an IRA are excluded from income — up to \$100,000 per person, per year. Because the IRA distribution is not included in your Adjusted Gross Income, you show less income, and, in turn, you pay lower income taxes.

While the tax perk of giving certainly provides a benefit, the motivation behind Charlie and Mary's gifts comes from the impression our community left on them — and their desire to continue to play a role in helping to provide high-quality health care to those in the Williamsport community, a place they once called home.

EMPLOYE DONORS (iGIVE) The iGIVE campaign recognizes current

employee donors of UPMC Susquehanna. Our employees have donated more than \$3 million since 2006. O denotes Hour Club members. The Hour Club is an elite group that recognizes employees who make a tremendous commitment by giving back one hour of pay every pay. Listed below are all new donors from January 1 - June 30, 2018.

IGIVE

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A Hole In One For Emergency Care

The 37th Annual UPMC Susquehanna Invitational Golf
Tournament was held September 17 at the Williamsport Country
Club and featured 120 players. This year's tournament raised
more than \$148,000 to help ensure that our community has
access to excellent physicians, modern facilities and equipment,
and skilled, compassionate staff. Proceeds from this year's
tournament will benefit the Stop the Bleed Program.

Thank you to all sponsors, players, volunteers, and committee members for making this year's tournament another success. We would like to extend special thanks to Stevens & Lee, P.C. for the company's continued support as tournament host as well as our platinum sponsors: Allison Crane & Rigging, Blaise Alexander Family Dealerships, The Liberty Group/Ausley Construction, Stantec, UPMC Health Plan, and Williams.

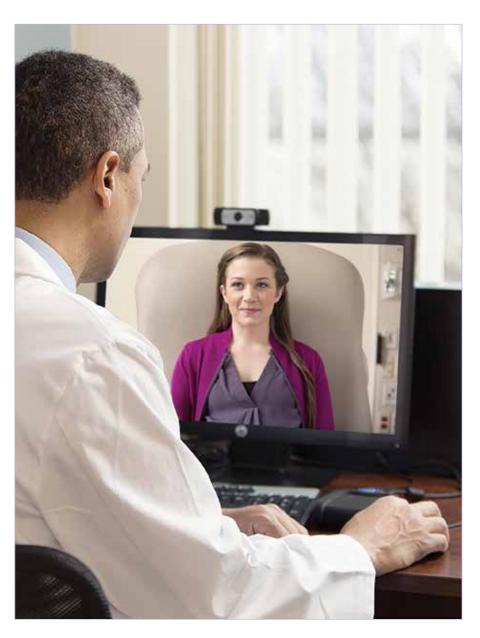
Stop the Bleed Program

A person with a severe traumatic injury can potentially bleed to death within several minutes. The Stop the Bleed Program is a national initiative developed by the White House and Department of Homeland Security. It empowers bystanders to act as first responders by learning how to stop life-threatening bleeding with the use of tourniquet application and wound packing. Proceeds from the tournament will contribute to the purchase of bleeding control kits containing tourniquets and specialized gauze. The kits will be placed in public areas and businesses throughout the UPMC Susquehanna 12-county service area.



TELEMEDICINE — Expanding Access to

Expanding Access World-Class Care



Pennsylvania, health care partnerships like the one that led to UPMC Susquehanna have typically meant a bigger network of care, but only if patients could afford the time and money to travel.

Until now.

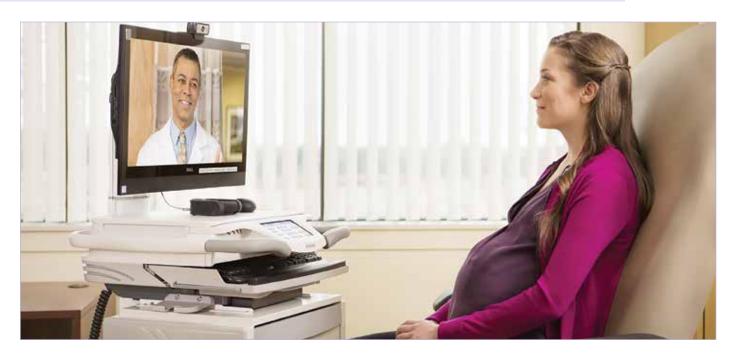
Now, telehealth is bringing health care networks together in the same way that technology has made the world smaller. Today, a vital component of telehealth — telemedicine — can seamlessly connect a patient at UPMC Susquehanna with a specialist at UPMC in Pittsburgh.

"With the help of UPMC Susquehanna's international telehealth platform, our local doctors can connect their patients with world-renowned experts quickly, without the need for patients to travel to a big city," says **Peter Strecker**, telehealth program coordinator for UPMC Susquehanna.

Telehealth encompasses the innovative practice of using telecommunications to offer remote clinical services and health-related education. Telemedicine specifically refers to clinical services that are offered remotely — a provider in one area and a patient in another.

66 With telemedicine, we've empowered patients and their doctors with the ability to see a world-class expert sooner than was ever possible before. 29

Peter Strecker



The breadth of how telehealth can help the community is incredible. Whether it involves a patient attending a diabetes class, a physician checking on a heartfailure patient at home, a school nurse accessing a pediatric specialist, a trauma surgeon assessing a patient in an ambulance, a geriatric specialist seeing patients in a nursing home, a parent using a smart phone to visit the doctor at 3 a.m. for a child with a sore throat, or a concussion specialist assessing an injured player on a football field — telehealth enables patients to access world-class care more quickly and conveniently than ever before.

"Patients are used to searching for the least inconvenient health care option

— a two-month wait for a specialist appointment is better than four months. Urgent Care is faster than an emergency room," Peter says. "With telemedicine, we've empowered patients and their doctors with the ability to search for the most convenient option to see a world-class expert sooner than was ever possible before."

Why Telemedicine?

The reality is that rural areas like northcentral Pennsylvania don't have the number of specialty physicians that urban areas do. That means patients may not have access to a specialty provider in the immediate area. These factors also contribute to physician

burnout, as providers in rural areas put in more hours to travel and maximize the number of patients they can see.

The impact of telemedicine in our community is increased access to world-class care. Telemedicine also enables UPMC Susquehanna to maximize doctors' time. According to Peter, rather than having physicians travel to cover different locations for a few hours per week, reducing the number of appointments they can schedule, telemedicine connects patients with doctors without the need for extensive travel. It brings convenience to patients and work-life balance to doctors.





UPMC Susquehanna's Telemedicine Services

Currently, with their provider's coordination, patients in the following inpatient and outpatient areas at UPMC Susquehanna have access to telemedicine services:

- Endocrinology
- Neurology
- Dermatology
- Psychiatry
- Maternal-fetal medicine for high-risk pregnancies
- Neonatology
- AnywhereCare (on-demand primary or urgent care from any device)

The Future of Telemedicine at UPMC Susquehanna

UPMC is delivering telehealth services around the globe, and UPMC Susquehanna is just beginning to leverage that experience and expertise. According to Peter, within the next year, UPMC Susquehanna's telemedicine program will enable virtually everyone in northcentral Pennsylvania to be within 15 minutes of a telemedicine-capable doctor's office. Although the program has already made an impact on patients and doctors, several other areas of telemedicine will eventually make their way to the region.

Nursing homes and extended care facilities — Having the ability to monitor patients remotely means clinical care doesn't end when a patient leaves the hospital. Giving nursing home or extended care patients immediate access to a physician also improves coordination of care for residents.

Home health — Mobility and transportation are often barriers between elderly patients and health care. Remote monitoring gives physicians the opportunity to monitor patients with complex conditions so patients can remain in their homes longer and avoid any unnecessary travel that puts them at risk.



Pediatric specialties — UPMC
Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh
is one of the nation's top pediatric
hospitals. Through telemedicine,
UPMC Susquehanna will be expanding
access to a level of pediatric care
that previously was only available to
northcentral Pennsylvania residents if
they traveled to New York, Philadelphia,
or Pittsburgh.

The future of telemedicine at UPMC Susquehanna is certainly bright.

What does increased access look like for UPMC Susquehanna patients?

Richard's Story

One recent UPMC Susquehanna patient to benefit from telemedicine is **Richard Raniken**. When the 76-year-old came to the emergency room at UPMC Susquehanna Williamsport, he could barely walk, according to close friend **Andrea Bower**, a surgical technician at the hospital. After a visit with an attending physician, Richard was admitted for observation. He had a variety of tests, including bloodwork, CT scans, and an MRI.

Physicians suspected an infection but couldn't rule out the possibility of a neurological issue. They needed a neurologist on site to evaluate Richard, so they could offer the best treatment. The solution was an evaluation with a neurologist in Pittsburgh, brought directly to Richard through an in-room television

Andrea says Richard felt as if he were the most important patient in the hospital. From 195 miles away, the neurologist reviewed Richard's test results and talked with him about his symptoms.

"The picture was clear, and so was the communication," Richard says. "It was just like a visit with a physician in the office — and he played a valuable role in my care."

The result? A timely answer that led to a clear treatment plan for Richard.

66 I was very proud to see that my local hospital has grown so much and is now able to offer patients care that they may otherwise not be able to get.

– Andrea Bower

"I've worked for UPMC Susquehanna for 32 years, and I was very proud to see that my local hospital has grown so much and is now able to offer patients care that they may otherwise not be able to get," Andrea says. "I had to move my father to Pittsburgh 14 years ago for cancer care at UPMC. If telemedicine had been available then, maybe he could have stayed in his own home."



Former patient Richard
Raniken and his friend Andrea
Bower catch up over coffee
at UPMC Susquehanna
Williamsport, where Andrea
works and Richard recently
benefited from a telemedicine
consult with a neurologist at
UPMC in Pittsburgh.



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Doctors'Day

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For the eighth year, Susquehanna Health Foundation set aside a day to honor physicians, our everyday heroes. The Foundation celebrated National Doctors' Day, March 30, by delivering handwritten notes of appreciation from patients of all ages to our physicians and caregivers, reminding them of the difference they have made in the lives of many.

This year, members of our community submitted 243 notes of appreciation to 125 physicians and caregivers. Not only did patients show their support in the form of notes of appreciation, but also by contributing more than \$18,400. Their contributions are making an impact in areas such as The Gatehouse, Cancer Centers, Breast Health Center, Heart & Vascular Institute, Home Care & Hospice, and many other UPMC Susquehanna facilities and programs.

The Foundation presented awards to the physicians who received the most notes of appreciation and donations in their honor. The honorees were **Dr. Susan Branton, Dr. Edward Wyshock, Dr. Robert Trautwein and Dr. William Pagana**, with Dr. Branton receiving the top recognition from her patients. We gratefully recognize these physicians and their dedication to providing exceptional care, and we congratulate all the physicians and caregivers who were honored by patients and their families.

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To Dr. Elizabeth Anderson -

"Thank you for being such a competent and caring physician. Your professional expertise and empathetic demeanor are without parallel in medicine. Our deepest appreciation for your continued service as our family physician."

To Dr. Karla Anderson.

"Thank you for the excellent care and amazing surgery to correct my abdominal aneurysm and to open my arteries. Your care of me since then has also been outstanding. I appreciate the concern, the tests, the exams, and the follow-up that you and your staff give me with each visit to you. You coordinate your staff so well. Your nurses are so good — all of them — but especially Jodi. Thank you for all you have done and are doing in my health care. I am very grateful for you."

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To Dr. Susan Branton -

"Each and every day I know you are making a HUGE positive difference in women's lives and their families' lives. We will never forget all you have done and do for us. Thank you for your excellence, caring, and most of all — compassion. You are one in a million, and you bless us all!"



To Dr. Joel D'Hue -

"Thank you so much for the wonderful ability to be able to breathe through my nose again! I appreciate your caring attitude and attentiveness, to both me and my husband. You and your entire staff are an asset to UPMC Susquehanna! Thanks!"

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To Dr. Charles Lamade -

"Thank you for being such a wonderful doctor! Your caring ways, along with your professionalism and expert care, make you one of the best physicians in the area, as well as one of my personal favorites!"

continued on page 46

newdoctors



Wingrove T. Jarvis, MD
Orthopaedics | 570-321-2020

UPMC Susquehanna welcomes Wingrove T. Jarvis, MD, to the Orthopaedic Surgery team. Dr. Jarvis earned his medical degree from University of the West Indies Medical School in Barbados, and he completed residencies in trauma and orthopaedic surgery at South Tyneside and Sunderland Healthcare Group, Sunderland, U.K.; and Wansbeck General Hospital, Glasgow, U.K. Dr. Jarvis also completed fellowships in adult orthopaedic spine surgery with Duke University Medical Center in North Carolina and in orthopaedic trauma surgery with University Hospital of Louisville, Kentucky. Dr. Jarvis will see patients at UPMC Susquehanna Lock Haven.

Steven Barrows, MD *Primary Care* | 570-546-4062

UPMC Susquehanna welcomes Steven Barrows, MD, to the Primary Care team. Dr. Barrows earned his medical degree from Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University in Pennsylvania, and he completed his residency in family medicine at the Williamsport Family Medicine Residency. Dr. Barrows will see patients at UPMC Family Medicine at Muncy.





Anuj K. Chopra, MD *Urology* | 570-784-6041

UPMC Susquehanna welcomes urologist Anuj K. Chopra, MD, to the Urology team. Dr. Chopra earned his medical degree at Penn State University College of Medicine and completed his residency in urology at SUNY at Buffalo in New York. Dr. Chopra will see patients at SH Urology South in Bloomsburg.

Jeffrey Alan Ranta, MD Urology | 570-724-3636

UPMC Susquehanna welcomes Jeffrey Alan Ranta, MD, urologist, to the Urology team. Dr. Ranta earned his medical degree from Georgetown University School of Medicine in Washington, D.C. He completed his residency in general surgery at Georgetown University Hospital and in urology at Lahey Clinic Medical Center at Tufts University School of Medicine in Burlington, Massachusetts. Dr. Ranta will see patients at the UPMC Susquehanna Medical Office Building in Wellsboro.



By bringing the best physicians and advanced medical treatments to our region, UPMC Susquehanna delivers on its promise to provide high-quality, patient-centered care.

Kevin Huang, MD Surgical Services | 570-286-3584

UPMC Susquehanna welcomes Kevin Huang, MD, to the Surgical Services team. Dr. Huang earned his medical degree from Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia and completed residencies at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York and St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland in Michigan. Dr. Huang will see patients at UPMC Susquehanna Sunbury.





Michael Desiderio, DO Cardiology | 570-321-2800

UPMC Susquehanna welcomes Michael Desiderio, DO, to the Cardiology team. Dr. Desiderio earned his medical degree at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and his residency at the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio. He completed a fellowship in cardiology at Morristown Medical Center in New Jersey. Dr. Desiderio will see patients at UPMC Susquehanna's Heart & Vascular Institute in Williamsport.

Mohammad Tahir, MD, PhDBreast Health and Surgical Services | 570-326-8200

UPMC Susquehanna welcomes Mohammad Tahir, MD, PhD, to the Breast Health Center team. Dr. Tahir earned his medical degree from Khyber Medical College and completed a residency at Khyber University Teaching Hospital, National Health Service, in Pakistan. He earned his doctorate in breast cancer research and master's degree in public health from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. Dr. Tahir will see patients at the Breast Health Center at UPMC Susquehanna Divine Providence in Williamsport.





Laura Smith, MD Primary Care | 570-748-1260

UPMC Susquehanna welcomes Laura Smith, MD, to the Primary Care team. Dr. Smith earned her medical degree from Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia and completed her residency at Chesterfield Family Practice Residency in Richmond, Virginia. Dr. Smith will see patients at SH Family Medicine at Lock Haven.



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 $continued from \,page\,43$

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To Dr. Warren Robinson -

"Cancer as a disease is frustrating and very tough. But good oncologists like you make this illness a little less rough. It's not just the treatment, but the care and empathy shown by doctors like you, which makes the world a better place to live in. Thank you for everything."

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Double the Blessings at Soldiers + Sailors

Having recently celebrated the first birthday of her healthy twin daughters, **Autumn** and **Brooke**, **Nicole Butters** said she is grateful she was able to give birth to them at UPMC Susquehanna Soldiers + Sailors, where she was close to home and near her family.

"When it came time to deliver my babies, I knew I wanted to deliver here," Nicole says. "They had everything I needed right here."

With physician experts, cutting-edge obstetrics equipment such as the GE Panda Warmer, a spa-like maternity unit, and the staff's family-friendly style, Nicole says she felt right at home.

"I'd had the experience of being in a larger hospital outside of the area earlier in my pregnancy, and it was missing the warmth, compassion, and attentiveness of the staff here. I felt like family here," Nicole says. "It's quiet and relaxing, the staff responds very quickly to your call bell, and they made sure I was completely comfortable with taking care of my babies before I went home."

Nicole now shares her positive experience with friends who are expecting.

"I tell everyone to consider delivering at UPMC Susquehanna Soldiers + Sailors, because the care I received was exceptional," Nicole says. "From the nurses and doctors to the cleaning and kitchen staff — everyone was so friendly and made sure all of our needs were met. I wouldn't want to deliver my babies anywhere else!"



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