

*Welcome*



**I HOPE THIS ISSUE** of our *Partners* newsletter will inspire you as much as being a part of the Emory Healthcare team inspires me every day. Being at least partially responsible for making a positive difference in someone else's life brings value to your own. When Emory Healthcare employees give not only of their time and efforts but also financially, they make possible tangible things while building community and morale. I have witnessed the willing engagement of everyone since my first day here in 1994. Each time I see a gift go to improve our hospitals in some way, I'm reminded how everyone's support helps us make great strides.

—Sylvester Everhart Jr., Guest Services Manager, Emory University Hospitals

**35 YEARS AND STRONGER THAN EVER**

**THIS YEAR THE CARLYLE FRASER HEART CENTER** celebrates its 35-year anniversary. During this time, it has become one of the most innovative and comprehensive heart centers in the country.

The idea for the center came out of the tragic and unexpected death of the man for whom the center is named. Carlyle Fraser was the founder of the world's largest automotive replacement parts company, Genuine Parts. His life was cut short in 1961. He was just 66 years old when he died unexpectedly from a fatal heart attack. Cardiologist Linton Bishop treated him with the best medicine available, but the understanding, diagnosis, and procedures for heart disease were fairly rudimentary at the time. After Fraser's death, Bishop vowed to develop a progressive heart center that would better advance cardiovascular care and prevent deaths.

Fraser's family and friends, under the leadership of Richard McDonald Fraser and Nancy Fraser Parker, pledged \$1 million in 1975 to establish the center. Wilton Looney, Carlyle Fraser's successor at Genuine Parts, continued the family's legacy with true interest and financial support. As a member of the center's advisory board since its inception, he has raised more than \$22 million to modernize cardiac care. This incredible initiative has saved thousands of lives. The



*The Fraser family at the dedication of the Carlyle Fraser Heart Center. Left to right: Paul A. Duke, Jean Fraser Duke, Mrs. Carlyle (Isobel) Fraser, Nancy Fraser Parker, and Jack Fraser, unveil the portrait of Carlyle Fraser.*

center has helped some 40,000 patients and has been called one of Atlanta's "brightest crown jewels." The center quickly achieved world recognition for pioneering efforts in cardiology and its progressive comprehensive care.

Now housed on the fourth floor of Emory University Hospital Midtown, the Carlyle Fraser Heart Center was redesigned completely and expanded eight years ago. It includes the most utilized cardiac

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**STRONGER THAN EVER** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

catheterization lab in Atlanta, a 20-bed cardiac observation unit, a dedicated MRI for cardiac imaging, two positron emission tomography scanners that perform one of the highest volumes of cardiac PET scans in the country, a comprehensive arrhythmia center, and a state-of-the-art treatment center for patients with congestive heart failure.

Milt Watkins, who recently made a generous donation to the center, is one of its success stories. (See story below.) He is extremely grateful for the treatment he received. His doctors saved his life not once, but twice. "I have watched the center grow into one of the best treatment facilities in the country," he said. "I'm glad in my own small way I could give something back to help them do their incredible lifesaving work."

## A gift from the heart

**ONE MOMENT**, Milt Watkins was riding his mountain bike. The next, he woke up on a neighbor's lawn. At the time, the 44-year-old CEO of a chemical brokering company in Woodstock, Georgia, had been training for a strenuous hunting trip with clients. The blackout confused him. "I don't know how long I was out, but I felt really nauseous and felt excruciating pain in my elbow," Watkins said.

He always had stayed in shape. Watkins regularly played racquetball. He ran and trained horses. But serious heart trouble also ran in the family. At age 52, his father died from heart problems. Watkins suspected something must be seriously wrong. He somehow walked his bike home, and his wife immediately took him to see his doctor. After performing an EKG, his doctor told him to see Emory physician Byron Williams Jr.

Watkins credits Williams, Martha Looney West Professor of Medicine and chief of medicine at Emory University Hospital Midtown (EUHM), with giving him the life he has now. After arriving at Williams's office, Watkins was

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## All aboard!

**THANKS TO THE GENEROUS SUPPORT** of the Emory University Hospital Auxiliary, the Center for Rehabilitation Medicine was able to purchase a new bus for its patients. Equipped with a wheelchair lift, two areas reserved for wheelchairs, and seating for 12 more people, the bus will be used to promote independence and provide opportunities to practice maneuvering during recovery or rehabilitation.

The bus will allow therapists to take patients on community outings, such as to the grocery store, bowling, or adaptive golf clinics. These activities offer patients and their families safe environments in which to practice navigating community barriers with the help of therapists.

Your gift to Emory Healthcare directly supports expanded or new services for our patients, their family members, and staff.



*Catherine Maloney, Director, Center for Rehabilitation Medicine, cuts the ribbon on the new bus as members of the Emory University Hospital Auxiliary (right) join patients and staff (left) for the dedication. Afterward the auxiliary took a short campus tour on the bus back to Emory University Hospital.*

## Emory Healthcare makes UHC history

**PARTNERS OF EMORY HEALTHCARE** make an extraordinary impact on the lives of Emory Healthcare patients. Each day, the Emory team demonstrates the extraordinary through an unrelenting focus on quality, evidencing a commitment and dedication to patients and proving that Emory Healthcare is a leader in delivering exceptional care.

As an academic medical center, one of the highest recognitions is to be a quality leader among our peers nationally. Five years ago, Emory Healthcare implemented a strategic goal to hold ourselves accountable in achieving high quality patient-centered care. The goal was to rank among the top academic medical centers in University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC). We achieved that this year when, out of 101 academic medical centers ranked by UHC, Emory University Hospital and Emory University Orthopaedics and Spine Hospital ranked 10 and Emory University Hospital Midtown ranked 11.

UHC rankings rigorously look at how academic medical centers are doing in multiple dimensions of quality and safety. They provide the best national quality measure-

ment system available. So Emory has been on a journey to make improvements that will improve our UHC rankings while redefining the care we deliver to our patients. These achievements are built on a foundation of years of effort and are a true testament to the collaboration and dedication of all members of the Emory team and our donors. This marks the first time in UHC history that two facilities from the same organization have placed this highly in the rankings of hospital quality.

The interest and commitment our partners show toward our patients and their families helped garner this ranking, which distinguishes us among our academic medical center peers and proves, once again, that Emory is one of the nation's premier destinations for health care.



*John Fox, President and CEO, Emory Healthcare*

## Teamwork and giving

**EMPLOYEE** and community donations are put to good use throughout Emory Healthcare. The development support teams, who direct how unrestricted donor gifts are spent, have helped fund new opportunities and urgent needs in the following areas:

### Emory Healthcare

- \$20,000—Therapeutic Music Program—provides our hospitals and clinics with therapeutic music for patients, families and staff

### Emory University Hospital Midtown

- \$20,000—Social Services—supports services that promote healing, which some patients do not have the resources to purchase

- \$14,000—C.A.R.E. TV channel—24/7 TV channel that provides programming to calm anxious patients and families

### Emory University Hospital

- \$20,000—Patient and Family Resource Center—gives families a place to relax, stay connected, and find resources to help them manage health challenges



- Budd Terrace, Wesley Woods Center Alzheimer's Patient Enrichment—funding for two digital aquariums that display the sights and sounds of underwater Hawaii

*Janie Alexander, Volunteer and Certified Music Practitioner, helps create a comforting environment through soothing music at Emory Midtown.*



## Many ways to fulfill a mission

**SUSAN SHAPIRO** had two goals when she decided she wanted to become a nurse: to improve the profession and to make the world a better place. She did not, however, think she could do that by donating money to her employer. “When I was younger,” she said, “I asked, ‘Don’t I contribute enough sweat equity working my 40 hours a week?’”

Today, she thinks differently.

“I’ve come to recognize that organizations like the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing and Emory Healthcare can’t do the great work they do on their income streams alone. I now contribute so that both entities can continue to engage in cutting-edge work; support faculty and staff to stretch their personal and professional boundaries; develop the potential of students, faculty, and nurses; and continue to make state-of-the-art education and patient care available to underserved communities.”

*“I’ve come to recognize that organizations like the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing and Emory Healthcare can’t do the great work they do on their income streams alone.”*

She still contributes that sweat equity. Last March she became the associate chief nursing officer for nursing research and evidence-based practice at Emory Healthcare and the assistant dean for strategic initiatives at the School of Nursing. While that’s a lot to put on a business card, it essentially means that her job blends the work of nursing, research, education, and practice into one. It also means she works to make the profession better overall and nursing at Emory the best it can be. “I say I’m bilingual at work, doing both practice and research,” Shapiro said. “Today I absolutely love it all.”



Shapiro initially didn’t plan to do research. “I wanted to be a nurse, period, as far back as I can remember,” she said. “I wanted to be the one to help the patient after the doctor was gone and to make sure they were given the best care available.”

Now at Emory, Shapiro works with nurses to use science-based evidence to help improve their medical practice. “The nurses I work with are fantastic—they really are committed to making a real difference in patients’ lives, and they all work so hard,” Shapiro said. Case in point: she had an MD/PhD student shadow a few nurses for 12 hours. “He said he had no idea how much there is and the complexity of what we do and the ambiguity nurses must navigate,” she said. “He said following them left him totally exhausted.”

Shapiro says what makes working at Emory so special is the genuine enthusiasm she sees in the staff. “What I love about Emory is that you can do anything you have the energy to do, and if you genuinely buy into Emory’s mission and values—nursing, leadership, scholarship, social responsibility, health care and serving humanity—there’s no better mission to have to fulfill.” Shapiro understands the importance of giving in more than one way.

## Emory University Hospital says farewell to its Calhoun Oak

**FROM THE INCEPTION OF EMORY UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL**, the hospital’s entrance was graced by the leafy presence of a majestic oak tree. Coined the Calhoun oak in the fall of 1964—a tribute to F. Phinizy Calhoun, Sr., late chair of the department of ophthalmology, and his fondness for the white oak—the beloved tree was a symbol of the hospital. Much was done to care for and preserve the Calhoun oak, but the tree recently became infested with ambrosia beetles, and several failed attempts were made to rid the tree of the insects and bring it back to health. However, little can be done once ambrosia beetles move in, and several arborists advised it be removed.

The tree was removed to prevent its falling and damaging the hospital or injuring our patients and staff. To preserve the memory of the Calhoun oak, the plaque fixed to the tree will be mounted on a piece of the oak’s wood and presented to the Calhoun family. Later this winter, we will transplant one of the trees from the front of the Emory Clinic Building B to the same spot where the Calhoun oak stood.



For the full history of the Calhoun oak, visit <http://emoryhistory.emory.edu/enigmas/CalhounOak.htm>.

## EHC PEOPLE

John Fox welcomes Becky Blalock to the EHC Board of Advisors. As senior vice president and chief information officer of Southern Company, Blalock has led the organization to be recognized consistently as one of the 100 most innovative companies and 100 best places to work in information technology.



Donna Bergeson, Emory Healthcare Advisory Board Chair, and John Fox, Emory Healthcare President and CEO, thank retiring EHC Advisory Board members for their active involvement. “We are very fortunate in the wealth of expertise and knowledge that each member has brought to the table,” said Fox. “Everyone’s dedicated service has been greatly appreciated.” Pictured are (left to right) Donna Bergeson, Michael Russell, Dr. Harold Ramos, Ron Brill, Don Plunkett, and John Fox.



*Gifts that help us grow*

**THE EMORY UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL MIDTOWN**

Auxiliary gave \$62,000 to expand the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) and to support the infants and families the unit serves. The auxiliary also donated \$8,000 for the support room for grieving families in the maternity center.



*Infant Effreet is held by Vivian Henry, one of many EUHM auxiliary volunteers who share their love and time with the tiny babies in the NICU.*

Projects and purchases made possible by the auxiliary's fundraising efforts, including past donations to the NICU and to the neurosurgery unit, have made Emory Midtown a welcoming, serene, and more comfortable place for patients, families, and staff.

**Hurst inspired many as cardiologist, teacher**



**WORLD-RENOWNED** Emory cardiologist J. Willis Hurst passed away Saturday, October 1, 2011. He was 90. Hurst joined Emory's faculty in 1950 and remained at Emory throughout his 55-year career, including 30 years as chairman of Emory's department of medicine.

During his tenure at Emory's medical school, Hurst taught more than 5,000 medical students and 2,500 residents and fellows and authored or edited more than 60 books. The most famous of his scholarly writings is *The Heart*, the most widely used cardiology textbook in the world.

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told he had a major blockage that needed to be fixed right away. Watkins wanted to make his business trip the next day, so he argued about the treatment.

"I said, 'Doc, how about we do this in a week?'" Williams responded, "If you go to Utah, you'll come back in a box." Williams stood his ground. Eventually, Watkins gave in. "It was a very good thing I did," Watkins said. "When I woke up from the procedure, they told me I had 99 percent blockage. I would have been dead if Dr. Williams hadn't argued so forcefully."

Watkins stayed healthy for the next decade. He stayed active training horses for his daughter, a professional barrel racer. He also maintained a strict diet. But in 2004 Watkins was driving home from work when he started to have chest pains. "About a mile and a half away from home, I called my wife to bring me some aspirin, and she took me to the closest hospital," he said. After he was stable, he was transported to Emory Midtown. "I got there somewhere between midnight and 2 a.m., and there was Williams. I asked, 'What are you doing here?' He responded, 'The better question is, what are you doing here?' He came to see me at two in the morning. That's how dedicated the staff at Emory is."

For the second time, he credited Williams and his medical team for saving his life. In gratitude, he made a generous gift to Emory and the Carlyle Fraser Heart Center. "I would hate for my kids to grow up without me and for my wife to be alone," he said. "Dr. Williams gave me my life back, and I am forever grateful."

**RECOGNITION OF EMORY HEALTHCARE EXCELLENCE**

- *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Emory among the best hospitals this year in 10 specialties, including five top 20 rankings.
- Construction of the \$90 million Health Sciences Research Building began in June. The facility will focus largely on pediatric research and will include lab space for investigations in adult cancer, immunology and drug discovery.
- *U.S. News & World Report* named three Emory hospitals among the Nation's Most Connected for their advanced use of electronic medical records systems.
- Researcher Michael J. Kuhar received the Nathan B. Eddy Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award from the College on Problems of Drug Dependence.
- Kate Heilpern was honored with the Advancement of Women in Academic Emergency Medicine Award by the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine.
- Associate professor of biochemistry Christine M. Dunham was selected as one of only 22 Pew Charitable Trust Scholars in the nation—a program that encourages early career scientists involved in promising medical research.
- A team of Emory scientists collaborating with the Georgia Institute of Technology and Texas Biomedical Research Institute earned a prestigious National Institutes of Health award of nearly \$5.4 million to develop a promising vaccine they hope will end hemorrhagic fevers.
- Emory's Debra Houry was inducted as the president of the 6,500-member Society for Academic Emergency Medicine at its annual meeting in Boston.
- The American Academy of Sleep Medicine named Emory sleep specialist Nancy Collop its president at its annual meeting in Minneapolis.

*To learn more about the many ways Emory Healthcare is advancing medical innovations, please visit us at [emoryhealthcare.org/medicaladvances](http://emoryhealthcare.org/medicaladvances)*

*Save the date!*  
**Second Century Awards**  
Thursday, March 22, 2012, 6:30 p.m.  
The Atlanta History Center  
130 West Paces Ferry Road NW, Atlanta, GA 30305  
For more information, call 404.712.2211

**Giving to Emory Healthcare**

*Yes! I would like to make a gift to support the work of Emory Healthcare.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my personal check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (payable to Emory)  
 I prefer to make my gift with a credit card in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Please check one:  
 MasterCard  Visa  American Express  
Credit card # \_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_ Today's date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*Please direct my gift to (check one or more):*  
 Wherever the need is greatest  
 Emory University Hospital  
 Emory University Hospital Midtown  
 Emory University Orthopaedics and Spine Hospital  
 Emory Johns Creek Hospital  
 The Emory Clinic  
 Wesley Woods Center  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Memorials/Honoraria** My gift is in  memory or  honor of:

NAME OF DECEASED OR HONOREE \_\_\_\_\_  
Please notify: NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY / STATE / ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

My company has a matching gift program.  
Name of company \_\_\_\_\_  
 My company's matching gift form is enclosed.

**Thank you!** Please cut along the dotted line and mail to: Emory Healthcare Development, 1762 Clifton Road, Suite 1400, Atlanta, GA 30322-4001



*Gifts help Emory Healthcare improve quality, safety, and service*

**EMORY UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL** recently received a donation from the Ida Ryan Charitable Trust to help fund much needed renovations to the emergency department. The trust is administered by Wells Fargo Bank and was established by Ida Ryan, who directed that her legacy provide for charitable institutions, particularly hospitals, in Atlanta.

The renovations will start in 2012 and will nearly double the size of the existing location. The administrative offices at the hospital have been dedicated as the Ida Ryan Charitable Suite.

“Emory University Hospital has been privileged to have the financial patronage of so many outstanding

*Wells Fargo representatives Ty Smith, (l, EHC Advisory Board Member) and Joyce Yamaato (r) join Emory University Hospital Chief Medical Officer Ira Horowitz and COO Bob Bachman for the dedication of the Ida Ryan Charitable Suite.*



community leaders, civic organizations, and businesses,” said John Fox, president and CEO of Emory Healthcare. “This generous donation from the Ida Ryan Charitable Trust allows us to maintain a commitment to the quality of clinical outcomes, patient safety, and service and will help us ensure top quality care and process in the emergency department.”

*To learn how you can improve the lives of patients and families at Emory Healthcare, contact Ellen Sacchi, 404.712.4152, [esacchi@emory.edu](mailto:esacchi@emory.edu), or visit [emoryhealthcare.org/gift](http://emoryhealthcare.org/gift)*

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