



Parker News

A News Bulletin of Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation



Spring 2010

Message from the President/CEO:

ParkerNews is designed to provide concise news and updates about the services, innovations and activities of Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation. If you would like further information about the Institute's programs and services, please contact Ron Shafran, Associate Vice President, Public Affairs and Government Relations (rshafran@parkerinstitute.org).



Thank you.

Michael N. Rosenblut
President and Chief Executive Officer

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Queens-Long Island Renal Institute, Inc. to Open at Parker

This spring, the Queens-Long Island Renal Institute, Inc. (QLIRI) will open its doors on the lobby level of the Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation. Patients of the dialysis center, the newest in Queens and Long Island, can expect the finest quality of care, state-of-the-art technology and uncompromised dignity, in a bright, ultra-modern and comfortable setting. QLIRI is licensed by the New York State Department of Health, and is led by a dedicated, interdisciplinary team of experienced Nephrologists and Dialysis Registered Nurses, a Renal Social Worker,



and a Registered Renal Dietitian. The latest in comfortable, private treatment stations; personal TVs and DVDs; free wireless access; and the availability of valet parking and medical transportation mean a better quality of life for dialysis patients. Further information may be obtained by calling (718) 289-2600 or visiting www.qliri.org.

Parker Jewish Institute Foundation 18th Annual Golf Classic at Glen Oaks Club, Old Westbury on May 17



Honoring

Thomas P. Dobbins - Partner
O'Connor Davies Munns & Dobbins, LLP

Thomas P. Dobbins is a graduate of Manhattan College and served in the United States Army 42nd Division famed "Father Duffy's Fighting 69th Regiment" until he was honorably discharged in 1967. He is a partner of O'Connor Davies Munns & Dobbins, LLP, an independent accounting and consulting firm, one of the top 15 accounting firms in the New York metropolitan area serving more than 6,000 national and international clients from industries, such as manufacturing and distribution, foundations, healthcare, education, not-for-profit organizations, real estate/construction and government entities.

Tom is earnestly involved in countless charitable and civic endeavors. He is a Knight of Malta and a Trustee of St. Patrick's Cathedral; he has served on numerous Boards of Directors including The New York Catholic Foundation, Iona Prep, Francis Pope Foundation and Sacred Heart High School. He also serves on the Business Advisory Board to Sterling National Bank. Tom and his wife, Maureen, have exemplified vibrant leadership within the Church and their greater Pelham community. Tom is a past Trustee of the Village of Pelham and coach of little league baseball and soccer. Tom and Maureen have been honored by many institutions for their dedication and generosity including Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York, the Catholic Youth Organization, St. Patrick's Home, Kateri Residence, Providence Rest Home and the Frances Schervier Home and Hospital, among others.

Parker Jewish Institute Foundation is privileged to honor Tom Dobbins. His works reflect excellence, charity, and values we all hold so dear.

Honorary Chairman

Scott L. Stackman - Senior VP
USS Financial Services, Inc.

Golf Co-Chairs

Adrian Flannelly - Chairman/CEO, Irish Radio Network USA
Aine Sheridan - Executive Vice President, Irish Radio Network US

For Reservations, call **(718) 289-2143**.

A Special Relationship

The very special relationship between staff and residents at the Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation is evidenced by the sign created by residents, thanking the Parker staff for braving the snow blizzard of Wednesday, February 10, and coming to the Institute to serve residents with the everyday excellence and warmth that has become a hallmark of Parker.



L to R, Madeline Gardner, resident; Marsha Abramowitz, resident; Michael N. Rosenblut, Parker's President and CEO; and Hank Homm, resident.

Managing Difficult Behaviors in Dementia Residents: A Midnight Snack Program

It began with the insight of a Certified Nursing Assistant one night in 2007, became the subject of careful study, and was formally presented at the recent Aging In America Conference in Chicago: Making late-night snacks available to elderly dementia patients helps reduce the risks of accidents associated with nighttime wandering. This significant finding was presented by Parker's VP of Patient Care Services, Sylvia Williams, RN, BSN, MA, together with RN Manager, Aura Gordon, and Deputy Director of Parker's Nerken Center for Research and Grants, Nicole Andreoli, Ph.D.



Like many other nursing homes, Parker had some residents with dementia who were prone to wandering at night, often exhibiting difficult behaviors. Concerned about falls, the staff was reticent about medication that would make the residents sleepy. One night in 2007, a Certified Nursing Assistant observed a patient get out of bed at about 2 AM, as was his custom, pick up his newspaper and head down the hall. He was preparing to "go to the market," which had been his pattern when he was working. The nurse saw him and thought, "if he was going to work, he should eat a little something." After having a slice of cake and a beverage, he went back to bed. Thus began the "midnight snack program" on Parker's "8 South." By 2008, Parker provided snacks for the nighttime wanderers: cake, sandwiches, cookies, pudding, Jell-O, juices, and coffee, including sugar-free snacks. Since the snack program began, the difficult behaviors characteristic of the wanderers have all but disappeared, and related falls and injuries have decreased by 50 percent. [Click here to link "Managing Difficult Behaviors In Dementia Residents With A Midnight Snack Program."](#)

The Melting Pot Quilt

Created by thirty-five residents, and adorning a lobby wall, the Melting Pot Quilt symbolizes the great cultural diversity at Parker, a microcosm of the melting pot that is New York and America. Each square of the Quilt portrays an important expression of the resident artist's cultural background.

As a popular art activity, the Quilt also brought residents together, resulting in many new friendships and a warm feeling of community. The illustration of the Statue of Liberty at the center of the Quilt was selected by the residents because it was the dramatic harbinger of freedom that many residents or their parents saw when they first came to the United States. It was drawn by Al Gordon, a Parker resident and a former illustrator for Marvel comics. Over the years, Mr. Gordon worked on the drawings of many well known comic characters, such as Batman, Spiderman and Superman, but never for a more appreciative audience than his fellow residents at Parker.



Certified Nursing Assistants in the Care Planning Process

The turnover and retention of Certified Nursing Assistants, increasingly considered the principal caregivers in nursing homes, has often been cited as a significant impediment to the delivery of quality health care; and it has been suggested that a major element of Certified Nursing Assistant job satisfaction is involvement in the decision-making process. Therefore, Parker has designed and implemented a program to simultaneously improve the quality of both resident care and staff work life by training Certified Nursing Assistants to be more involved in the care planning process. The 37.5-hour training program was designed to support the holistic needs of residents and improve Certified Nursing Assistants' ability to plan, manage and evaluate care. It focuses on topics such as person-centered care, communication skills, clinical observation and reporting skills, and working with professional nursing staff. Once the nursing assistants complete this competency-based program, they participate in care planning meetings; oversee the weekly review of each resident's care plan; assist in gathering information on resident problems; report changes; and help ensure that needed documentation has been secured. This project has successfully conveyed the message that Certified Nursing Assistants are valuable members of the health care team, enhanced the staff experience, supported a continuous learning environment, and improved resident care by creating a "culture of caring." [Click here for a poster presentation of the project.](#)

The Big Read at Parker

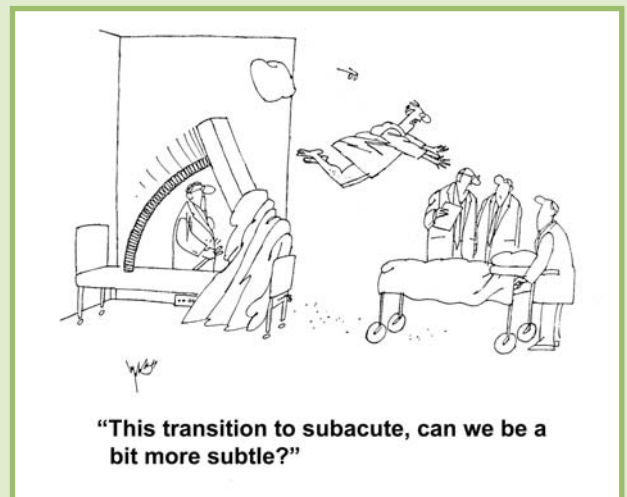
A good book is often thought-provoking. It can awaken our imagination and stimulate our emotions. Reading it can add quality time to life, the essence of Parker's mission. That is why the

Institute is pleased to be part of The Big Read, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts designed to revitalize the role of literary reading in American popular culture. During the month of March, complimentary copies of *The Shawl*, Cynthia Ozick's remarkable fictional work centered on a Holocaust incident, were distributed to a broad range of community organizations. Schools, libraries, museums, senior centers, social and civic groups, also supplied with audio CDs, reader's guides and teacher's guides, held book discussions, showed related films, and engaged in other creative activities. A major collaborator, the Kupferberg Holocaust Resource Center at Queensborough Community College, organized a number of intergenerational events that illuminated the relevance of the book to today's world, and reinforced the lifelong value of reading. [Click here for more information about The Big Read.](#)



Transitions of Care

Conn J. Foley, MD, Senior Vice President for Medical Services and Chair of the Department of Medicine, was part of a team of physicians who displayed and demonstrated the use of the public access electronic version of *Transitions of Care in the Long Term Care Continuum*, at a March 11th symposium of the American Medical Directors Association (AMDA). The presentation included an overview of how medical directors and other practitioners from around the country effected positive change in care transitions. The team also described methods of improving care transitions and reducing unnecessary hospital admissions and readmissions.



[Click here to access *Transitions of Care in the Long Term Care Continuum*.](#)

In addition to Dr. Foley, a founding member of AMDA's research network, presenters included James E. Lett, MD, CMD; Jonathan Musher, MD, CMD; Joseph Ouslander, MD; Jo Ann Fisher, MSN, FNP-C; Alice Bonner, Ph.D., RN; John H. Potomski, DO, CMD; and Anthony Lechich, MD, CMD.

What Are They Saying About Parker?

The Alzheimer's Day Care Center at Parker, a unique, flexible drop-in service that accepts participants at all stages of dementia, recently began offering a Saturday evening session, from 5 PM to 11 PM, once a month. A plentiful, hot dinner is served, and participants are able to enjoy a variety of activities, watch TV, or just chat with friends and staff, in the Center's home-like setting, while family caregivers enjoy a well-deserved night out. Here is the reaction of a family member:

Dear Martha,

I want to tell you that Sally immensely enjoyed her Saturday night session at the Center. When I arrived to pick her up at about 9:30, the "3 Musketeers", Alice, Joan and Sally, were sitting together with broad smiles, watching TV. When we asked Sally if she was ready to go home, she responded with an enthusiastic "No!" I understand that Sally and Alice chatted like teenagers for a good part of the evening, and I watched them offer their affection for each other when we finally coaxed Sally away. They certainly were happy campers. Please schedule Sally for the next Saturday night session.

Thanks again. I can't imagine coping so well with Sally's challenges without the Center.

Sincerely,
Family Caregiver

Did You Know?

Did you know?

- Parker began in 1907 as a shelter for 25 indigent men and women, called the Harlem Home of the Daughters of Israel.

Did you know?

- Residents and patients at Parker may benefit from medical transportation services provided by Lakeville Ambulette Transportation, Inc.

Did you know?

- Parker's Post-Acute Care/Sub-Acute Care/Short Term Rehabilitation program for older adults was the first of its kind, and is still the regional leader.

Did you know?

- Parker's Physicians and Registered Nurses are on-site 24-hours a day.

Did you know?

- The Landsberg Comprehensive Community Hospice at Parker serves terminally ill patients and their families in their homes or in nursing facilities.



ParkerCare

Programs & Services

- Post-Acute Care/Sub-Acute Care/Short Term Rehabilitation
- Long Term Care/Skilled Medical and Nursing Care
- Adult Day Health Care (medical model)
- Alzheimer's Day Care (social model)
- Community/Inpatient Hospice
- Long Term Home Health Care
- On-Site 24-Hour Pharmacy

Residents and patients at Parker may also benefit from renal dialysis and ambulette transportation services provided by:



Parker Jewish Institute for Health Care and Rehabilitation
271-11 76th Avenue, New Hyde Park, NY 11040-1433
www.parkerinstitute.org • 718-289-2100 or 516-247-6500

Adding Quality Time to Later Life