

Newport Hospital Connection

For our friends and supporters.

2022

AN UNLUCKY BREAK LEADS TO A LIFESAVING DISCOVERY

When Lois Mass had the misfortune of taking a hard fall at her home and breaking her ankle, she received, at least, a small measure of comfort knowing she would be taken to Newport Hospital to have her injury surgically repaired. “I knew I’d be in good hands,” she says.

Over the years, the Aquidneck Islander has had a close, personal relationship with her community hospital; two of her three children were born there; her family has received various health services there; and, these days, Lois volunteers at the hospital.

But what the retired nurse didn’t expect—but would come to learn firsthand—were the incredible lengths the Newport Hospital team would go to ensure she had a positive outcome... even if what she came to the hospital for didn’t turn out to be her biggest concern.

A fever raises a red flag

Orthopedic surgeon, Michael Staebler, MD, was scheduled to operate on Lois’ ankle and noticed she had a fever, which persisted even after he had taken steps to reduce it. This prompted Dr. Staebler to consult with Hospitalist Eric B. Radler, MD. Among other tests, Dr. Radler took a CAT scan of Lois’ abdomen, which revealed three large tumors on her colon.

“The fact that I received the wide range of expert care I did all in one place is amazing.”

—Lois Mass, patient

“Dr. Radler was my lifesaver,” Lois recalls. “I’ll be forever grateful to him for pushing and trying to determine what was really wrong with me.” As she sees it, hospital staff could have done the surgery on her ankle and sent her home. “I probably



Lois Mass

would have had temps and treated my fever, but not known about the cancer.”

Surgeon James D. Valente, MD, performed a colectomy on Lois just days after the discovery. Later, Dr. Staebler fixed her ankle and Lois then went to the Vanderbilt Rehabilitation Center for 10 days of recovery. All told, she spent a month in-patient at Newport Hospital.

‘A special, special place’

Being a health care professional herself, Lois was particularly appreciative of the compassionate, team-approach Newport Hospital staff employed to deliver the end-to-end, integrated care she received.

“The fact that I received the wide range of expert care I did all in one place is amazing,” she says. “The doctors, the nurses, the support staff... I can’t thank them enough. I mean, I’m here today and able to enjoy my grandchildren and my great-grandchildren because of Newport Hospital. It’s a special, special place.”

THANK YOU FOR BEING 'PART OF THE PICTURE'

Newport Hospital is the only hospital in Rhode Island to receive designation as a Diagnostic Imaging Center of Excellence by the American College of Radiology, which is the pinnacle of medical imaging care. Thanks in large part to the generosity of our donors, we are able to expand upon our already stellar capabilities with the purchase of new, state-of-the-art diagnostic imaging technology.

A Salute to Health: Be Part of the Picture was a community-wide initiative that raised more than \$760,000 to help buy the equipment, which is now in use at the Newport Hospital campus and Portsmouth Medical Imaging Center.

More specifically, an Open MRI, which delivers a more comfortable patient experience, allows for increased scan volume (as it is less time-consuming), and increases the ability to place/target specific body parts; a new CT scanner with calcium scoring, which determines risk assessments for cardiac disease and enables virtual colonoscopy exams; and three Tomosynthesis machines. The latest in Tomosynthesis technology, these are digital mammography units that provide three-dimensional imagery of the breast and



Digital Mammography Unit



Open MRI

can detect 20 to 65 percent more invasive breast cancers compared to 2-D imaging.

"The care and comfort of our patients and the community is our top priority at Newport Hospital and that requires investment in the latest technologies," says Crista F. Durand, President of Newport Hospital. "We are proud to offer the most advanced equipment available and grateful to those in our community who contributed to their acquisition."

The new equipment will enable early detection and diagnosis of diseases and bring about better patient outcomes and improved health.

THE POWER OF *Gratitude*

For James R. Hogg, a retired United States Navy four-star admiral, expressing gratitude for the lifesaving care he's received at Newport Hospital over the years is helping him do all those things. In 2018, Admiral Hogg spent 45 days at the Vanderbilt Rehabilitation Center at Newport Hospital following surgery to replace a ruptured aortic valve. He lauds the staff for the "compassionate and attentive care" they delivered and credits them with helping to "restore his confidence" after suffering a heart attack. Twice in the last three years, Admiral Hogg has also visited the emergency department at Newport Hospital for heart-related issues and in both cases has found the staff and care he received there to be "remarkable." Additionally, he's been a patient of the Vanderbilt Wound Care Program several times, most recently being treated after he had squamous cells removed from his left leg. With such a history of positive outcomes, the 87-year-old Aquidneck Islander is grateful to have a world-class health care facility right here in the community.

"In my experience, the care you get at Newport Hospital today is head and shoulders better than any military or private hospital I've ever been in."

—Admiral James R. Hogg, United States Navy (Retired)

Newport Hospital Connection, a publication of the Newport Hospital Foundation, is published for the friends and supporters of Newport Hospital. For more information, please contact the Development Office at 401-845-1536.

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