



# Hospital appenings



NGH-NHNH OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2016

## 27th Golf Classic for Ultrasound Clearly a Success

**E**very year since 1990, area golfers have come together at the Norfolk Golf & Country Club to raise funds supporting the purchase of vital equipment for Norfolk General Hospital. The 2016 NGH Foundation Golf Classic was held over 3 days, July 18-20, under perfect weather conditions drawing over 275 players to fund a new Ultrasound unit. This new replacement unit will be used to see clearer digital images of internal body structures and internal organs assisting with diagnosis and treatment of patients at NGH.

Over \$150,000 was raised through golf fees, sponsorships, a silent and live auction that included everything from beautiful artwork to luxurious patio furniture. And, a raffle for 2 seats anywhere with WestJet was offered. There truly was something to entice golfers and non-golfers alike. By the way, the raffle winner was Ken Johnson of Simcoe. He and his wife had been planning on Europe but with this win he is rethinking their vacation destination.



In an email to the organizing committee and volunteers, Brook Shafto Committee Chair stated "The winners in this are really the citizens of Norfolk County and beyond who may need the services of our little gem of a hospital. You can be proud to know that our involvement in this tournament has helped to provide state of the art diagnostic equipment that one of us, or a loved one or a complete stranger passing through our community may need sometime in the future."

Julie Powell Director of Development NGH Foundation recognized those who plan and staff the tournament,

"I want make special mention of the Golf Committee chaired by Brook and dedicated team of volunteers whose energy and enthusiasm to our fundraising effort's success is priceless."

Additionally, this annual event would not be a success without the dozens of sponsors including this year's presenting sponsor The Norfolk Community Foundation, an incorporated public foundation which uses its income to make charitable donations in Norfolk County.

Plans are already underway for the 28th Annual NGH Foundation Golf Classic July 18 & 19, 2017.

# NHNH Staffer Retires

On Wednesday August 31, NHNH Staff enjoyed a potluck lunch for Julie Costigan, to celebrate her retirement at NHNH. Staff shared stories, laughed and shed a few tears. In the afternoon, there was another gathering for Julie attended by residents, family members and volunteers. Julie was happy to have the support from everyone.



**Cathy Squires, Julie Costigan, Linda Schaefer, Erica Reicheld**

Julie started working at the NGH in the late 80's as a Temporary Housekeeping Aide which in time became a permanent position. From there, she accepted a position as a Ward Clerk, in the Emergency Department and 3B. In the meantime, Julie enrolled into some courses at Fanshawe College. These courses enabled her to apply for a position in the Recreation Department at NHNH. She has been the Part Time Recreation Aide for the past 28 years.

"She has been a hardworking and dedicated staff member who has made many friends between NGH and NHNH

over the past 32 years. Staff will miss seeing her friendly face and enjoying her presence on a regular basis" remarked Linda Schaeffer NHNH Activation Coordinator.

As for retirement plans, Julie is currently helping her daughter find a new home. She and husband Mike will do a Northern adventure with the Agawa

Canyon Rail Tour then settle in for some home renovations. Julie is not ruling out returning in a volunteer capacity.

NHNH is happy to welcome Carrie Spicer to the nursing home Recreation Department. Carrie comes with a lot of experience from NGH Activation Department on 4B and various rolls from NGH.

## Nearly \$850,000 in Infrastructure Funding



Norfolk General Hospital will be making patients more comfortable with the planned replacement of air handling unit. This project can go ahead because of a capital funding boost from the Provincial government. The Air handling unit is just one of many projects that Andy Smith Director of Capital Acquisitions for NGH stated what critical but unseen areas needed attention in an application to the Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund HIRF. Although well maintained, some of this equipment has been with the hospital since the 60s and 70s.

The Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care distributed \$175 million to 135 hospitals. NGH received \$843,000 of that grant money. The money must be spent before the end of March 2017 and on the specific repairs as set out in the hospital's application.

Kelly Isfan CEO outlined where the HIRF dollars will be spent to make

repairs; "One of our most needed projects is air-handling unit #7 which services our labour & delivery unit. This is a very large project and the total cost will be about \$475,000. It has absolutely nothing to do with the capital project (Building a Better Hospital Campaign) related to L&D – it is simply a piece of infrastructure that will need to be replaced regardless of whether or not we renovate. It is 26 years past life expectancy."

Three other large projects include installing all OR scrub sinks, replacing of vinyl asbestos floor tiles and completing the installation of upgraded 'Running Man' exit lights at a cost of around \$79,000. Looking to 2017, Isfan anticipates further HIRF funding to replace an emergency generator, an underground generator fuel storage tank, the cooling tower system and add increased cooling capacity.

# NGH Welcomes New Board Members

**B**eth Snowden Norfolk General Hospital Board Chair is pleased to welcome three new Directors to the Board. Richard Gelbard, Trevor Stickl and Jim Mulheron were selected to join the board in governance of NGH. “We are very fortunate to have had several quality applicants from the community. Our newest members bring a varied wealth of knowledge and skills to the table. I look forward to their participation in our continuing efforts to bring quality health care to Norfolk County” said Snowden of the new appointments.

Richard Gelbard is originally from Toronto and moved to Norfolk County 10 years ago and has been a resident of Simcoe for the past 2 years. He is



**Richard Gelbard**

a commercial insurance specialist employed by Norfolk Mutual Insurance. “I believe my commercial insurance experience can bring some varied viewpoints to ensure that we are able to maintain the great standards that NGH currently enjoys and to help ensure the community keeps this great hospital.”

Trevor Stickl is currently living downtown Toronto however he grew



**Trevor Stickl**

up in Norfolk and that is where his family resides. He is a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA, CA) working in the Transaction Services, Deal



Advisory practice at KPMG in Toronto. Prior to this, he helped manage and work on the family tobacco farm near Waterford.

“I am proud to be from Norfolk and want help the local economy and community grow moving forward. Being a member of the Board of Directors at NGH gives me the opportunity to provide insight and oversight to an essential service and business that Norfolk residents count on. NGH is an organization that needs to thrive in order to provide Norfolk with the best opportunity to do the same in the future. That is something I want to be part of.”

Jim Mulheron lives in Port Dover. Jim is the Managing Director of RESCoLease Corp., which is a sister company of RESCO Energy, an engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) organization to the



**Jim Mulheron**

Canadian solar energy sector. RL arranges the financing for RE customers. “My interest in becoming a board member at NGH stems from the professional care and compassion my widowed sister received during the final three years of her battle with exacerbated emphysema. When a board position became available, I thought it would be an excellent opportunity for me to contribute my forty-five years of business finance experience to help with some of the fiscal challenges facing NGH now, and in the future

The NGH Board meets the first Wednesday of each month September through May. Info at: [www.ngh.on.ca](http://www.ngh.on.ca)

# Plentiful Potted Plants Purchases

The Volunteer Association to NGH & NHH wishes to thank you for supporting the Annual Potted Plant Sale. The 2 day sale was held August 12 and 13 at the Sawaya Research Garden, 10 kilometres east of Simcoe. For the past 14 years, Mr. Mel Sawaya has generously donated acres of beautiful potted plants from his Research Garden to the Volunteer Association. This year, Mr. Sawaya offered an extra day of sales held a week later on Saturday August 20.

Hot, humid weather did not deter shoppers from taking advantage of a wide selection of beautiful



**Pat Greenfield, Paul Herrewynen, Brian Miller, Cara Blackwood**

plants which sold for \$20 each with bulk purchasers receiving a discount. Many loaded truck beds and trailers while some crammed their plant purchases into cars.

“Business was fairly brisk early on the Friday and pretty steady into Saturday. When there was a bit of a lull it gave us a chance to refresh with some water or juice” said Jane Miller Sale Coordinator. “I want to thank Mel for the extra day. It really worked in our favour. And, we are truly grateful to the community for their tremendous support as over \$9,000 was raised to assist in the purchase of new equipment for the hospital and nursing home.”

## From the Mailroom

May 12, 2016

There are no words that would adequately convey our gratitude and appreciation for the care and skills of Dr. Braithwaite-Walton and the Emergency Room nursing staff that literally saved a life early in the morning of April 29, 2016.



My husband, Rick, was admitted immediately in the Emergency Room when he told the triage nurse he was experiencing chest pains. The staff sprang into action, giving him their full attention and, then, ten minutes later, he suffered a serious heart attack. The quick reaction and expertise Dr. Braithwaite-Walton and the three nurses made a just-in-time intervention with blood thinners and a clot buster injection that worked. Their co-ordination with ambulance personnel and Hamilton General’s cardiac team meant that he was well prepared and into surgery for the insertion of a stent in less than five minutes upon his arrival in Hamilton.

Later, while reviewing Rick’s condition and experience, the cardiologists in Hamilton complimented the Norfolk General Staff who had worked on Rick and assured us that their work had really made the difference.

No words adequately can say what we feel towards Dr. Braithwaite-Walton and the three Emergency Room nurses but know that the words “Thank You” come from not only Rick and me, but also two daughters and two sons-in-law and five grandchildren (ages 4 to 8 who love their Poppa dearly). Because of their amazing skills, Rick will live to golf, fish, ski and kayak again with his friends and family. He is doing really, really well and we are still trying to come to terms with how lucky he was in terms of timing and being cared for by such extraordinary medical staff. We truly appreciate all that he did. Norfolk General Hospital can be rally prod of its amazing staff.

*Sincerely  
Jan and Rick McGraw*



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