Longtime Lake Forest Residents Honor Nurses at Lake Forest Hospital through a Generous Nursing Leadership Endowment Fund

Peggy and Hal Bernthal have created a Nursing Leadership Endowment Fund at Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital, which will lend substantial support to nurses by creating the Bernthal Chief Nurse Executive position, and by helping to advance a variety of nursing initiatives focused on both patient care and nurses' professional development.

Alumnus John Flanagan Establishes Stone Professorship in Honor of His Longtime Northwestern Physician

Northwestern alumnus John Flanagan has been supporting his alma mater for more than 40 years, making numerous gifts across Northwestern University's campuses. Recently, he made an extraordinary commitment to establish the Neil J. Stone, MD, Professorship at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in honor of Feinberg faculty member and medical school alumnus Dr. Neil J. Stone.

A New Era for Northwestern Memorial Foundation

August 31 marked the turn of an era for Northwestern Memorial Foundation with the retirement of president Stephen C. Falk, who oversaw the fundraising of more than $400 million in support of the Northwestern Medicine mission over the course of his 16-year tenure. The foundation's new president, Connie Falcone, brings vast experience to her new role, having most recently served as executive director of Cubs Charities and director of Community Affairs for the Chicago Cubs.

Generous Medical School Faculty Support Initiatives at Feinberg and Beyond

Read more about Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine faculty members who have made important contributions to the medical school, both within their medical and scientific disciplines and across campus. The Faculty Campaign is all about participation; all gifts, no matter the size, have an important impact.

The Coleman Foundation: 20 Years of Giving Advances Supportive Oncology and Cancer Survivorship Care

This year, Northwestern Medicine is celebrating 20 years of ongoing and committed support from the Coleman Foundation. By generously directing philanthropic contributions toward the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and Northwestern Memorial Foundation, the Coleman Foundation has helped to elevate Northwestern Medicine's capabilities to a world-class level.
As the new Northwestern Medicine Lake Forest Hospital continues to take shape, Our Legacy. Our Future., the campaign for the new hospital, is reaching significant milestones. Thanks to tremendous community support, the campaign has raised 81 percent of its $75 million capital and program goal for the construction of the new facility, as well as 19 percent toward the additional $75 million endowment goal. Among the generous benefactors who are helping to make the campaign such a success are Peggy and Hal Bernthal, longtime residents of Lake Forest who recently demonstrated their abiding support for Lake Forest Hospital with a significant gift in the area of nursing.

The Bernthals have chosen to create a Nursing Leadership Endowment Fund, which will lend substantial support to nurses and the field of nursing at Lake Forest Hospital in two prominent ways. First, the fund will establish Denise Majeski, MSN, RN, vice president of Operations and chief nurse executive at Lake Forest Hospital, as the Bernthal Chief Nurse Executive. Second, the fund will help to advance a variety of nursing initiatives focused on both patient care and nurses’ professional development.

With this gift, the Bernthals will become members of the Founders’ Society, which recognizes donors of $1 million or more to the Our Legacy. Our Future. campaign, as well as the Alice Home Society, which honors those who make lifetime contributions of $1 million or more to Lake Forest Hospital.

"Nursing is such a critically important factor toward improving patient outcomes. Supporting that effort at Lake Forest Hospital makes a lot of sense to us, especially since there are three generations of nurses in our family," said Mr. Bernthal, a Northwestern Memorial Hospital Life Trustee.

In the role of the Bernthal Chief Nurse Executive, Ms. Majeski will further her efforts to positively affect and advance the nursing profession in numerous ways—not only at Lake Forest Hospital, but also throughout the Northwestern Medicine health system and on the regional and national stages. Ms. Majeski will continue to work to identify and implement best practices in patient care, studying the healthcare field while also learning from other industries with regard to their best—and potentially transferable—practices and protocols.

"I am so very appreciative of the Bernthals' remarkable philanthropy," said Ms. Majeski. "I will do everything possible, every single day, to earn their trust and belief in me, to encourage and support all of my outstanding nursing colleagues and to ensure that we are always putting our patients' needs first in everything we do."

A caring, dynamic individual and a natural leader who treats every person she encounters with kindness, respect and empathy, Ms. Majeski has been a member of the Lake Forest Hospital family since 1980, when she joined the hospital as a staff nurse. Just three months after arriving at the hospital, Ms. Majeski was promoted to director of Oncology Services and continued to forge an inspiring path of leadership. From 1986 to 1990, she worked in the Intensive Care Unit, the Emergency Department and critical care areas, and became a nursing supervisor.

Ms. Majeski then worked in utilization management, ultimately developing the current model of case management in her role as director of Case Management. In 2013, she became vice president of Operations and the chief nurse executive at Lake Forest Hospital.

Due in large part to Ms. Majeski’s leadership and her ability to motivate and inspire her colleagues, the hospital earned Magnet recognition for the second time in 2015. Bestowed by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, Magnet designation is the highest honor that an organization can receive for professional nursing practice. Lake Forest Hospital first attained Magnet status in 2010.

Reflecting on everything that the Bernthals’ philanthropy promises to make possible, Ms. Majeski remarked, "We are dedicated to making the Bernthals proud that they have invested in both the present and the future of our hospital and our nursing profession in such a meaningful, long-lasting way."
More about RAPID Technology

When a patient arrives at the Emergency Department with symptoms of stroke, RAPID will analyze data collected from his or her CT scan and quickly provide the stroke team physician with a quantitative value of the volume of brain tissue that is irreversibly damaged (the core of the stroke) and the volume of tissue that can be salvaged if blood flow can be restored quickly (the penumbra of the stroke). Some patients have better backup circulation than others, and they may have a large penumbra well beyond the usual time frame for interventional stroke treatment. The RAPID system identifies those cases. This information will allow Dr. Bernstein and the stroke team physicians to make better decisions regarding who can be treated successfully at what point in time.

A Meeting of the Minds Offers New Hope for Stroke Patients

When Elaine and Charles “Chuck” Oslakovic arrived at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in May to meet with Mrs. Oslakovic’s neurologist, they had no idea that the meeting would inspire them to make the most meaningful and transformational gift of their lives. Neurologist Richard A. Bernstein, MD, PhD, medical director of the Northwestern Memorial Hospital Comprehensive Stroke Center and a professor in the Ken and Ruth Davee Department of Neurology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, had just returned from the European Stroke Organization Conference in Prague. At that conference, results from the DAWN Trial provided compelling evidence that more patients suffering ischemic stroke (occurring when an artery to the brain becomes blocked)—even patients a full 24 hours from onset—may benefit significantly from endovascular treatment. Years of study showed that selecting patients for treatment using RAPID brain imaging technology allowed doctors to target clot retrieval techniques only to patients likely to benefit, sparing others the risk of the procedure.

Back in Chicago, Dr. Bernstein was optimistic given the potential that these medical marvels hold for future victims of stroke. His enthusiasm sparked a chain reaction in the meeting with the Oslakovics that culminated with the couple delivering a substantial gift to Northwestern Memorial Foundation in only two days. Their philanthropy and forethought, however, will benefit patients for many years to come.

“The Oslakovics’ gift will enable us to put RAPID imaging software at Northwestern Memorial and at all of our partner hospitals,” said Dr. Bernstein. “This lets us determine which patients with an acute stroke can benefit from clot retrieval as far as 24 hours after stroke onset. RAPID imaging personalizes our decision-making by evaluating the chances of success in individual patients, rather than blindly using a predetermined time window.”

Thankful for the care they have received from their Northwestern physicians over the years, the Oslakovics have been loyal friends of the hospital, supporting important initiatives such as the Northwestern Stroke Program, the Northwestern Memorial Hospital Distinguished Physician in Vascular Neurology Endowment and the Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute Fellowship Program, as well as making the hospital the beneficiary of estate gifts to support these programs. This latest gift pays special tribute to Mrs. Oslakovic and the compassionate care she has received as Dr. Bernstein’s patient. It also offers the Oslakovics nearly immediate gratification by allowing them to see expected results in the very near future.

“It was serendipitous,” said Mr. Oslakovic. “Elaine and I arrived with a focus on the (hopefully) distant future—a plan for a research program to be funded by a bequest from her estate. On arrival, we had not the slightest idea of making a current gift, but that changed VERY quickly. Dr. Bernstein had just returned from a conference involving what I think he called ‘the most significant advance in stroke treatment since the clot buster.’ I had never seen him that excited. As it played out, when we appreciated the significance of the medical and technological advancements and how Northwestern intends to participate, we were almost as excited as Dr. Bernstein! From that point on, things moved forward at a pace matching our excitement.”

“Northwestern will be among the first comprehensive stroke centers to place RAPID at their Telestroke partner hospitals,” said Dr. Bernstein. “We will empower our Telestroke partners (Lake Forest Hospital, Northwest Community Hospital, Loretto Hospital, Weiss Hospital, Community General Hospital and Swedish American Hospital) to quickly transfer those who we can help, while sparing those we cannot help from the rigors of transfer far from home. This lets us focus on the patients who need us the most, and lets the community hospitals focus their efforts on caring for patients who do not require transfer.”

Due in large part to Dr. Bernstein’s leadership and vision—and the support of philanthropic partners like the Oslakovics—Northwestern Memorial Hospital’s Stroke Program is ranked No. 1 in Chicago in every quality measure related to stroke and No. 2 in the nation for stroke survival. Northwestern’s Stroke Program is recognized as one of only 100 national Joint Commission and American Heart Association/American Stroke Association Certified Comprehensive Stroke Centers.
Northwestern alumnus John R. Flanagan, ‘58 MBA, has been supporting his alma mater for more than 40 years, making numerous gifts across Northwestern University’s campuses. Recently, as a part of We Will. The Campaign for Northwestern Medicine, Mr. Flanagan made an extraordinary gift to establish the Neil J. Stone, MD, Professorship at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine. This endowed professorship honors Neil J. Stone ’66, ’68 MD, ’74 GMER, ’75 GMEF, who serves as Robert Bonow, MD, Professor of Medicine at Feinberg.

A Doctor-Patient Relationship with Enduring Roots
Mr. Flanagan has been one of Dr. Stone’s patients since the very beginning. He started seeing Dr. Stone more than 40 years ago, when Dr. Stone first joined Northwestern.

“Dr. Stone is my man—if I have a problem, I call him,” said Mr. Flanagan. “He has been an unbelievable physician and friend to me over the years. I feel very fortunate.”

The Stone Professorship was created in the Division of Cardiology within the Department of Medicine. It will have a tremendous impact on the division’s ability to recruit and retain the brightest minds in cardiology who will follow in the footsteps of Dr. Stone.

“Our most valuable resources are the talent of our faculty and the ability to discover, develop and deploy novel scientific initiatives. John Flanagan gets this,” said Clyde W. Yancy, MD, MSc, MACC, FAHA, MACP, FHFS, who is Magerstadt Professor of Medicine and chief of the Division of Cardiology. “From my first meeting with John, he has articulated that institutions thrive when talented individuals are available to be mentored by those who are already accomplished and most experienced. Enter Dr. Stone, who is, simply put, among the most preeminent of all cardiologists in the world and widely regarded as the best in his field.” Dr. Yancy also serves as the vice dean for Diversity and Inclusion.

“We realized a perfect bond with John’s generous gesture, which is in keeping with his deep spirit of lifelong philanthropy. It also speaks to the laudable excellence and impeccable character of Dr. Stone as both a physician and person,” continued Dr. Yancy. “We are now enabled to endorse a future talent pool benefiting from both the gift of John and the excellence of Dr. Stone. The creation of this professorship cements these two forces.”

To elevate the impact of Mr. Flanagan’s generosity, the Stone Professorship was supported in part by alumni Patrick G. Ryan ’59, ’09 H, and Shirley W. Ryan ’61 through the Ryan Family Chair Challenge, which matches gifts made by other Northwestern supporters to establish new endowed professorships, or chairs, across a wide range of disciplines.

“This professorship means so much. It’s almost overwhelming,” said Dr. Stone. “It really is a source of pride that after having spent my entire career at Northwestern, this legacy of scholarship will remain. It means a great deal to me. It’s a way of leaving an imprint on an institution about which I care deeply.”

“On a personal note,” continued Dr. Stone, “It’s nice to think that my grandkids will know that someone holds a professorship with my name on it, showing them what I was all about.”
Named and endowed professorships, like the Stone Professorship, represent the highest honor a university can bestow upon its faculty. These positions signify the pinnacle of academic achievement and excellence, and are reserved for the most distinguished and productive physicians and scientists. They carry prestige and impact for the benefactors, the individuals for whom they are named, the appointed holders of the professorship and the university and medical school as a whole.

From Modest Beginnings to Dedicated Philanthropist

Mr. Flanagan grew up in Bath, New York, population 5,000, with his parents and two siblings. John was the youngest. Their father made $5,000 a year working for the Veterans’ Administration. Mr. Flanagan attended the State University of New York at Albany “because it was free.” He went on to graduate cum laude. He pursued his master of business administration degree at Northwestern’s business school, now the Kellogg School of Management, where he received a full scholarship.

After graduation, Mr. Flanagan went on to work for Stein Roe & Farnham, the number one investment counseling firm in the Midwest at the time, managing $25 billion in funds. He became a partner in 1967. After Liberty Mutual Insurance purchased the firm, Mr. Flanagan went on to start his own company called Fundamental Equities International, where he still serves as president. In addition to remaining active at the firm, Mr. Flanagan maintains a mailing list through which he shares information on investment opportunities.

Mr. Flanagan’s generosity to Northwestern University has been widespread and longstanding. Dedicated to providing for future generations of Northwestern-educated leaders in medicine, he created the John Flanagan Scholarship, which currently supports Max Kelsten, a second-year medical student at Feinberg. In 2014, at Northwestern’s Kellogg School of Management, he established the John R. Flanagan Excellence Grant, which currently supports two Kellogg students who demonstrate outstanding merit and an interest in finance. Also at Kellogg and in support of the school’s recent campaign, Transforming Together, Mr. Flanagan documented an estate gift in June 2013 and named the Emeriti Faculty Suite in the new Global Hub, which opened in Evanston in March 2017.

In the realm of medical research, Mr. Flanagan has supported the work of Robert L. Murphy, MD, ’81 GMER, ’84 GMEF, who is John Philip Phair Professor of Infectious Diseases, and has contributed funds for the construction of a quarantine research unit in the Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Center. Mr. Flanagan also created the Flanagan Fellowship Fund in 2015 in the Department of Physiology to support three international fellows working on Parkinson’s disease research in the laboratory of D. James Surmeier, PhD, who is Nathan Smith Davis Professor and chair of the Division of Physiology. In addition, Mr. Flanagan has made gifts to the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University, as well as to support the work of Robert O. Bonow, MD, who is Max and Lilly Goldberg Distinguished Professor of Cardiology.

“When I think about philanthropy, I always remember where I started—my family had limited means. I worked four jobs at once in college. Now that I have some modest wealth, and I know I can’t take it with me, I want to do something good with it,” said Mr. Flanagan. “I learned from a good friend of mine who is a Feinberg alumnus: support the people—the faculty, students and trainees—because you can have a tremendous impact on them individually.”

— John Flanagan
On June 3, the Digestive Health Foundation (DHF) at Northwestern Medicine hosted its second annual Envision Gala to benefit the clinical, research and educational efforts of Northwestern Medicine's Digestive Health Center. The event, titled “Within Reach,” drew 425 guests to the Four Seasons Hotel Chicago and raised more than $1.6 million.

Michael Ruchim, MD, clinical associate professor of Medicine in the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, and his wife, Janet, served as gala chairs. As a member of DHF’s Board of Directors and a gifted specialist in the area of digestive illnesses, Dr. Ruchim has a deep understanding of and appreciation for the role philanthropy plays in advancing efforts to prevent, treat and, ideally, cure a variety of digestive disorders.

“Everyone who supported this year’s gala is crucial to the missions of both the DHF and the Digestive Health Center,” said Dr. Ruchim. “Thanks to the generosity of our friends and donors, the center’s three pillars—leading-edge research, patient care and education—are only growing stronger, and DHF has been able to fund more than 20 innovative research projects in the last year. These projects are providing much-needed solutions for people living with inflammatory bowel disorders, esophageal and swallowing disorders, colorectal neoplasia and cancer, and more.”

Bonnie Hunt, the evening’s emcee, demonstrated the same enthusiasm and commitment that brought together the gala’s many guests. A former oncology nurse at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Ms. Hunt is a talented comedienne, actress, producer and director who has distinguished herself as an ardent supporter of numerous clinical programs and fundraising efforts at Northwestern Medicine.

Gala attendees participated in a successful live auction and paddle raise that unveiled the DHF BioRepository, a groundbreaking resource that will accelerate and expand research into digestive diseases. “All of us involved with DHF are humbled and inspired by those who are helping us to make the Digestive Health Center a national leader in efforts to transform digestive disease into digestive health,” said Lee Gould, president of DHF’s Board of Directors. “I also want to highlight the incredible leadership that Drs. Hanauer, Strong and Pandolfino provide to the center, and the guidance that they offer in their roles as our scientific advisors.”

Stephen B. Hanauer, MD, an internationally recognized gastroenterologist and Clifford Joseph Barborka Professor of Medicine at Feinberg, serves as medical director of Northwestern Medicine’s Digestive Health Center. Joining Dr. Hanauer in providing dynamic leadership are: Scott A. Strong, MD, the center’s surgical director, chief of the Division of Surgery-Gastrointestinal and Oncologic Surgery at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and James R. Hines, MD, Professor of Surgery at Feinberg; and John Pandolfino, MD, chief of the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and Hans Popper Professor of Medicine at Feinberg.

“We are on the cusp of a very promising future for digestive health,” said Dr. Ruchim. “This is a great team effort, and every single one of our friends and supporters is helping to redefine, for the better, what is possible and what we can achieve together.”

Northwestern Medicine’s Digestive Health Foundation Envisions Promising Future at Second Annual Gala

On June 3, the Digestive Health Foundation (DHF) at Northwestern Medicine hosted its second annual Envision Gala to benefit the clinical, research and educational efforts of Northwestern Medicine's Digestive Health Center. The event, titled “Within Reach,” drew 425 guests to the Four Seasons Hotel Chicago and raised more than $1.6 million.

Michael Ruchim, MD, clinical associate professor of Medicine in the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, and his wife, Janet, served as gala chairs. As a member of DHF’s Board of Directors and a gifted specialist in the area of digestive illnesses, Dr. Ruchim has a deep understanding of and appreciation for the role philanthropy plays in advancing efforts to prevent, treat and, ideally, cure a variety of digestive disorders.

“Everyone who supported this year’s gala is crucial to the missions of both the DHF and the Digestive Health Center,” said Dr. Ruchim. “Thanks to the generosity of our friends and donors, the center’s three pillars—leading-edge research, patient care and education—are only growing stronger, and DHF has been able to fund more than 20 innovative research projects in the last year. These projects are providing much-needed solutions for people living with inflammatory bowel disorders, esophageal and swallowing disorders, colorectal neoplasia and cancer, and more.”

Bonnie Hunt, the evening’s emcee, demonstrated the same enthusiasm and commitment that brought together the gala’s many guests. A former oncology nurse at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Ms. Hunt is a talented comedienne, actress, producer and director who has distinguished herself as an ardent supporter of numerous clinical programs and fundraising efforts at Northwestern Medicine.

Gala attendees participated in a successful live auction and paddle raise that unveiled the DHF BioRepository, a groundbreaking resource that will accelerate and expand research into digestive diseases. “All of us involved with DHF are humbled and inspired by those who are helping us to make the Digestive Health Center a national leader in efforts to transform digestive disease into digestive health,” said Lee Gould, president of DHF’s Board of Directors. “I also want to highlight the incredible leadership that Drs. Hanauer, Strong and Pandolfino provide to the center, and the guidance that they offer in their roles as our scientific advisors.”

Stephen B. Hanauer, MD, an internationally recognized gastroenterologist and Clifford Joseph Barborka Professor of Medicine at Feinberg, serves as medical director of Northwestern Medicine’s Digestive Health Center. Joining Dr. Hanauer in providing dynamic leadership are: Scott A. Strong, MD, the center’s surgical director, chief of the Division of Surgery-Gastrointestinal and Oncologic Surgery at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and James R. Hines, MD, Professor of Surgery at Feinberg; and John Pandolfino, MD, chief of the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and Hans Popper Professor of Medicine at Feinberg.

“We are on the cusp of a very promising future for digestive health,” said Dr. Ruchim. “This is a great team effort, and every single one of our friends and supporters is helping to redefine, for the better, what is possible and what we can achieve together.”

Northwestern Medicine’s Digestive Health Foundation Envisions Promising Future at Second Annual Gala

On June 3, the Digestive Health Foundation (DHF) at Northwestern Medicine hosted its second annual Envision Gala to benefit the clinical, research and educational efforts of Northwestern Medicine's Digestive Health Center. The event, titled “Within Reach,” drew 425 guests to the Four Seasons Hotel Chicago and raised more than $1.6 million.

Michael Ruchim, MD, clinical associate professor of Medicine in the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, and his wife, Janet, served as gala chairs. As a member of DHF’s Board of Directors and a gifted specialist in the area of digestive illnesses, Dr. Ruchim has a deep understanding of and appreciation for the role philanthropy plays in advancing efforts to prevent, treat and, ideally, cure a variety of digestive disorders.

“Everyone who supported this year’s gala is crucial to the missions of both the DHF and the Digestive Health Center,” said Dr. Ruchim. “Thanks to the generosity of our friends and donors, the center’s three pillars—leading-edge research, patient care and education—are only growing stronger, and DHF has been able to fund more than 20 innovative research projects in the last year. These projects are providing much-needed solutions for people living with inflammatory bowel disorders, esophageal and swallowing disorders, colorectal neoplasia and cancer, and more.”

Bonnie Hunt, the evening’s emcee, demonstrated the same enthusiasm and commitment that brought together the gala’s many guests. A former oncology nurse at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Ms. Hunt is a talented comedienne, actress, producer and director who has distinguished herself as an ardent supporter of numerous clinical programs and fundraising efforts at Northwestern Medicine.

Gala attendees participated in a successful live auction and paddle raise that unveiled the DHF BioRepository, a groundbreaking resource that will accelerate and expand research into digestive diseases. “All of us involved with DHF are humbled and inspired by those who are helping us to make the Digestive Health Center a national leader in efforts to transform digestive disease into digestive health,” said Lee Gould, president of DHF’s Board of Directors. “I also want to highlight the incredible leadership that Drs. Hanauer, Strong and Pandolfino provide to the center, and the guidance that they offer in their roles as our scientific advisors.”

Stephen B. Hanauer, MD, an internationally recognized gastroenterologist and Clifford Joseph Barborka Professor of Medicine at Feinberg, serves as medical director of Northwestern Medicine’s Digestive Health Center. Joining Dr. Hanauer in providing dynamic leadership are: Scott A. Strong, MD, the center’s surgical director, chief of the Division of Surgery-Gastrointestinal and Oncologic Surgery at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and James R. Hines, MD, Professor of Surgery at Feinberg; and John Pandolfino, MD, chief of the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and Hans Popper Professor of Medicine at Feinberg.

“We are on the cusp of a very promising future for digestive health,” said Dr. Ruchim. “This is a great team effort, and every single one of our friends and supporters is helping to redefine, for the better, what is possible and what we can achieve together.”

Northwestern Medicine’s Digestive Health Foundation Envisions Promising Future at Second Annual Gala

On June 3, the Digestive Health Foundation (DHF) at Northwestern Medicine hosted its second annual Envision Gala to benefit the clinical, research and educational efforts of Northwestern Medicine's Digestive Health Center. The event, titled “Within Reach,” drew 425 guests to the Four Seasons Hotel Chicago and raised more than $1.6 million.

Michael Ruchim, MD, clinical associate professor of Medicine in the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, and his wife, Janet, served as gala chairs. As a member of DHF’s Board of Directors and a gifted specialist in the area of digestive illnesses, Dr. Ruchim has a deep understanding of and appreciation for the role philanthropy plays in advancing efforts to prevent, treat and, ideally, cure a variety of digestive disorders.

“Everyone who supported this year’s gala is crucial to the missions of both the DHF and the Digestive Health Center,” said Dr. Ruchim. “Thanks to the generosity of our friends and donors, the center’s three pillars—leading-edge research, patient care and education—are only growing stronger, and DHF has been able to fund more than 20 innovative research projects in the last year. These projects are providing much-needed solutions for people living with inflammatory bowel disorders, esophageal and swallowing disorders, colorectal neoplasia and cancer, and more.”

Bonnie Hunt, the evening’s emcee, demonstrated the same enthusiasm and commitment that brought together the gala’s many guests. A former oncology nurse at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, Ms. Hunt is a talented comedienne, actress, producer and director who has distinguished herself as an ardent supporter of numerous clinical programs and fundraising efforts at Northwestern Medicine.

Gala attendees participated in a successful live auction and paddle raise that unveiled the DHF BioRepository, a groundbreaking resource that will accelerate and expand research into digestive diseases. “All of us involved with DHF are humbled and inspired by those who are helping us to make the Digestive Health Center a national leader in efforts to transform digestive disease into digestive health,” said Lee Gould, president of DHF’s Board of Directors. “I also want to highlight the incredible leadership that Drs. Hanauer, Strong and Pandolfino provide to the center, and the guidance that they offer in their roles as our scientific advisors.”

Stephen B. Hanauer, MD, an internationally recognized gastroenterologist and Clifford Joseph Barborka Professor of Medicine at Feinberg, serves as medical director of Northwestern Medicine’s Digestive Health Center. Joining Dr. Hanauer in providing dynamic leadership are: Scott A. Strong, MD, the center’s surgical director, chief of the Division of Surgery-Gastrointestinal and Oncologic Surgery at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and James R. Hines, MD, Professor of Surgery at Feinberg; and John Pandolfino, MD, chief of the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and Hans Popper Professor of Medicine at Feinberg.

“We are on the cusp of a very promising future for digestive health,” said Dr. Ruchim. “This is a great team effort, and every single one of our friends and supporters is helping to redefine, for the better, what is possible and what we can achieve together.”
monetary gifts and volunteer service to Feinberg and is currently more than 2,000 who provide critical support for the growth, excellence and competitiveness of the medical school. The reception took place at the Arts Club of Chicago and honored those who came together to mingle, celebrate and be recognized for their commitment to the medical school.

Later in the day on April 29, nearly 200 members of the Nathan Smith Davis Society were joined by the Northwestern Medicine Chicago Alumni Association at the Commitment to Scholarships Luncheon. It is the J. Howard Appleman Professor of Medicine, and served as the luncheon’s emcee. She also is a supporter of the Lynda Singshinsuk Class of 1991 Scholarship.

NBTI, Dr. Chandler is Lavin/Fates Professor of Neurological Surgery at Feinberg. Your generosity supports our scientific infrastructure and the research that translates to the bedside. You make these efforts possible.” In addition to serving as co-director of the NBTI, Dr. Chandler is Lavin/Fates Professor of Neurological Surgery at Feinberg.

Nearly 200 generous alumni, faculty and friends of the medical school joined Feinberg student scholars on April 29 to commemorate a banner year of support for the medical school. "We are humbled to thank and honor so many donors—living and deceased—who believe in medical education and who have committed funds to help our students to pursue their studies and become the next generation of Northwestern-trained physicians,” said Diane Wayne, ’91 MD. Dr. Wayne is the vice dean for Education, chair of the Department of Medical Education and Dr. John Sherman Appleman Professor of Medicine, and served as the luncheon’s emcee. She also is a supporter of the Lynda Singhsinkus Class of 1991 Scholarship.

At the Commitment to Scholarships Luncheon, Sara Hockney, who is the J. Howard Young Scholar, and Stewart Pine, the Class of 1971 Scholar, shared gratitude on behalf of their classmates for the opportunity to study at Feinberg. Both are now second-year medical students in the Class of 2020. "In telling my own story today, I hope to demonstrate to you all that your decision to invest in our dreams has had, and will continue to have, an enormous return for each and every one of us, regardless of the path that led us here,” said Ms. Hockney.

Later in the day on April 29, nearly 200 members of the Nathan Smith Davis Society came together to mingle, celebrate and be recognized for their commitment to the medical school. The reception took place at the Arts Club of Chicago and honored those who provide critical support for the growth, excellence and competitiveness of the medical school. The Nathan Smith Davis Society acknowledges and celebrates both monetary gifts and volunteer service to Feinberg and is currently more than 2,000 members strong, including alumni, faculty, staff and many friends of the medical school.

On May 19, more than 430 friends and supporters of the Northwestern Brain Tumor Institute (NBTI) gathered for the eighth annual Minds Matter Benefit Dinner. This year’s fundraiser at the Four Seasons Hotel Chicago raised more than $600,000 in support of the NBTI’s mission areas of research, education and care.

The NBTI is a nationally recognized leader in the fight against brain and spinal cord tumors, offering patients the most advanced clinical trial and treatment options available. The institute unites the world-class resources of the National Cancer Institute (NCI)-designated Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University with the research and medical expertise of Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, allowing its patients to receive the best possible care through Northwestern Medicine, one of the country’s premier academic medical centers.

“I have found an institution and team with a dynamic that I have never seen before,” said NBTI co-director Dr. Stupp, an internationally recognized neuro-oncologist who joined Northwestern Medicine in April as professor and chief of Neuro-oncology and professor of Neurological Surgery and Medicine in the Division of Hematology Oncology. “The patient is at the center of everything we do, and all of you are a part of this. I hope you are as proud of that as I am.”

Dr. Chandler, co-founder of the NBTI and an eminent neurosurgeon who has dedicated his career to patients with brain tumors, recognized the event committee, advisory board and sponsors. “Many of you show your commitment by attending this event year after year. Your generosity supports our scientific infrastructure and the research that translates to the bedside. You make these efforts possible.” In addition to serving as co-director of the NBTI, Dr. Chandler is Lavin/Fates Professor of Neurological Surgery at Feinberg.

Save the Date for Upcoming Northwestern Medicine Events

**United Way Golf Outing**
*September 14 | 8 am*
The Links at Carillon, 21200 West South Carillon Drive, Plainfield, Illinois
Info: Juliana McHale, 312.926.7133 or juliana.mchale@nm.org
foundation.nmh.org/uw/.

**Kishwaukee Hospital Twilight Garden Party**
*September 14 | 6:30 pm*
Northwestern Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital Healing Garden
1 Kish Hospital Drive, DeKalb, Illinois
Info: Kim Perri, 815.748.3954 or kim.perri@nm.org

**Les Turner ALS Foundation Walk for Life**
*September 16 | 9:30 am Festivities | 11 am Walk*
Soldier Field, 1410 Museum Campus Drive, Chicago, Illinois
Info: Lauren Pedi, 312.503.4635 or lauren.pedi@northwestern.edu
lesturnerals.org

**Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage and Delnor Hospitals Gala**
*September 23 | 6 pm*
Westin Lombard, 70 Yorktown Shopping Center, Lombard, Illinois
Info: Holly Kulikowski, 630.465.4003 or holly.kulikowski@nm.org

**Lou Malnati's Annual Cancer Benefit**
*September 26 | 5:30 pm*
Meadows Club, 2950 Golf Road, Rolling Meadows, Illinois
Info: Paige Calace, 312.926.7133 or paige.calace@nm.org
www.loumalnatis.com/annual-cancer-benefit

**Global Health Initiative Benefit Dinner**
*September 26 | 5:30 pm*
The Peninsula Chicago, 108 East Superior Street, Chicago, Illinois
Info: Cindy Garbutt, 312.503.0761 or cynthia.garbutt@northwestern.edu

**Lynn Sage Cancer Research Foundation Fall Benefit Luncheon and PURSE-SUE THE CURE Purse Auction**
*October 2 | 11 am*
Hilton Chicago, 720 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois
Info: Kristyn Eskridge, 312.926.7133 or keskridge@nm.org
lynn sage.org

**Hippocratic Cancer Research Foundation Gala**
*October 14 | 6 pm*
Hilton Chicago, 720 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois
Info: Rodrigo Leaños, 312.926.7393 or rleanos@nm.org
cancer.northwestern.edu/hcrf/gala

**Friends of Prentice Benefit, Remember When**
*October 21 | 6:30 pm*
Radisson Blu Aqua Hotel, 221 North Columbus Drive, Chicago, Illinois
Info: Juliana McHale, 312.926.7133 or juliana.mchale@nm.org

**Marianjoy Gala**
*November 4 | 6 pm*
Embassy Suites Naperville, 1823 Abriter Court, Naperville, Illinois
Info: Brittan Priestas, 630.909.7390 or brittan.priestas@nm.org
www.marianjoyfoundation.org/Legacy%20Ball/Gala2017.aspx

**The Women’s Board of Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital Holiday Boutique**
*November 15-18*
Lake Forest Recreation Center, 400 Hastings Road, Lake Forest, Illinois
Info: Karin Mohar, 847.535.6921 or kmohar@nm.org
www.lfh.org/womens_board

**The Auxiliary of Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage and Delnor Hospitals Yule Yummies Bake Sale**
*December 7 | 7 am*
Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage and Delnor Hospitals’ Cafeterias
25 Winfield Road, Winfield, Illinois; and 300 Randall Road, Geneva, Illinois
Info: Grace Polzin, 630.933.6192 or grace.polzin@nm.org

**Les Turner ALS Foundation Hope Through Caring Gala**
*February 24 | 6:30 pm*
Loews Chicago Hotel, 455 North Park Drive, Chicago, Illinois
Info: Lauren Pedi, 312.503.4635 or lauren.pedi@northwestern.edu
lesturnerals.org
A New Era for Northwestern Memorial Foundation

August 31 marked the turn of an era for Northwestern Memorial Foundation, with the retirement of president Stephen C. Falk. Over the course of his 16-year tenure, Steve advanced philanthropic support for the Northwestern Medicine mission by raising more than $400 million. He led successful campaigns in support of state-of-the-art facilities—including Prentice Women’s Hospital and the new Lake Forest Hospital, scheduled to open in March—and clinical programs across the system, which collectively distinguish Northwestern Medicine among its peers nationally.

Through Steve’s expert leadership, the Northwestern Memorial Foundation fundraising staff has raised an average of $1 million per week over the past several years to support critical patient programs, research and education that enable Northwestern physicians, nurses and staff to provide the highest quality care for patients at all hospitals throughout the Northwestern Medicine system. Behind each success, Steve remained committed to the communities Northwestern serves, ensuring that patients have access to world-class care regardless of their ability to pay. This is his greatest accomplishment and one that exemplifies the best of Northwestern’s patient-centered mission.

In recognition of his extraordinary service to Northwestern Medicine—and to further the legacy of Steve and his wife, Diane—Northwestern Memorial HealthCare has established the Diane and Stephen Falk Excellence in Philanthropy Endowment. Each year, proceeds from this endowment will be awarded to a deserving Northwestern Medicine employee to advance his or her professional development in philanthropy and community service. This endowment will be an enduring legacy for the culture of philanthropy that Steve helped to create at Northwestern Medicine.

“In philanthropy, true success is not measured by how much money we raise, but instead by the relationships we have built that impact the mission,” said Steve. “I was able to reach the pinnacle of my career at the foundation because I worked side-by-side with the philanthropy industry’s very best volunteers, staff and donors. I am confident that Northwestern Memorial Foundation is in excellent hands with its new leadership and that the foundation will continue to find new and exciting ways to increase its support of our patients and communities.”

In June, the foundation welcomed Connie Falcone as its new president. Prior to joining the Northwestern team, Connie served as executive director of Cubs Charities and director of Community Affairs for the Chicago Cubs from 2011 to 2017, where she oversaw all development, philanthropic and program initiatives for Cubs Charities, as well as player, alumni and employee outreach. Under her stellar leadership, the team succeeded in doubling its annual charitable giving and outreach, and rose to prominence as one of the most charitable teams in Major League Baseball. Connie is proud to have been a part of the Chicago Cubs historic World Series win in 2016.

Previously, Connie served as the Finance and Development director for Urban Initiatives, a soccer-based youth development nonprofit organization. Before making the switch to nonprofit management, Connie spent 12 years as executive vice president at Devers Group Inc., where she co-founded the firm’s private equity investment practice. An attorney, Connie also practiced at a Denver law firm for three years.

Connie holds a bachelor of arts degree from Colorado College, a juris doctor degree from the University of Notre Dame Law School and a master of business administration degree from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. Connie currently serves on the boards of several non-profits—including Urban Initiatives and LaLumiere School in La Porte, Indiana, and the National Advisory Board of the Family Reach Foundation in New York, New York—where she actively contributes her development and philanthropy expertise.

Connie is married to Charlie, a former Northwestern anesthesiologist, and they have three children: Kiley, Charlie and Matthew. She loves to travel, read and entertain friends, and particularly enjoys exploring Chicago’s ever-changing restaurant scene.

“These first months at the foundation have been absolutely exhilarating,” said Connie. “I am utterly impressed with the quality of people at the foundation and those who support Northwestern Medicine’s mission through philanthropy and volunteerism. There is a plethora of intellect, genuine kindness and purpose that make it a very special place, and it is an honor to be a part of this nationally-ranked Northwestern Medicine healthcare system.”

She continued, “I am genuinely excited about our future together as we work to positively impact increasing numbers of patients and families, and I look forward to collaborating with each of you in our pursuit to make our communities healthier.”
In just its first year, the Northwestern Medicine Innovation Challenge Grant program has inspired creative thinking, team-based efforts and lasting improvements in patient care. A generous contribution from Superior Ambulance Service enabled Northwestern Medicine to establish this unique program, a system-wide initiative that encourages employees to submit ideas for new means of addressing needs and challenges in the area of ambulatory care. Emphasizing the importance of collaboration, the program calls upon employees to form multidisciplinary teams that can identify and creatively respond to situations in need of attention and/or improvement.

Welcoming the challenge that lies at the heart of this new program, a total of 30 teams submitted proposals, with each team hoping to win the ultimate prize: a $50,000 grant and a unique opportunity to implement a project designed to address patient needs and improve care. From among these 30 proposals, three finalists were selected during a breakfast reception in December, and, on March 15, a “Shark Tank-style” competition took place in Canning Auditorium on the third floor of Prentice Women’s Hospital. All members of the Northwestern health system were invited to attend this exciting event, during which the finalists presented their projects to four Northwestern Medicine leaders and a representative from Superior Ambulance Service. Serving as the judges, or “sharks,” for the competition, these five leaders evaluated every project in great detail, asking questions of all team members and conferring with one another to reach a decision.

While the judges noted that all three teams were deserving of the $50,000 grant from Superior Ambulance Service, ultimately there could be only one winner: the team from Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital, whose idea for the “Northwestern Medicine Aphasia Center at Marianjoy” brings much-needed attention to the profound ways in which aphasia affects a person’s daily functioning and overall well-being. Aphasia is a communication disorder that results from damage to parts of the brain that control language. As a result, affected individuals have difficulty formulating words and verbally expressing themselves.

In an effort to more fully address and fulfill the need for improved aphasia services, the winning team championed the creation of a regional aphasia center, located at Marianjoy. This vision became a reality on June 29, when the Northwestern Medicine Aphasia Center at Marianjoy officially opened its doors.

A true asset to both Marianjoy and the broader Northwestern Medicine health system, the center provides communication and language enhancement services, along with advanced expertise, state-of-the-art technology and access to research opportunities.

Members of the winning team include: Michelle Armour, speech language pathologist; Richard Krieger, MD, medical director of the Stroke Rehabilitation Program; Anjum Sayyad, MD, director of the Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Residency Program; and Susan Brady, speech language pathologist and director of Research and Outcomes at Marianjoy.
Generous Medical School Faculty Support Initiatives at Feinberg and Beyond

Members of Feinberg’s dedicated faculty are essential in advancing the medical school’s research, educational and clinical service missions. Our faculty ensure the daily success of our academic medical center by contributing their expertise, mentoring, time and philanthropy.

An integral part of We Will. The Campaign for Northwestern Medicine, the Faculty Campaign was launched in September 2014 to encourage participation, which is as important as the generous gifts themselves.

The following Feinberg faculty members have made important contributions to Northwestern, both within their medical and scientific disciplines and across campus. The Faculty Campaign is all about participation; all gifts, no matter the size, have an important impact.

“I support the medical school and the Faculty Campaign because Northwestern matters to me. The University and medical center have helped to shape my life and career as an academic physician and as a proud faculty member and alumnus. I am happy to support this faculty fundraising effort, both as a donor and advocate, because I work here and know that the funds we provide will support breakthrough medical education and ultimately improve patient care and change people’s lives for the better.”

—Dr. Neil Stone

Neil J. Stone ’66, ’68 MD, ’74 GMER, ’75 GMEF, who is Robert Bonow, MD, Professor of Medicine at Feinberg, also serves as an advocate for the Faculty Campaign. Dr. Stone attended Northwestern as an undergraduate and medical student in the Honors Program in Medical Education, and then as chief medical resident and a cardiology fellow. He has served on the faculty for more than 40 years. He and his wife, Karla, have contributed to several programs at Feinberg, including the Medical School Annual Fund, the Class of 1968 Scholarship Fund, the Dr. Howard S. and Regina G. Traisman Scholarship Fund and the Jeremiah Stamler, MD, Professorship in Preventive Medicine, among others.

“Donna and I have a longstanding, strong connection to Northwestern. We also have a deep understanding of the power of philanthropy to impact the faculty, students and programs that make it great. We are committed to the future of this institution and pleased that we can play a role in its successes.”

—Dr. Lee Rogers

Medical alumnus Lee F. Rogers, ’59 MD, who is professor emeritus of Radiology and served as chair of the department from 1974 to 1995, has a long history of supporting the medical school. In 2006, he and his wife, Donna, established the Lee F. Rogers, MD, Professorship in Medical Education, which is currently held by Frank H. Miller ’86, ’88 MD, ’93 GMER, a former mentee of Dr. Rogers. They also were chief contributors to the initiative to name and endow the Albert Nemcek Professorship in Interventional Radiology Education. Currently held by Robert L. Vogelzang, MD, ’81 GMER, this professorship was created through contributions from both Dr. and Mrs. Rogers, as well as the many trainees and fellows who were mentored by Albert A. Nemcek Jr., MD, ’87 GMER, ’14 MS, professor of Radiology and Surgery in the Division of Organ Transplantation. Dr. and Mrs. Rogers also have supported the Class of 1959 Scholarship Fund, the Medical School Annual Fund, the Galter Health Sciences Library and several other areas at Feinberg.
**Thomas A. Mustoe, MD**, is a surgical clinician in the Division of Plastic Surgery, and served as chief of the Division of Plastic Surgery from 1991 to 2010. He and his wife, **Kathryn C. Stallcup**, began contributing to the medical school in the early 1990s when they made their first gift to support the residency program within the Department of Surgery. Since then, they have focused their philanthropy within the Division of Plastic Surgery, making annual gifts to support a fellow within the division and supporting plastic surgery resident research and education.

"My wife and I believe in the academic mission of Feinberg and Northwestern. Our continued charitable support is a meaningful way that we can put our values into practice."

—Dr. Thomas Mustoe

**Anthony J. Schaeffer, ’68 MD**, who is Herman L. Kretschmer Professor of Urology, served as chair of the Department of Urology from 1990 to 2015. Dr. Schaeffer's philanthropic support of the medical school began in the 1970s, shortly after his graduation. Since then, he and his wife, **Kathleen**, have supported some of Feinberg's most pressing needs through the Medical School Annual Fund and the Feinberg Dean's Fund, as well as resident research in the Department of Urology. The Schaeffers also have given to other areas at Northwestern University, including to the President's Fund and the Wildcat Excellence Fund within Northwestern Athletics.

"The medical school provides the critical environment for integration of education, research and clinical care for the benefit of our patients and society. Kathy and I have been honored to benefit from and contribute to this special institution and are delighted that our support has impacted Northwestern Medicine’s ascendance into the top tier of academic medical centers."

—Dr. Anthony Schaeffer

**M. Christine Stock ’79, ’81 MD, ’84 GMER, ’85 GMEF**, professor of Anesthesiology, and **Stuart R. Stock, ’77, ’78 MS, PhD**, research professor of Cell and Molecular Biology, are longtime supporters of their alma mater. For more than 30 years, Drs. Stock have supported resident education and research in the Department of Anesthesiology. In the late 1980s, they also contributed to the James E. Eckenhoff Professorship in Anesthesiology, a position that Dr. Christine Stock would later hold as chair of the department from 2000 to 2015. In addition, the couple has supported several initiatives within the McCormick School of Engineering, where Dr. Stuart Stock earned his bachelor and master of science degrees.

"As members of the Feinberg faculty, we see on a daily basis the great work being done by our medical students, post-graduate trainees and faculty colleagues. We wanted to contribute beyond our professional commitments to help assure that Northwestern students, trainees and faculty will continue to have opportunities to excel."

—Dr. Christine Stock

**Alice T. Lyon, MD, ’91 GMER**, serves as Leonard and Bernice Lavin Endowed Ophthalmology Research Professor and is director of the Vitreoretinal Service. Ardent supporters of the academic mission of the medical school, Dr. Lyon and her family provide financial support across several areas, and Dr. Lyon herself is personally involved in many aspects of medical education at Feinberg. Together with her family, Dr. Lyon has supported ophthalmology residents, fellows and research, as well as The Director's Fund at the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University, which supports its most pressing needs. They also have given to the Mary Beth Richmond, MD, Scholarship Fund, which was established and named in honor of one of Dr. Lyon’s esteemed faculty colleagues.

"We wholeheartedly believe in the mission of training and nurturing medical students, residents and fellows, and realize the importance of unrestricted funds vital in these efforts. We value being a part of impacting medical education and advancing medical science. The expertise and dedication to excellence attracted me to Northwestern as an ophthalmology resident, enticed me to return following fellowship training and has kept me here as a faculty member. Every day it is wonderful to be a part of this outstanding community of students, teachers, researchers and physicians, and to make a difference."

—Dr. Alice Lyon
For more than 65 years, the Chicago-based Regenstein Foundation has cultivated a remarkable legacy of philanthropy that includes support for health care, education, the arts, iconic community sites and organizations—such as the Shedd Aquarium and the Chicago Botanic Garden—and much more. Founded in 1950 by the late Joseph Regenstein, an industrialist whose philanthropy profoundly benefited Chicago, the Joseph and Helen Regenstein Foundation formally became the Regenstein Foundation, as it is known today, in 1981.

Through the years, the Regenstein Foundation has left indelible marks not only on Chicago, but also on Northwestern University. In addition to creating endowments at Northwestern Pritzker School of Law and the Bienen School of Music, the foundation has generously supported Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and has helped to advance specific clinical areas, such as the neurosciences. Recently, the Regenstein Foundation made an exemplary commitment of $4 million to establish the Regenstein Neurosciences Center at Northwestern Medicine.

Located on the 19th floor of the Lavin Family Pavilion on Northwestern Medicine's downtown campus, the Regenstein Neurosciences Center will bring together the clinical operations for Neurology and Neurological Surgery, allowing patients to easily access comprehensive and coordinated care from neurologists, neurosurgeons and, as needed, other members of an interdisciplinary care team.

The Lavin Family Pavilion will be the future home of the Regenstein Neurosciences Center.

"Thanks to this remarkable gift from the Regenstein Foundation, we will be able to establish a leading neurosciences center that will foster collaborative clinical activities to address diagnoses that benefit from surgical and non-surgical treatments," said Maciej "Matt" S. Lesníaek, MD, professor and chair of Neurological Surgery, Michael J. Marchese Professor of Neurosurgery and professor of Neurology. "At the Regenstein Neurosciences Center, we will deliver thorough, contemporary care to individuals affected by a broad spectrum of neurological conditions."

To fully realize this mission of providing exceptional, integrated neurological care, the center will house a number of specialty programs and clinics, including but not limited to the following:

- **The Northwestern Medicine Tumoral-Epilepsy Clinic:** Approximately 50 percent of people afflicted with brain tumors experience seizures as their first symptom. At the Northwestern Medicine Tumoral-Epilepsy Clinic, epileptologists will talk with and evaluate these patients before the initial surgery takes place. The epileptologists also will participate in pre-operative workups and planning meetings, which often include functional mapping and recording from the potentially seizure-inducing brain. Each of these appointments and sessions will focus on optimizing a patient’s chance for a seizure-free outcome through surgery and on reducing the risk of any functional impairment.

- **The Northwestern Medicine Functional Neurosurgery Program in Movement Disorders:** Featuring the use of deep brain stimulation for conditions such as Parkinson’s disease, essential tremor and dystonia, the Northwestern Medicine Functional Neurosurgery Program in Movement Disorders will further enhance the quality and, ideally, the efficacy of care available to individuals affected by Parkinson’s and other movement disorders.

- **The Northwestern Medicine Program for Functional Neuroscience:** This unique program will unite the clinical areas of neurosurgery, neurology, neuroradiology and neuro-oncology, and will create additional bridges to the Comprehensive Epilepsy Center and the Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders Center at Northwestern. The goal of forging these various collaborations will be to provide the very finest care to people with neurological disorders. Moreover, the Northwestern Medicine Program for Functional Neuroscience will promote efforts to explore, evaluate and, ultimately, use neuromodulatory and neurorestorative therapies, such as deep brain stimulation for movement disorders, spinal cord stimulation for chronic pain and implanted electrodes for severe, chronic headaches.

"We are so grateful for the support and generosity of the Regenstein Foundation," said Dimitri Krainc, MD, PhD, chair of the Ken and Ruth Davee Department of Neurology, Aaron Montgomery Ward Professor of Neurology and professor of Neurology, Neurological Surgery and Physiology. "As we bring to fruition our shared vision for the Regenstein Neurosciences Center at Northwestern Medicine, we pledge to create a center, and a multi-dimensional patient resource, that will be second to none and will do justice to the Regenstein name."
An Estate Gift from Judy and Jim Flickinger Benefits the HomeCare Physicians Endowment at Central DuPage Hospital

As the hospital took shape, he felt a connection that still holds true today. Judy is a registered nurse who started her career in pediatrics at Central DuPage Hospital in 1968, and she still recalls the feeling of being a part of a family when she went to work every day. Today, Jim and Judy are the founders and owners of BrightStar Care Central DuPage-Wheaton, a local home care and medical staffing agency, where, until recently, Judy served as the director of nursing.

The Flickingers appreciate the many ways in which HomeCare Physicians serves their community and their homebound neighbors and friends, and they are passionate about preserving the future of this unique organization.

“Central DuPage Hospital was the logical place to look to provide a gift,” said Jim. “Our healthcare mission at BrightStar Care focuses on caring for clients in their homes and is very similar to the mission of HomeCare Physicians.”

In 1997, Thomas A. Cornwell, MD, a Northwestern Medicine clinician of Family and Community Medicine and a member of Northwestern Medicine Regional Medical Group, established HomeCare Physicians. Today, Dr. Cornwell and his colleagues serve patients throughout the western suburbs. With each visit, the physicians bring a unique expertise to managing wide-ranging illnesses such as chronic heart failure, chronic lung disease and kidney disease in the comfort of patients’ own homes. Since HomeCare Physicians was founded, Dr. Cornwell and his colleagues have made more than 100,000 house calls, providing patients with everything from primary care check-ups to diagnostic testing and end-of-life care. As a result, readmission rates, emergency room visits and healthcare costs have been greatly reduced.

“Judy and I have a deep respect for the work of everyone involved with HomeCare Physicians,” Jim said. “They meet healthcare needs that, in some situations, would go unattended without their help, Judy. In particular, has experienced first-hand in the homes of our BrightStar Care clients the effective application of health services provided by HomeCare Physicians. So, this worthy organization was a clear choice for our gift designation.”

“I wanted this gift to go to the hospital because of the good experiences I had there during my career,” said Judy. “Then, when Jim and I went into the home healthcare business, the care of my clients from HomeCare Physicians was such a blessing. To have a physician come in and check on them, look after them, do the labs, do the X-rays... All of that caring is invaluable. It was always such a comfort knowing that, thanks to the services of HomeCare Physicians, my patients wouldn’t have to leave their comfortable surroundings. My heart is with both Central DuPage Hospital and HomeCare Physicians.”

By making this generous estate gift, the Flickingers hope to see HomeCare Physicians not only continue to offer its unique brand of service in their community, but also grow and become even more accessible as an organization.

“When it comes to caring for homebound patients, if there is any way that we can make their lives more enjoyable and give them a better quality of life, we want to do it. It is so, so worth it,” said Judy.
The Coleman Foundation: 20 Years of Giving Advances Supportive Oncology and Cancer Survivorship Care

Giving back to the community that gave them so much, entrepreneurs and late owners of Fannie May Candies, Dorothy W. and J.D. Stetson Coleman, created the Coleman Foundation in 1953 to “do good.” In 1981, the foundation’s Board of Directors built upon the Colemans’ legacy of giving. The board launched formal grant-making initiatives that focused on three priority areas—among them, cancer care—to make the greatest impact on the Chicago metropolitan area.

“The first generation of directors was busy making candy at Fannie May while learning how to do philanthropy,” said Michael W. Hennessy, president and chief executive officer of the Coleman Foundation and former chief operating officer at Fannie May Candies. “Our program support was based upon our knowledge of the donors, our personal experiences and our close contact with local medical providers, educational institutions and disability service providers.”

Whether directly through a love one, or tangentially through a coworker or neighbor, cancer invariably touches many lives. In the pursuit of advancing cancer care through philanthropy, the Coleman Foundation’s directors came to learn more about cancer either through helping connect people to resources via their foundation roles or through personal experience. Among them was Mr. Hennessy, whose wife, Carole, received care at the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University and Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Her cancer journey and that of others close to the foundation motivated a vision to improve local access to quality care and accentuate treating the mind and spirit in addition to the body.

“I saw how my wife informed herself, communicated with her clinical caregivers and benefited from practicing yoga and working with a nutritionist,” Mr. Hennessy recalled. “At that time, there was not a great deal of talk about the quality of a person’s life with cancer.”

While the Lurie Cancer Center had long been active in providing psychosocial care, Mr. Hennessy and the Coleman Foundation saw an opportunity to further grow supportive oncology and survivorship programs at Northwestern and throughout the Chicago area. Through generous philanthropy directed toward the Lurie Cancer Center, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and Northwestern Memorial Foundation, they could help to elevate the medical center’s capabilities to a world-class level and eventually take a significant role in the development of local collaborations. This year, Northwestern Medicine is celebrating 20 years of ongoing and committed support from the Coleman Foundation.

“Thanks to the Coleman Foundation, we have been able to build a strong core program that provides supportive oncology and survivorship services to enhance the lives of patients and their families,” said Leonidas C. Platanias, MD, PhD, who is Jesse, Sara, Andrew, Abigail, Benjamin and Elizabeth Lurie Professor of Oncology and director of the Lurie Cancer Center. “The organization’s extraordinary foresight has allowed us to become leaders in this still nascent but critical area of cancer care.”

Pictured are participants in the Lurie Cancer Center’s 24th Annual Cancer Survivors’ Celebration Walk & 5K. This annual event is held every year on National Cancer Survivors Day. It reflects the Lurie Cancer Center’s longstanding commitment to cancer survivorship.
“A cancer diagnosis can trigger a whole lot of distress for patients and their families. Quality care requires treating the whole patient, not just his or her cancer.”
—Michael Hennessy

Enhancing Quality of Life
The cancer experience can take its toll. Physical, emotional and practical problems often linger after even the most successful treatment. Depression and anxiety are common symptoms of psychosocial distress as patients and their families grapple with numerous concerns, from response to therapy to the financial drain of overwhelming medical bills. With some 15 million Americans surviving cancer today, the importance of providing adequate survivorship care for children and adults treated for cancer has become even more urgent. Only in recent years have national guidelines for cancer care required distress screening for patients and survivors of cancer, as well as survivorship care plans to optimize follow-up and continuity of care.

Over the past two decades, the Coleman Foundation has steadfastly contributed to the Lurie Cancer Center’s efforts to develop innovative models of supportive cancer services and to conduct novel translational and outcomes research through the Supportive Oncology Program and the Cancer Survivorship Institute (CSI). The foundation’s grants have funded myriad oncologic programming areas at Northwestern Medicine that span the evolving continuum from supportive oncology to survivorship care. Coleman support has ranged from startup funds to hire more clinical staff to provide psychosocial counseling at the point of care, to offering state-of-the-art supportive oncology and survivorship care across Chicago communities. Funds from the Coleman Foundation also have allowed Northwestern Medicine to tailor care through specialized clinics that address cancer disease-specific needs, from breast to lung cancer; care for adult survivors of pediatric cancers; and unique issues of older adults with cancer. As programs developed through the years, support from the Coleman Foundation facilitated the delivery of supportive oncology and survivorship services to one out of every five patients at Northwestern Medicine.

“The Coleman Foundation has helped us to create a system-wide culture and state-of-the-art program of supportive oncology and survivorship care that advances the discipline,” says Frank J. Penedo, PhD, who is Roswell Park Professor, professor of Medical Social Sciences, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, and director of the CSI.

“We could not have built the necessary infrastructure to deliver exceptional clinical care services to cancer patients and survivors without their support of opportunities for translational clinical research in cancer care delivery.”

Northwestern Medicine also participates in a Coleman Foundation-funded initiative to make palliative care more accessible to patients facing cancer and other life-threatening illnesses. Along with other academic institutions, Northwestern University has been actively engaged in the execution of the Coleman Palliative Medicine Training Program to grow a supportive network of palliative care providers in the Chicago area.

In recent years, the strength of the 20-year partnership between the Coleman Foundation and Northwestern Medicine has extended to the Chicago community through the Coleman Supportive Oncology Collaborative. The foundation funded a Chicago-wide initiative to promote community-wide best practices for distress screening and survivorship care to reach as many patients and their families as possible, no matter where they receive their cancer care. The support allowed Northwestern Medicine and the Cancer Survivorship Institute to take the lead in working closely with community partners to develop innovative and practical distress screening tools and psychosocial supportive oncology processes, including distress screening and survivorship care. They are designed to be used by other cancer care providers in the city and suburbs.

This year, the Coleman Supportive Oncology Collaborative made its screening tools and resources widely available to healthcare providers throughout the area at no cost. These efforts get at the heart of the Coleman Foundation’s central goals: to ensure that people with cancer are regularly screened for psychosocial/distress support and palliative care needs, and that they receive appropriate care from a collaboration of community service providers able to deliver high quality supportive oncology care from diagnosis through survivorship and end-of-life, if necessary.

“A cancer diagnosis can trigger a whole lot of distress for patients and their families,” said Mr. Hennessy. “Quality care requires treating the whole patient, not just his or her cancer.”