



Caring

around the corner,

around the clock

A publication of Auburn Memorial Hospital

2007: An Exciting, Successful Year at AMH

In the year 2007, Auburn Memorial Hospital (AMH) ended the year with a profit for the first time since 2002. We want to assure you that AMH re-invests its profits to provide new programs and services to the community we serve.

The following is a list of new services we began in the past year:

- CT Scans available around the clock
- Digital Mammography
- PACS System (filmless radiology department)
- New radiology equipment such as 2 new ultrasound machines and digital x-ray machines
- Fast Track service in the Emergency Department
- Rapid Response Teams to treat patients whose condition is deteriorating prior to their suffering a cardiac or respiratory arrest
- Auburn Orthopaedic Specialists now owned and managed by the hospital
- LAP-BAND® adjustable gastric banding system for weight loss
- New beds and mattresses throughout the Finger Lakes Center for Living, our nursing and rehabilitation facility
- Expanded hours for pulmonary function testing
- New Laboratory testing stations on Seward Avenue, Auburn and in Skaneateles
- Newly decorated Central Registration lobby with free coffee service for guests

We also focused our efforts on Physician Recruitment. To date, the following outstanding doctors have joined our Medical Staff.

- **Dr. Brian Bennett**, Internal Medicine
- **Dr. Guillermo Quetell**, Plastic Surgery
- **Dr. Richard Byrne**, Orthopedic Surgeon

These new programs and services were made possible by the leadership and support of the Board of Directors, Medical/Dental Staff, Government Officials, Administration, our Employees and the Community.

Thank you for your support.

New Plans for AMH:

AMH leadership is shown here reviewing an architect's drawing of the new operating rooms which will be added in 2008 as part of the HEAL II Grant project.



Photo by Glen Gaston

From left to right are Judy Dove, nurse manager of One North; Emilie Hauger, OR nurse manager; Scott Berlucchi, President/CEO; Robert Bergan, 2007 Chairman of the Board of Trustees; Chris Langsett, project manager; Dr. Deborah Geer, surgeon; and Sherry Gunnip, nurse manager of the Medical/Surgical unit.

Financial Report 2007 Auburn Memorial Hospital

Total Operating Revenue: **\$7,200,000**

Total Operating Expenses: **\$7,100,000**

Gross of Revenue
Over Expenses: **\$1,000,000**

Medical Executive Committee - 2007

- Saul Rosenblum, M.D., *President*
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- Deborah Geer, M.D., *Secretary/Treasurer*
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- Eileen Murphy, M.D.
- Michael Palmer, M.D.
- Cheruku Reddy, M.D.
- Carl Weiss III, M.D.

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- David R. Smith
- David M. White, M.D.

Fiscal Year 2007

Wages paid to all of hospital employees, not including physicians' payroll, were \$3,200,000 with an average number of 686 employees throughout the year. AMH served a total of 4,700 inpatients and 148,000 outpatients in 2007, including emergency room visits.

Fingerlakes Weight Loss Program at AMH to Offer LAP-BAND® Procedure

The Fingerlakes Weight Loss Program at Auburn Memorial Hospital, which has been designated as an Excellus BlueCross BlueShield Bariatric Program of Medical Excellence, added a new option for patients beginning in December, 2007. The LAP-BAND® Adjustable Gastric Banding System has helped hundreds of thousands of people worldwide achieve lasting weight loss. Dr. Carl Weiss III, Surgeon, offers this procedure as another choice for those who want to lose more than 100 pounds.

This minimally invasive procedure allows patients to eat smaller portions, feel satisfied after meals, and gradually lose excess weight. The LAP-BAND® system does not involve stomach stapling or intestinal rerouting. Typically, it involves a 23 hour hospital stay, or can even be done as an outpatient procedure in some cases. Patients usually can resume normal activities within a week. The procedure is adjustable and reversible.

As with any surgery, there are possible risks and complications with the LAP-BAND® system.

Interested individuals may attend a free information session with Dr. Weiss at Auburn Memorial Hospital on the second or fourth Wednesday of any month. The information sessions are offered from 4pm to 5pm in the hospital auditorium, located on the lower level. For information, you may also call 255-7544 or visit www.lonepinesurgery.com.

John Baran, CPA, Named Chief Financial Officer of Auburn Memorial Hospital

John Baran, CPA, has been named Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Auburn Memorial Hospital. Baran has served as Interim CFO since January, 2007.



“This position is a perfect fit for me, and a labor of love,” stated Baran, who was born at AMH and grew up in Auburn. “This is my hometown hospital and it’s a great community asset. I want to do everything I can to ensure its fiscal health.” His 30-year career has been in healthcare finance, and his clients through the years have included many hospitals and health systems, as well as Columbia University Medical School.

His experience has included two successful financial turnaround assignments, at New Island Hospital in Long Island, NY and at Long Island Jewish Medical Center, an 800-bed teaching hospital.

Baran grew up on Peacock Street in Auburn, graduated from East High School in 1964, and married the former Kathleen Hassett, also an East High graduate. He earned a B.A. degree from the State University of NY at Buffalo and a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from Washburn University, majoring in accounting. From 1969-1973 he served in the U.S. Air Force at Forbes AFB, Topeka, KS.

From 1973 to 1993 he worked with Ernst & Young, where he specialized in healthcare auditing and consulting in Boston, Albany and New York. He worked with PricewaterhouseCoopers from 1994 to 2004 as healthcare market leader in charge of healthcare auditing services in the NY Metro market. He retired from PricewaterhouseCoopers in 2004 and created Nova Financial Advisors, LLC, a consulting firm specializing in healthcare financial management, operational and governance matters.

He purchased a house in Skaneateles in 1995, continuing his consulting business.

In late 2006, he was interviewed by the AMH Board to serve as a Trustee. Soon afterward, the person then serving as Interim CFO took a permanent job elsewhere. Mr. Baran was asked to take on that position instead of joining the Board. “My reaction was, “Sure!” he says. “I knew the hospital had financial troubles and I wanted to do everything I could to make sure it came through in good shape.” In July, he says, the idea of staying on a permanent basis became a possibility. “After going into bankruptcy in April, I knew I had to be here until the process was complete. Then I realized that I want to stay around to be sure everything continues to be fine after we emerge from bankruptcy. I feel very comfortable with the decision and pleased and honored to be given this opportunity.”

Richard Byrne, M.D., Orthopedic Surgeon, Joins Auburn Orthopaedic Specialists

Auburn Memorial Hospital has announced Dr. Richard M. Byrne, M.D., has joined Auburn Orthopaedic Specialists (AOS) on a part-time basis. This practice is now owned and managed by the hospital. Dr. Byrne, an Orthopedic Surgeon, joins Dr. Thomas Sullivan and Dr. Kathi Teixeira in the practice.



Scott A. Berlucchi, AMH President/CEO, stated, “We are very pleased that Dr. Byrne

has joined AOS. This is an important step forward in our ongoing commitment to providing orthopedic services to our community.”

Dr. Byrne earned his M.D. degree and completed a Residency at the SUNY Health Science Center in Syracuse, NY. He is Board Certified in orthopedic surgery.

Auburn Orthopaedic Specialists is located at 77 Nelson Street, Auburn. Appointments may be made by calling 315-252-7559.

AMH Cardiac Rehabilitation Program Honors 1000th Patient

John Williams of Victory wishes he had started cardiac rehabilitation years ago. "Maybe if I'd done this after my angioplasty, I wouldn't have needed a quadruple bypass," he says. However, he's had one benefit from starting rehab now – a party in his honor as the 1000th AMH Cardiac Rehabilitation patient.



surgery and then recommended that Mr. Williams follow up with cardiac rehabilitation at Auburn Memorial Hospital.

He expected the exercises included in cardiac rehab – treadmill, stationery bicycle, and others – to be exhausting, but was pleasantly surprised to find himself feeling "refreshed" after the hour-long program. The educational aspects of the program are also helpful, he says. "I've always had a pretty healthy diet and I've been aware when I was eating something I shouldn't – but now I feel guilty when I do!" he says with a laugh. He adds that the meetings with the dietitian are helpful, partially because of the incentive they provide. The cardiac rehab program also gave him the incentive to quit smoking. He had smoked a pack a day, but says he had no difficulty giving it up. "I just needed the motivation."

Mr. Williams, 63, has been fortunate. Despite having cardiovascular problems, he has never suffered a heart attack. And with watchful care from his cardiologist, Dr. Rama Godishala, he has undergone several procedures to keep him healthy. In 1991, he underwent his first angioplasty; in 2001 he had a second angioplasty with the insertion of two stents; and on June 29, 2007, he had a quadruple bypass.

"I always have regular checkups and stress tests," he says. "When I went in for my checkup in June, I knew I was in trouble. I'd been tiring easily and finding it hard to do the same work I usually do." Dr. Godishala arranged for the bypass

The advice John Williams offers others is: "See a doctor regularly and have a stress test. I never had high blood pressure or any other sign of a problem until I got on that treadmill for the stress test." Now, he says that he expects to live a long, healthy life. "Even though I'm not back to 100% since my bypass, I'm getting better every day."

ER Physician Got His Start in Hospital's Dietary and Laundry Departments

Dr. Michael Jorolemon, Director of Quality Assurance and Improvement in Auburn Memorial Hospital's Emergency Department, has a unique background at AMH.



Dr. Michael Jorolemon

He started as an employee in 1983, while he was still in high school. He worked in the dietary, laundry, nursing services and emergency departments during his high school and college years, until going to medical school. His jobs in the Emergency Department included Nursing Assistant, Unit Secretary, and Technician.

He earned his D.O. degree at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine in Biddeford, Maine, and completed a Residency at Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY. He was appointed to the AMH Medical Staff in 2003.

In addition to his position as Director of Quality Assurance and Improvement, he provides emergency medical care in the AMH Emergency Department and the hospital's two urgent care clinics, located on Grant Avenue, Auburn, and Route 20, Skaneateles.

He achieved distinction recently at the American College of Emergency Physicians National Assembly, held in Seattle, Washington on October 10, 2007, when he was inducted as a Fellow into the College.

According to Rosalyn McCormick, Vice President for Patient Care Services, "I remember him starting here as a high school student. From that time on until today, he has maintained the same commitment, integrity, and conscientious attitude toward his work. Auburn Memorial Hospital is very fortunate to have such a dedicated physician in our ER."

In addition to his position at AMH, he is a Clinical Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine at SUNY Upstate in Syracuse and a member of the teaching faculty at the MedStar training center at SUNY Upstate.



Heart Expo

Auburn Memorial Hospital's Heart Expo,

a free, educational event which attracts over 300 community residents each September, included a Grandparents/Grandchildren walk this year. Shown here (from left): David Lee, director of the AMH Cardiac Rehabilitation program; registers "Grandpa" Richard Bortz and "Grandma" Charla Conley of Auburn, who took the walk with Samantha and Christopher Conley (front). In the background is Roller Roo, a mascot that encouraged children to walk to help keep their hearts healthy.



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Rick Emanuel Elected to Board of Trustees

At its December meeting, the Auburn Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees elected Richard "Rick" Emanuel, publisher of The Citizen, to the Board. He replaces Dr. Dennis Golladay.



Rick Emanuel

Emanuel began his newspaper career as an advertising sales representative with The Leader, Corning, NY, a sister paper of The Citizen, in 1988. In 1998 he was named publisher of The Citizen and www.auburnpub.com. He has a passion for community journalism and The Citizen has received many local and national awards under his leadership.

He has been involved with many community organizations and currently serves as Vice-President of the Board of Directors for the Cayuga County United Way, is Board President of the Cayuga Community College Foundation and Past-President of the Auburn Rotary Club. He has recently become Chair of the AMH Public Relations Advisory Committee.

His wife Kelly is a first-grade teacher in the Auburn School District. Rick and Kelly have two children and reside in Sennett.

POSTAL PATRON

Ribbon Cutting for Digital Mammography Unit



Shown here is the ribbon-cutting celebration held on October 25 at the hospital's new Essential Diagnostics Center on N. Seward Avenue. Senator Mike Nozzolio, who assisted in accessing the state grant for \$500,000 which covered the cost of the new digital mammography unit, and Assemblyman Gary Finch, another long-time supporter of the hospital, both took part in the event. From left are Scott A. Berlucchi, President/CEO; Dr. Deborah Geer, surgeon and the first person to have a mammogram using the new equipment; Senator Nozzolio; Assemblyman Finch; Board Chairman Robert Bergan and (in the foreground) Michael Heary, technical director of radiology.

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