LEADERS

Volume 7 Issue 2 Summer 2012

Taking a Deep Breath
A Mystery Solved & a Life Regained
Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

Welcome to this issue of Lankenau Leaders!

Let me start by asking a question which I think many of you may have already asked yourselves: “Who will be an advocate for my health?” As you read through these pages, I encourage you to keep this question in mind. You may find answers you hadn’t expected – just as Susan Gingerich did. Susan’s story is an inspiring tale of someone who has spent her life advocating for the health-needs of others, only to learn she needed to apply those lessons to herself! Much of her journey revolves around making sure we, as health care consumers, are informed customers.

This magazine is just one of the many ways in which you can educate yourself about the choices you can make for your own health. Those choices may mean taking the precautionary step of having an Angioscreen®, or it may be as simple as paying attention to the small details, such as patient comfort amenities, when picking a health care institution.

Yes, it is true we can become self-advocates for our health. But what happens when you don’t have the strength or capacity to stand up for yourself? Who will look out for you then?

Allow me to personally say, Lankenau Medical Center is here for you. Our patients and the communities we serve are the reason Lankenau exists. When Lankenau first opened in 1860 as the “German Hospital of Philadelphia,” its purpose was to provide health services to the largely underserved German population in the area. Even then, its creators understood the needs of the community. Over 150 years later, we still have the ever-evolving community needs and the patient perspective at the forefront of our decision-making process.

These thoughtful considerations are evident in the design and construction of each and every component of Lankenau’s incredible Master Facility Project. It’s hard to believe how much has already been accomplished and that we are just one year away from the opening of our new 96-bed Heart and Vascular Pavilion. All of this is for you, about you, and to an incredible degree, by you – through the generous support of the many philanthropists you will read about. Thank you for taking the step to learn more about Lankenau. You may just find it is one of the best health care choices you can make!

Sincerely,

Phillip D. Robinson, FACHE
President, Lankenau Medical Center
Lankenau Medical Center is renowned, both locally and further afield, for its expertise in clinical care, emphasis on patient safety, innovations in research, and commitment to medical education. We are extremely proud to present to you the remarkable level of recognition Lankenau receives on a national scale. These most recent awards place Lankenau among a very select few elite medical institutions in the U.S.

| 1 | Lankenau Medical Center was named a Top 100 U.S. Hospital in Thomson Reuters’ annual study ranking overall organizational performance. Thomson Reuters 100 Top Hospitals® evaluated 2,886 short-term, acute-care and non-federal hospitals across the nation to select the “top 100” of which Bryn Mawr and Paoli hospitals were also a part. |
| 2 | In addition, Lankenau was named a Top 50 Cardiovascular Hospital by Thomson Reuters for the fifth time for achieving superior clinical outcomes, providing better care, and being more efficient. To compile its list, Thomson Reuters examined the performance of more than 1,000 hospitals by analyzing outcomes for patients with heart failure and heart attacks and for those who received coronary bypass surgery and percutaneous coronary interventions such as angioplasties. |
| 3 | Thomson Reuters also rated Jefferson Health System (JHS) – of which Main Line Health is an integral component – one of the Top 5 Large Health Systems in the nation. JHS achieved this recognition through its superior clinical outcomes, including better survival rates and fewer complications than its peer institutions. |
| 4 | The American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN) Silver Beacon Award for Excellence was designated to both Lankenau’s Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit and the Intensive Care Unit. This award, received by only 5% of intensive care units nationwide, recognizes individual nursing care units that distinguish themselves in the care of patients and their families. |
| 5 | Lankenau was recognized as a top performer by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services for our involvement in the Hospital Quality Incentive Demonstration™ project. Lankenau once again excelled in this project receiving 10 awards for quality of care in clinical areas ranging from treatment of heart attacks to knee replacement. |
| 6 | Lankenau has earned The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval™ for re-certification as a Primary Stroke Center. This advanced re-certification validates our ability to provide effective, timely care to stroke patients with significantly improved patient outcomes. |

P.S. We want to hear from you! If you have any feedback on Lankenau Leaders, please contact Brittany Thompson, Manager of Development Communications, at (484) 476-8067 or ThompsonBr@mlhs.org.
With her father in the Air Force, Susan has seen more of the U.S. than your average citizen. Born in South Dakota, she has since lived in more than 13 states. As an adult, Susan’s travels brought her to the East Coast where she studied Psychology and English at Wellesley College and went on to obtain a Masters degree in Social Work.

Early in her career, Susan became interested in schizophrenia – particularly working directly with the individuals and families involved. A co-author of many books and peer-review articles, and a leader of workshops, Susan works to equip patients, families and medical practitioners with empowerment tools. “We give individuals a vision of recovery so they see it is attainable. We teach them how to advocate for themselves in the mental health system and how to talk to their doctors.”

Equally important is helping educate family members as participants in the recovery of their loved one. At the other end of the patient-doctor relationship, Susan shares evidence-based practices with professionals in the mental health field to improve the standard of care. “Our goal is to do everything possible to help individuals get their lives back, but also to equip and empower them to live enriched lives.”

You could say Susan has much experience in the health care industry, but little did she know that the life lessons she teaches to

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**Taking a Deep Breath**

Susan Gingerich takes a deep breath.

If you ask Susan what has brought her to this point in her life today – she’s got a lot to tell. It’s hard to imagine that this vibrant woman, who seems so full of life and energy, could at one time barely breathe.

Below: Dr. Susan Gregory, Lankenau pulmonologist and Medical Director of Critical Care.

Page 3: Susan Gingerich
others would one day become her lifeline. Susan and her family became Philly suburb residents in 1989, finding Lankenau Medical Center in the backyard of their Narberth home. “Lankenau was the first choice for my family,” she says. “But not because it was close by – I would have travelled miles for its physicians.” Fortunately, good health blessed the Gingerich household. That is, until 2005.

Over the course of several months, Susan started noticing she was getting tired. Her body was fatigued and she was suffering from persistent congestion. Very gradually and subtly, her symptoms worsened and Susan began to lose her appetite.

“I went to see my primary care physician at Lankenau – Dr. Jerome Santoro. He was very attentive and took me seriously, despite my vague descriptions of symptoms. He treated my medical complaints like a detective and checked out all potential causes.”

Infection, allergies, you name it – it all seemed a possibility. Susan was on antibiotics, an inhaler and congestion medications. But she was gradually being worn down. Soon she couldn’t make it up the stairs.

To add to the mystery, Susan’s blood work revealed something strange. Her eosinophil count – the quantity of particular white blood cells – was more than double normal range. Susan was immediately scheduled for a chest X-ray. “Just holding my arms over my head for the test was a struggle.” When the results showed a strange cloud-like pattern in her lungs, Susan was called to come into the hospital right away to be admitted.

After being welcomed to the hospital by Dr. Santoro’s familiar face, Susan Gingerich met Susan Gregory, MD, a pulmonologist and Lankenau’s Director of Critical Care. By this point, Susan’s status was declining even further. “It hurt to breathe in and out. I was completely exhausted.” To be thorough, Susan underwent testing to eliminate other diagnoses, such as cancer. “Dr Gregory was there for every procedure, either walking me into it, there during it, or administering it herself.”

Susan was in fact suffering from Eosinophilic Pneumonia (EP), a condition where a type of white blood cell is told by the body to “fight.” The result is an inflammatory response in the lungs – a defense mechanism raised despite no infection, no obvious cause.

“Dr. Gregory respects that the patient is her best source of information.”

Susan Gingerich
EP is also hard to detect. Chest X-rays don’t reflect typical pneumonia, and the lungs can sound clear as a bell. “This type of pneumonia is very rare,” Dr. Gregory explains. “The disease is poorly understood because so few people have it.” In fact, very few doctors have experience diagnosing patients with this rare disease. Dr. Gregory happened to be one of them. Susan’s travels had brought her to the right place at the right time. She was diagnosed at once. 

“There was an immediate sense of relief,” says Susan. “When you’re too exhausted to breathe, identifying and understanding the problem makes a huge difference. Having the hope that you’ll get better actually helps you recover. Dr. Gregory knew what I had, and had a plan.”

Over the course of the next week, Susan was an inpatient, receiving steroids through an IV. Throughout the course of her treatment Susan had many questions. “When you’re going through something like that, it’s hard to take in and retain information. You don’t want to feel stupid for asking the same questions over and over – and thankfully Dr. Gregory never made me feel that way. Every question, no matter how insignificant or repetitive, was answered.”

Susan is adamant about the importance of having that kind of relationship with your physician. “Transparency is huge,” she says. “This is what I’ve worked on my whole life – communication and openness between a patient and their doctor; a patient and their families.” Susan is adamant that access to information about your health can transform the patient experience. “Dr. Gregory shared everything she knew at every step of my hospitalization, and going forward after I was discharged.”

Soon, Susan was able to muster the strength to walk down a stretch of the hospital hallway with Dr. Gregory by her side every step of the way. After her discharge, Susan continued medication orally and visited Dr. Gregory regularly for breathing tests. “Dr. Gregory always showed me my charted results. It encouraged me when I was looking at those improvements – to see how far I’d come.” Slowly, as Susan returned to her former dynamic self, her medication was tapered down.

But seven months later, the unthinkable happened. “I started to get tired again, started losing my appetite.” The chest X-ray revealed the same cloud-like pattern. This time, however, was different. Susan was determined to tackle the problem. Due to her keen awareness of her symptoms, and with careful monitoring by Dr. Gregory, Susan was able to be treated as an outpatient by increasing her dose of medicine.

But it had come back.
It could come back again.

Over the next few years, Susan’s had more episodes. In true researcher-form, Susan developed “Susan’s Questionnaire,” recording her daily level of fatigue, how many times she lay down, appetite, congestion levels, continued on page 16
At Lankenau Medical Center, individuals can now participate in a six-minute, simple, painless, radiation-free screening that provides information on circulation and the risk of heart disease or stroke.

The AngioScreen® mobile unit gathers information on heart rhythm, neck and leg arteries, blood pressure and fitness. This revolutionary screening includes tests and a personal consultation to provide you with immediate and clear results of your circulation and vascular health.

To make an appointment for a screening, call 1-866-CALL-MLH (225-5654). You can also schedule a mobile van screening event for your community or workplace. For more information call Marsha Serock at (484) 476-8554.

You can also schedule a mobile van screening event for your community or workplace. For more information call Marsha Serock at (484) 476-8554.

The $50 test includes:

- A carotid artery ultrasound scan showing the blood flow in the neck arteries
- An Ankle Brachial Index (ABI) test to screen for blockages to arteries in the legs
- An ultrasound screening for Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm
- Peak Systolic Velocity (PSV) with a Doppler to screen for narrowing arteries
- Heart Rate
- Electrocardiogram to show heart rhythm
- Body Mass Index
- Blood Pressure

Warren Weiner, Trustee of the Lankenau Medical Center Foundation and dedicated member of Lankenau’s Chairman’s Campaign Council, passed away on February 13, 2012.

Warren’s tremendous business acumen translated successfully in many arenas. After graduating from Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science in 1965, Warren began his 35-year tenure at Deb Shops, where he was eventually Executive Vice President. Most recently, Warren’s business ventures included serving as a principal for Spring Mill Partners, a real estate investment group, and as Vice Chair of the Board of Hyberbank.

Warren’s professional accomplishments were only surpassed by his remarkable philanthropic leadership. After serving in a volunteer advisory capacity for the Main Line Health Heart Center Leadership Council, Warren was elected to the Lankenau Foundation Board in June 2009. In the short time since, Warren and his wife Penny served as Co-Chairs for Lankenau’s 150th Anniversary Gala at the Philadelphia Museum of Art; hosted a Gala Preview Party for more than 100 Lankenau donors in their home; sponsored a Lankenau employee appreciation party at Warren’s G Lounge club in Philadelphia; and in January 2012 hosted a group of close friends of Lankenau for a special dinner in their home.

“Warren was a smart, humble, generous man who was always committed to celebrating Lankenau’s caregivers and ever eager to help this institution move to the next level,” says Lankenau President Phil Robinson. “We were privileged to have Warren as part of the Lankenau family and will greatly miss his wise counsel, heartfelt advocacy and friendship.”

Lankenau Mourns the Loss of a Dedicated Trustee

Warren Weiner
You may have heard, or even seen firsthand, that Lankenau Medical Center is in the midst of the largest construction project in the history of Main Line Health. This $479 million Master Facility Project (MFP) is so expansive there is hardly a part of the Lankenau campus it does not touch. And all this is for you – our patients, visitors and community members – who trust Lankenau to provide programs and services that ultimately help your family have the highest quality of life.

Your experience is at the heart of the design for all of the new construction, renovations and upgrades. We know that the small details make the difference between a standard hospital visit and a comfortable, convenient, private place to receive care. Additionally, this project will provide state-of-the-art facilities and technology that allow our physicians, nurses and other caregivers to practice the very best medicine. Combining clinical excellence and a patient-centered outlook is the recipe for a superior patient experience.

And so, while construction can sometimes be an inconvenience, we are thrilled that so many of you, like us, are focused upon the end result – a fully integrated academic medical center that accommodates the newest technology and advanced clinical, academic and research programs that have earned Lankenau national acclaim (see page 1). In the meantime, we’d like to share with you a behind-the-scenes look at the day to day developments!
1 The apex of the MFP – The Heart and Vascular Pavilion – will open summer 2013. This incredible 96-bed facility will house an outpatient cardiovascular diagnostic testing center, an evaluation center for cardiovascular physician appointments, two inpatient telemetry floors and an intensive care unit. All patient rooms will be state-of-the-art and single-occupancy, with natural light, individual climate control, flat screen televisions, private bathrooms and dedicated zones for patients, caregivers and families.

2 To ensure ultimate comfort, safety, privacy and peace of mind for our patients, renovations will continue to convert all patient rooms on existing units from semi-private to private – creating spacious, technologically advanced rooms designed to decrease clinical appearance and make you feel more at home.

3 Plans are underway for special VIP suites for those patients who wish to upgrade their inpatient accommodations. These suites include amenities such as a dedicated concierge, complimentary valet parking, airport limousine transfers, fine dining options, salon services, faux fireplace, kitchenette, in-room safe, overnight family accommodations, complimentary internet access and technical support.

4 The Ambulatory Access Center will offer one convenient, expanded location for the registration, outpatient laboratory and pre-admission testing departments. This all-new suite will be conveniently accessible from visitor parking garage B.
The Medical Office Building Atrium is under construction to provide a new Atrium Café, a new escalator, and expanded seating in this sun-filled space.

The West Lobby entrance – directly off visitor parking garage B, is just one of many public areas undergoing a facelift. Updated corridors, bathrooms, information desks and waiting areas will make for a more pleasant, efficient and comfortable visit for our patients, families and visitors. The renovated walkway between the West Lobby and the Atrium will give access to new gardens.

Renovations to the kitchen and cafeteria will include a new market-style servery with expanded menu options, updated seating, and facilities to support inpatient on-demand room service.

For a virtual tour, and more updates on the ongoing construction, visit mainlinehealth.org/facilityplan.
Completed Projects Include:

8 **All-new** 1,300-space parking garage, and additional surface parking for visitor accessibility.

9 **All-new** award-winning Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit to provide safest and most comfortable space for patient healing.

10 **All-new** Comprehensive Breast Center (CBC) offering advanced diagnostic care and clinical expertise in a beautifully tranquil setting.

11 **Cardiac Intervention & Electrophysiology Suite** renovations with the latest imaging and monitoring equipment and continuity of care. Includes all-new advanced interventional suite capable of hybrid procedures.

12 Renovations to some existing inpatient units – privatizing and updating patient rooms, refurbishment of nursing stations, and reduction of clinical appearance of units in favor of a more comfortable, quiet and healing environment.

13 **All-new** Annenberg Simulation Center for innovative hands-on learning, and teamwork exercises.

14 **MRI/CT suite & technology upgrades** for the latest diagnostic imaging technology with convenient patient access.

15 **Inpatient Dialysis Unit updates** for patient safety, privacy and comfort.

16 **All-new Gastrointestinal Interventional Endoscopy Suite** enabling complex endoscopic procedures unavailable at many medical institutions in the area.

17 **Emergency Department expansion** to improve comfort and facilitate quicker evaluation and treatment.

18 **All-new Energy Services Center** providing efficient and environmentally friendly energy.

19 **TrueBeam™ STx linear accelerator** addition to the Radiation Oncology Department for rapid, precise treatment.

20 **Roadway improvements** including new turning lanes and light re-timing for easier patient access and egress.

The CBC is named in honor of the Women’s Board of Lankenau Medical Center, whose philanthropic endeavors have supported the Master Facility Project.
In November 2011, members of the John D. Lankenau Society gathered for the annual President’s Reception. Lankenau passports in hand, guests took a trolley ride to see the campus construction, toured a research lab, worked hands-on with surgical robots, and learned about our sophisticated linear accelerator – the TrueBeam STx. For more information on the Society and photos of the event, visit www.mainlinehealth.org/JohnDLankenauSociety.
7. A trolley transported guests for an up-close, behind-the-scenes look at the campus construction.

8. Dr. Fran Sutter, Lankenau Chief of Cardiac Surgery who talked about cardiac surgery using a daVinci® robot; Lankenau Volunteer, Sandy First; and Women’s Board member, Sherrin Baky.

9. George Prendergast, PhD, President & CEO of the Lankenau Institute for Medical Research.

10. A laboratory in the Lankenau Institute for Medical Research was a stop on the Lankenau tour.


12. Lankenau Trustees Leia and Joe Gordon.

13. Guests were issued passports as they embarked on the journey to learn about Lankenau’s future.

14. Guests visited Lankenau’s TrueBeam™ STx linear accelerator in the radiation oncology department.
The Dorrance H. Hamilton 1999 Charitable Trust recently fulfilled its $2 million pledge to establish the Dorrance H. Hamilton Department of Medicine Chair currently held by Dr. Jerome Santoro.

Longtime benefactor, Bobbi Brodsky, committed $1 million to the Master Facility Project (MFP) through The Rose and Adolph Levis Foundation. This gift, made in memory of her late husband, Harvey Brodsky, will dedicate the Brodsky Family Bridge which will link a visitor parking garage to the new Heart and Vascular Pavilion.

The Trustees of The Charter Foundation have pledged $950,000 towards the establishment of an endowed chair honoring Joe Gordon, a Lankenau Trustee, and his late wife, Ray. Lankenau recently received a gift of $150,000 towards this pledge.

The Delema G. Deaver Fund made two gifts totaling more than $640,000 in memory of Delema Deaver’s husband, Elmer Roe Deaver.

An anonymous donor pledged $500,000 to support the MFP.

More than $422,000 was received from the Ruth A. Goldner Trust. Ms. Goldner was a lifelong Lankenau devotee and graduate of its School of Nursing. She worked at Lankenau for over 40 years.
The Lucille Mellon Holloway Trust made several distributions totaling more than $260,000 in support of Lankenau’s highest priority needs in fiscal year 2012. An anonymous donor made a gift of $150,000 to support the construction of an advanced cardiac intervention procedure room that enables a new aortic valve replacement procedure via catheter.

An anonymous donor contributed stock valued at more than $110,000 towards the Patient Experience Fund, helping to ensure a comfortable and exceptional patient experience at Lankenau.

The Marsha Rivkin Center for Ovarian Cancer Research awarded a $75,000 grant in support of Dr. Janet Sawicki’s research at the Lankenau Institute for Medical Research (LIMR).

The Clayman Family Foundation fulfilled their $50,000 pledge to support the Vascular Medicine Fellowship within the Cardiovascular Diseases Fellowship Program at Lankenau, during fiscal year 2012.

Main Line Health (MLH) Department of Surgery Chairman, Dr. Scott Goldman, and his wife Dr. Mary Alice Cheney, made a multi-year pledge of $50,000 to support the MFP.

Dr. Peter R. Kowey and his wife Dorothy made a multi-year pledge of $50,000 to support the MFP. Dr. Kowey is Chief of Cardiovascular Disease for MLH, and holder of The William Wikoff Smith Chair in Cardiovascular Research.

Lankenau Trustee Dennis Marlo, and his wife Karen, donated $50,000 towards the MFP.

Lankenau Trustee I. Wistar Morris and his wife, Martha, through The Cotswold Foundation, made a $50,000 gift to support LIMR. This gift is in addition to their $1 million pledge to support the MFP.

The late David Pincus and The Pincus Family Foundation made a $50,000 gift to the MFP. In the past six years, David, his wife Geraldine, and the Family Foundation have contributed just under $1 million, providing vital support to Lankenau’s clinics which provide primary and specialty care to the underserved.

David’s passing is a tremendous loss, not only for the Lankenau community, but for the many charities he passionately supported with an incredible legacy of philanthropy.

MLH Chief of Cardiac Surgery and MLH Chief of Cardiovascular Surgery, Dr. Fran Sutter, and his wife, Marilu, made a multi-year pledge of $50,000 in support of the MFP.

The March of Dimes Foundation donated nearly $45,000 to support research projects at LIMR.

Lankenau Trustee Bob Hall, and his wife, Ronna, pledged $40,000 towards the Heart and Vascular Pavilion – the centerpiece of the MFP.

continued on page 16
You may already know that the word "philanthropy" originated from the Greek word *philanthropos*: "phil" meaning love, and "anthropos" meaning human beings. What we today call acts of philanthropy are acts which stem from a genuine and selfless love of mankind.

The story of one particular Lankenau philanthropist is a touching example of the power of such love.

A few years ago, a gentleman spent a prolonged time as an inpatient at Lankenau. He and his wife were pleased with the care he had received, but as engaged community members, recognized that the patient experience is something that can always be improved upon. After the husband’s passing in 2008, his widow began her partnership with Lankenau in an effort to improve patient comfort.

Through her personal, direct charitable donations – and, indirectly, through the process improvement initiatives she has inspired – Lankenau patients now have more comfortable mattresses for beds and new pillows. This inspirational donor has since continued her quest to improve the experience – in particular, privacy – for Lankenau’s patients. Another generous contribution has now enabled the purchase of high quality bathrobes for our inpatients that provide warmth and privacy previously not afforded by traditional hospital gowns alone. Her mindfulness of the needs of our patients, and gracious donation of her personal time are at the very heart of a true philanthropic act.

At Lankenau, we are humbled by the support of the many patients, friends and committed community members whose sheer love of others – like that of this particular individual – help to make Lankenau a more comfortable place to heal.

At Lankenau we have a different take on what it means to be a philanthropist. We would be remiss if we considered philanthropy to be merely a transaction of money to a charity. After all, that’s not the whole story of what philanthropy is all about.

Lankenau Medical Center Foundation received more than $7.2 million in charitable gifts to support programs and services at Lankenau Hospital, the Lankenau Institute for Medical Research (LIMR) and the Walter & Leonore Annenberg Conference Center for Medical Education last fiscal year (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011).

In order to be better stewards of our resources, which include your charitable donations, we now list the annual Donor Report online rather than in print. You can visit www.mainlinehealth.org/LankenauDonors for Lankenau statistics and leadership, and a listing of the incredibly generous community members who supported our institution.

Please contact Brittany Thompson at (484) 476-8067 or ThompsonBr@mlhs.org should you have any questions.
In May 2012, Lankenau and Baldwin Management, LLC, presented a unique conversation-style event that was the first in what will be a biannual series that blends discussion of research and patient care with investment opportunities in the biotech field.

A Conversation about Cancer: Emerging Science, Treatments and Technology was the brainchild of and hosted by Peter Havens, Chairman of the Lankenau Institute for Medical Research (LIMR); Trustee of Lankenau Medical Center (LMC) and Main Line Health (MLH); and Chairman of investment firm Baldwin Management, LLC.

The Conversation, co-hosted by Lankenau President Phil Robinson, attracted an audience of more than 100 and was followed by a reception with guided tours of the technology, discussed during the program, and a LIMR research laboratory.

Panelists George Prendergast, President, LIMR; Dr. John Marks, Chief of Colorectal Surgery, LMC and Main Line Health (MLH); Dr. Marisa Weiss, Director of Breast Radiation Oncology and Breast Health Outreach, LMC, and founder of Breastcancer.org; and Dr. Devang Kantesaria, Lankenau Trustee and General Partner with Devon Park Bioventures, fielded questions from the audience and gave their input on the current status and future of cancer prevention and treatment, and the investment climate within this industry.
**Taking a Deep Breath continued from page 4**

weight, temperature, whether she was struggling to have positive thoughts, and any impaired feeling of spontaneity. "Dr. Gregory taught me what was relevant, what to track. And most of all, she trusted my instincts." As Susan learned to recognize the signs, her episodes became further and further apart.

"I was once at a meeting with a tray of donuts in front of me, but no donut looked appealing. It may seem silly but I knew then and there something was wrong." Susan called Dr. Gregory immediately. "Some doctors would have paid no attention, but Dr. Gregory respects that the patient is her best source of information. Patients need to trust their doctors, but doctors also need to trust their patients because they are experts in different areas. Physicians are experts in the wide field of diagnosis and treatment. Patients are experts in their own experience – but without the medical expertise of a physician, all we have is an uninformed opinion of our own bodies."

Susan’s experience has given her insight into her professional role. "I realize firsthand how hard it is to not understand what is happening to you, when all you know is that something isn’t right." And just like the patients and families she coaches, she knows all too well that, although identifying the problem is a relief, it is hard to cope with knowing you can relapse at any time. "Now I’m more aware of the subtle things that can discourage hope. The word ‘chronic’ for example – it’s difficult to hear. I understand now why it feels bad, and I know to use words like ‘recurring’ instead."

Like many of the individuals with schizophrenia she works with, Susan experiences discrete periods of illness. But using the tools she’s given them, she’s equipped to identify when it is coming on, and tackle it early. And she has the ear of a trusted professional. "If I didn’t feel so comfortable talking to Dr. Gregory, I bet I would have far more frequent and severe episodes. I wouldn’t call until things got really bad. I worry for others who wait that long just because they don’t have a relationship with their doctor like I do."

Most importantly, Susan is able to seek herself the higher quality of life she encourages other patients to reach for. "I feel good today. I have a lot to do, and I feel like I can do it." In addition to working on her new book, Susan has consultation calls lined up for her current research project, and planning to be done for upcoming workshops with patients and families. But it’s not all work and no play for Susan. She takes daily walks in her hometown of Narberth – a chance for a deep breath of fresh air. Susan has also joined a sing-a-long group, and is now learning the ukulele at the local guitar shop. "It’s a great feeling to know I can continue to do what I love to do, and that Dr. Gregory and I are partners in the road ahead."

**Focus on Philanthropy continued from page 13**

**Alfred W. Putnam, Jr., Chairman of the Lankenau Medical Center Foundation Board, and his wife Kathleen, made gifts totaling more than $30,000 to support the Master Facility Project.**

Emeritus Lankenau Physician, Dr. Robert Smink, and his wife Marjorie, made a gift of $30,000 to support the MFP.

Dr. Ned Carp, Chief of General Surgery and Surgical Director of Oncology, and his wife Kate made a multi-year pledge of $25,000 towards the MFP.

The Thomas H. and Barbara W. Gale Foundation of Ohio made a $25,000 grant in support of Lankenau’s Cancer Risk Assessment and Genetics program. The gift was in honor of Dr. Terri McHugh, Director of the program, and will support her work.

Dr. Frank McGeehin, Chief of Clinical Cardiology, and his wife Kim made a multi-year pledge of $25,000 towards the MFP.

President of Lankenau’s Medical Staff, Dr. Tom Meyer, and his wife, Harriet, made a multi-year pledge of $25,000 in support of the MFP.

Main Line Health Medical Staff President, and immediate past President of Lankenau’s Medical Staff, Dr. Richard Schmidt, and his wife, Nancy, made a $25,000 pledge in support of the MFP.

The Martha W. Rogers Charitable Trust donated $24,500 for LIMR research under the direction of Drs. George Prendergast and Maggie Wallon.

BIOTRONIK, Inc. fulfilled its $20,000 pledge to support the Electrophysiology Fellowship Training Program for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Andrea Kantor, through the Andrea Cavitolo Foundation, made a $20,000 gift as part of a $40,000 pledge to support the research of surgeon Dr. Ned Carp.

In tribute to and appreciation of Lankenau cardiologist Dr. Frank McGeehin, Scot and Shelly Fisher and Herbert and Karen Lotman are dedicating the Nursing Station in the renovated Cardiac Intervention and Electrophysiology Suites in his honor.
In January 2012, Lankenau Medical Center welcomed Roxborough Cardiologists Michael DeAngelis, MD; Bruce Kornberg, DO; Erin O’Malley Tysko, MD; and Rita Patel, MD; to our multi-specialty physician network. These physicians offer advanced comprehensive cardiac care for a variety of problems including coronary artery disease, hypertension, lipid disorders, valvular abnormalities, women’s heart disease, and peripheral vascular disease.

With this partnership, the local cardiologists you’ve trusted with your care, and our Medical Center – nationally acclaimed for its expertise in cardiovascular services – can better serve you and your family.

Drs. DeAngelis, Kornberg, O’Malley Tysko, and Patel are opening a brand new office in the heart of Roxborough. Their top priority is providing their patients with easy access to the best heart care.

Ivyridge Shopping Center
7114 Ridge Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19128
At Ridge Avenue & Domino Lane

Office opened June 4th. Immediate appointments available (215) 298-5000

Ladies & Gentlemen Mark Your Calendars

Saturday, October 27, 2012, 7:00p.m.
for a

Grand Prix Gala

Presented by the John B. Deaver Auxiliary
of Lankenau Medical Center

Phillip D. Robinson, President
Honored Guest, Master of Ceremonies

at the world renowned
Simeone Foundation Automotive Museum