

Friends of Mercy Hospital



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516-705-2618

A NIGHT 90 YEARS IN THE MAKING

First Quarter 2026
April - December 2025 Recap



The *Friends of Mercy* are thrilled to announce plans for a truly special evening celebrating the **90th Anniversary of the Mercy Ball on Saturday, December 5, 2026, at The Lannin.**

Co-chairs **Mayor Fran Murray** and **Gloria DiSciullo**, along with the Ball committee are already hard at work designing an extraordinary celebration, complete with exciting

surprises for our guests. This milestone event promises an unforgettable night honoring nine decades of tradition, generosity, and community support.

Join us as we come together to celebrate this remarkable milestone and continue the legacy of supporting Mercy Hospital. Mark your calendars and get ready for a spectacular evening!

DESIGNED WITH WOMEN IN MIND: MERCY'S BREAST IMAGING CENTER

Mercy Hospital has completed renovation of its Breast Center, designed to enhance the patient experience while expanding access to advanced women's imaging services.

The project, recently completed, includes upgrades to mammography exam rooms, improvements to clinical infrastructure, a door to the entrance to ensure privacy and dignity for the women in that area, refreshed interior finishes, enhanced layouts, and new furniture in patient and family waiting areas. The goal was to create a modern, welcoming environment that supports both clinical excellence and patient comfort.

The renovated Breast Center reflects Mercy Hospital's continued commitment to women's health, early detection, and compassionate care for the community.

This project was made possible through the generous support of Friends of Mercy.



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



**Friends of Mercy President,
TJ Murray**

As I begin my second term, it continues to be a true honor to serve as President of the Friends of Mercy. I remain deeply committed to advancing our mission by raising awareness of the Friends of Mercy throughout the community, while fostering greater engagement and growing our membership. Equally important is ensuring our community stays informed about the exciting progress, innovation, and compassionate care taking place at Mercy Hospital.

This past year has been one of meaningful growth, connection, and impact. The success of 2025 was made possible through the continued dedication, generosity, and enthusiasm of our Friends members, supporters, and partners. Your commitment allows us to strengthen our outreach, support important initiatives, and enhance the patient experience at Mercy.

The Friends of Mercy have been incredibly active this year, hosting events, building new relationships, and expanding our presence in the community. Each effort reflects our shared passion for service and our belief in the vital role Mercy Hospital plays in the lives of so many. A special thank you to Gloria Disciullo, whose tireless dedication, creativity, and leadership in planning our exceptional events continue to make them some of the most anticipated and beloved gatherings in our Mercy community.

In the pages that follow, you will see highlights of all we have accomplished together. Thank you for being an essential part of our journey. I look forward to another year of continued growth, collaboration, and making a difference: Together.

MERCY RECEIVED \$312,000 FROM THE FRIENDS

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our members, donors, and supporters, the Friends of Mercy had a truly impactful year in 2025. Through our four signature events, we proudly raised over **\$312,000** to support critical initiatives at Mercy Hospital.

These funds directly contributed to several important projects, including:

- **Oneview Healthcare**, a patient engagement platform designed to enhance the in-hospital experience
- Funding for the **President's Fund**, supporting essential and time-sensitive needs
- Support for the **Women's Imaging Center renovation**
- Equipment for the **Behavioral Health Department**
- Implementation of the **Xonar Security System** at the hospital's front entrance and emergency room to enhance safety and security.

Each of these initiatives plays a vital role in improving patient care, advancing technology, and ensuring a safe and supportive environment for all

who walk through Mercy's doors.

These achievements would not have been possible without your continued generosity and support. Together, we are making a meaningful difference in the lives of our patients and community!



Friends President, TJ Murray presenting Joe Manopella, President of Mercy Hospital with a \$312,000 check.

CONTINUING A TRADITION OF SERVICE: NILS BOSCH JOINS THE BOARD



The Friends of Mercy are proud to announce that **Nils Bosch** has joined the Friends of Mercy Board. Nils grew up in Rockville Centre, as did his wife Meaghan (Dowling), and they are the proud parents of Noah, Maren, and Andrew.

Meaghan works in the Levittown School District and has long standing ties to Friends of Mercy. Both of her

parents were actively involved in attending and volunteering at FOM events over the years, and she continues that tradition by generously volunteering her time in support of Mercy's mission— you probably have seen her at our St. Pat's Dinner & Mercy Ball!

Professionally, Nils is a Director at Merrill Lynch, where he began his career as an intern in 2003 and advanced to Senior Vice President and Financial Advisor. He is a partner in the Bosch Croutier Group alongside fellow board member **Brian Croutier**.

Nils first began attending Friends of Mercy events in 2014 with Brian and gradually became more involved, first as a Friend, then as a committee member. He was inspired by the passion and dedication of longtime

board members and by the lasting contributions Mercy continues to make in the community.

Service has always been an important part of Nils' life. His parents, Ray and Gail Bosch, instilled strong values of community involvement and service from an early age. His mother, Gail, worked as a Registered Nurse for over 45 years, and his father, Ray, served as an NCPD Lieutenant. Their example played a meaningful role in shaping Nils' desire to give back.

The Friends of Mercy are grateful for the opportunity to welcome Nils to the Board and look forward to his contributions to Mercy's important work alongside such a dedicated group of volunteers.

WELCOMING OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

This past fall, the Friends of Mercy hosted our annual New Member Cocktail Party at Monaghan's, a wonderful evening of connection with interested members from our community.

Membership remains the foundation of the Friends of Mercy, an organization proudly serving our hospital community since 1936. The continued growth of our membership is vital to sustaining our mission and supporting Mercy Hospital through fundraising, outreach, and advocacy. Each new member brings fresh energy, ideas, and a shared commitment to making a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve.

We are delighted to welcome six new members to our growing organization and are grateful for their willingness to support our mission and carry forward our legacy of service.

Please join us in welcoming:

Dr. Karthik Bharadwaj
Dr. Manish Mammen

Jonathan Diorio
Timothy Roberti

Dr. John Ioannou
Jon Wilsusen



ST. PATRICK'S DINNER KICKS OFF ANOTHER GREAT YEAR

The Friends proudly kicked off 2026 with our annual St. Patrick's Dinner on March 5th, an evening filled with camaraderie, laughter, and celebration. With over 260 guests in attendance, the event was a tremendous success and a wonderful start to the year ahead. We are especially grateful to our co-chairs, **Peter Knowles** and **Nils Bosch**, whose leadership and hard work helped make the evening such a success.

We were honored to recognize **Brian Joesten**, a dedicated member and Board member of the Friends of Mercy, for his continued commitment and service to our organization. A highlight of the evening was a heartfelt introduction by his son, Nicholas Joesten, whose words beautifully captured Brian's character and impact.

The night also featured special guest Matt Harvey, former New York Mets

All-Star pitcher, who was introduced by Tom Grech, President & CEO of the Queens Chamber of Commerce. During an engaging Q&A session, Matt shared stories from his baseball career, with plenty of laughs along the way. Of course, one of the most talked-about moments was his answer to how he earned his famous nickname, "The Dark Knight."

Did You Know: The "Dark Knight" name was created after a Sports Illustrated cover story by Tom Verducci, which highlighted Harvey's dominant pitching and intense persona in New York City. It was a play on his last name (Harvey Dent is Batman's ally-turned-villain in *The Dark Knight* series) and a nod to his role as a savior of the Mets' pitching staff in the city of Gotham.

True to tradition, the evening had the feel of a classic "guys' night out,"

bringing together friends and supporters who look forward to this event year after year. Guests enjoyed exciting auction items and a lively 50/50 raffle, where one lucky winner took home an impressive \$5,000 prize! The celebration continued with dessert served in an adjoining room, accompanied by the festive sounds of the Irish band, *The Diddley Idols*.

A longtime fan favorite, the St. Patrick's Dinner once again delivered a memorable evening for all who attended. We are grateful to everyone who joined us and helped make it such a special night, setting the tone for another successful year of events in support of Mercy Hospital.



ST. PAT'S DINNER PHOTOS



An Extra-Special
thank you to
FOM member
Keith Linsalata
from Art Flower &
Gift Shoppe for
the beautiful
clover!



SUMMER LUAU OVERLOOKING THE OCEAN

The Friends of Mercy’s annual Luau, held this past June at the beautiful Ocean Club, once again proved to be a highlight of the summer season. This highly anticipated event welcomed over 250 guests for an unforgettable evening set against the stunning backdrop of the ocean. With gorgeous weather and a picture-perfect sunset, guests danced the night away under the stars in a truly festive atmosphere.

A favorite among attendees, the Luau is known for its incredible food and relaxed, beachside vibe. Guests enjoyed a delicious feast featuring fresh lobster and shrimp from Jordan’s Lobster, along with a traditional pig roast and an array of other favorites. One of the most exciting moments of

the evening was the Friends’ famous Reverse Raffle. With only 200 tickets sold, anticipation builds as numbers are drawn throughout the night—though those pulled early are not the winners. The final 12 tickets remaining in the drum take home prizes ranging from \$150, \$200, \$300, and \$500, with the last ticket claiming the grand prize of \$7,000.

This year’s lucky winner was our very own **Msgr. Frank Caldwell**, who generously donated the entire amount back to the Friends of Mercy. A strong supporter of the Oneview Healthcare platform, Msgr. Caldwell didn’t hesitate to donate his winnings back, knowing it would

be a win-win for all the patients at Mercy Hospital.

More than just a fundraiser, the Luau is a true “friend-raiser,” bringing people together to connect, celebrate, and learn more about the Friends of Mercy in a relaxed and welcoming setting.

Additionally, the Mercy Luau holds special significance as it is a tribute to the late **Andy Healey**, a cherished member of the Friends of Mercy and our Rockville Centre community, who held a special place in his heart for this annual event. It was a wonderful evening and a perfect start to the summer.



GOLF CLASSIC DRIVES ANOTHER SOLD-OUT SUCCESS

The 44th Annual Golf Classic, held in September at the beautiful Rockaway Hunting Club, was a tremendous success. With a sold-out day, the outing once again demonstrated the strong support and enthusiasm of our community. We are especially grateful to our Golf Co-Chairs, **Nils Bosch** and **Kevin Coghlan**, whose hard work and leadership helped make the day such a success.

Set against a backdrop of gorgeous weather, the day featured two shotgun starts at 8:00 AM and 1:00 PM. Golfers in both rounds thoroughly enjoyed their time on the course, taking in the unique experience of playing at Rockaway Hunting Club, an exclusive venue not often available for outings, and one that continues to make this event especially popular among the golfers.

We were proud to honor **Dan Hannon**, a dedicated Friends of Mercy member and avid golf enthusiast. As the owner of Daniel J. Hannon Insurance in Rockville Centre, Dan has shown his support for our organization and its mission over the years. Throughout the day, golfers participated in friendly competitions, including closest to the pin and longest drive, adding to the excitement and camaraderie on the course.

The celebration continued into the evening with cocktails and dinner served on the outdoor patio, where guests enjoyed the beautiful September night, great conversation, and a well-earned sense of accomplishment after a fantastic day of golf. Raffles and auction items added to the energy of the evening, helping to further support Mercy Hospital.

We are incredibly grateful to our golfers, sponsors, and supporters who made this sold-out event such a success. Your continued generosity ensures that the Golf Classic remains a highly anticipated and impactful outing each year.



INSPIRING GENEROSITY AT THE MERCY BALL

The kick-off to the holiday season began in spectacular fashion last December, as guests gathered for an unforgettable evening of elegance, connection, and festive spirit at The Lannin. The event was co-chaired by **Mayor Fran Murray** and **Gloria DiSciullo**, whose leadership helped make the evening a tremendous success.

One of the most memorable parts of the night was the celebration of three remarkable honorees whose dedication have had a lasting impact on Mercy Hospital.

Dr. Shan Ahmed: Theodore Roosevelt Award for Outstanding Service;

Chris Kearns: Bishop John R. McGann Lifetime Achievement Award;

Yvonne Williams-Jones: Sr. Mary Nadine Casey CIJ Award.

Each recognition reflected a deep commitment to service and compassion, hallmarks of the Mercy mission.

Adding to the significance of the evening, Bishop Coyle offered a warm welcome to the Honor Guard Class, bringing a spiritual presence to the high school seniors. Being a member of the Honor Guard has grown into a beloved community rite of passage in Rockville Centre, where the high school seniors gather to celebrate Mercy Hospital, connect, and share in the spirit of the night.

Guests filled the dance floor throughout the night, enjoying the lively music of Current Affair and celebrating together in true holiday spirit.

Perhaps the most inspiring moments of the evening came from the

generosity in the room. A few grateful supporters, moved by their personal connections to Mercy Hospital, spontaneously expressed their desire to give back and made donations on the spot. Their enthusiasm quickly spread, inspiring others to join in, resulting in several contributions that very night, a powerful reminder of the shared gratitude and generosity within the Mercy community.

The Mercy Ball remains a cherished tradition, an elegant evening that honors those who make a difference while celebrating community and the spirit of giving.

Save the Date as we celebrate 90 years at this year's **90th Annual Mercy Ball on Saturday, December 5, 2026 at the Lannin.**



ANNUAL MEMBER DINNER

Our Annual Dinner brought a fresh twist to a cherished tradition. We were delighted to discover a wonderful new home for our Annual Meeting at Mangia Bene. Held after Thanksgiving and before Christmas, the evening beautifully united the spirit of both holidays, bringing together gratitude and giving. It served as a meaningful reminder of all we are thankful for, while inspiring continued generosity in support of Mercy Hospital and our community.

A highlight of the night was an address from **Dr. Shan Ahmed, Chief Medical Officer at Mercy Hospital**. Dr. Ahmed delivered a powerful and inspiring update on the state of Mercy Hospital, sharing impressive statistics and recent accolades that truly underscored the hospital's strength and success (update below). Members were both proud and energized by his remarks, expressing how important it is for Rockville Centre and the surrounding communities to hear and celebrate these outstanding achievements.

The evening also included a review of how funds raised by the Friends in 2025 are being utilized at Mercy Hospital, reinforcing the direct and meaningful impact of our collective efforts. A more detailed overview of each event from the past year can be found throughout this newsletter.

Looking ahead, the Friends of Mercy remain focused on growing and sustaining our membership by engaging the next generation. Welcoming younger members will be key to ensuring the continued vitality and impact of our organization for years to come.

EXCELLENCE IN ACTION: MERCY HOSPITAL DELIVERS

Quality & Recognition

- * Quality at Mercy Hospital continues to improve year after year
- * Mercy Hospital is recognized in national rankings by The Leapfrog Group, currently Mercy Hospital has a grade of a B, and Mercy will find out in the coming weeks if we have moved to a grade of an A
- * Data-driven performance with strong outcomes across key measures

Safety First

- * Mercy Hospital has achieved Zero (0) harm rates in many categories
- * Mercy focuses on preventing infections, errors, and complications
- * Mercy has a strong safety culture supported by high-quality care teams

Patient Experience

- * Mercy has been the Pinnacle Award winner for the past 2 consecutive years (A top award recognizing outstanding hospital initiatives in quality improvement and patient safety)
- * Mercy's commitment is compassionate, patient-centered care
- * Mercy's focus is on improving every step of the patient journey

Physician & Practice Expansion

- * Mercy Hospital grew from 12 to over 150 employed providers in 7 years
- * Mercy Hospital Expanded from 1 to 8 primary care practices
- * Mercy Hospital Increased from 1 to 20 primary care providers
- * Large and fast growing network of specialists

Mercy Hospital Centers of Excellence

- * Cardiology: St. Francis Heart Center at Mercy Hospital (brand new 9,000 sq. ft. facility)
- * Mercy's Cardiac program's performance is one of the best in the region
- * Mercy Hospital is #1 on Long Island for Bariatric Surgery (volume & quality)
- * Superior quality metrics in Spine surgery within Catholic Health

New & Upgraded Facilities

- * Mercy Hospital will be opening a brand new Women's Health Center in the Ryan Building
- * Women's Imaging Center renovation completed
 - ◇ State-of-the-art technology
 - ◇ Comfortable, patient-friendly environment

Convenience & Access

- * Mercy Hospital has a 62,000 sq. ft. Medical Pavilion (Ryan Building) on campus directly behind the hospital
- * The Medical Pavilion has a wide range of services for men and women in one location
- * Easy access to comprehensive care

Growth & Advanced Care

- * Mercy Hospital delivers 24/7/365 access to Robotic Surgery. Very few hospitals in the US offer that.
- * Mercy has expanded programs in:
 - Robotic surgery Urology
 - General surgery Colorectal surgery
- * Mercy has 4 DaVinci robot systems in Catholic Health.

DONATE BLOOD & HAVE A PINT ON US!



Give the gift of life at our Pint for Pint Blood Drive on **Thursday, May 11, from 3:00 PM - 7:30PM at the St. Agnes Parish Center**. In partnership with the Sullivan family, this event honors the memory of Robert Sullivan of Rockville Centre, celebrating his life and legacy.

All blood donors will receive a ticket for a free pint at The Tap Room on Thursday, May 14. Your donation helps the American Red Cross maintain a steady blood supply, ensuring hospitals have the resources needed to save lives.

Join us, honor Rob's legacy, and make a difference in our community, one pint at a time!

DID YOU KNOW?

For those that are not familiar with hospital rankings. The Leapfrog Group maintains some of the most rigorous standards in healthcare quality measurement through its **Leapfrog Hospital Survey** and **Leapfrog ASC Survey**, both designed to ensure high levels of validity and reliability. Each measure used in these surveys is continually evaluated by volunteer expert panels, and supported by a thorough desk review and data verification process to maintain data integrity.

One of its most well-known tools, the **Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade**, helps patients easily understand how well hospitals protect them from errors, accidents, injuries, and infections. Using a simple letter grading system (A–F), it provides clear insights into critical safety questions, such as:

- How effectively a hospital prevents infections and promotes practices like handwashing
- Whether the hospital prioritizes patient safety through strong, coordinated healthcare teams
- If policies and systems are in place to prevent medical errors

Today, nearly 3,000 hospitals across the United States receive a Safety Grade twice each year, making it a widely recognized benchmark for hospital safety and accountability.

Currently, Mercy Hospital has made severe strides to improve their Leapfrog score, and are hoping to hear any day on their most recent test score. **Stay tuned, we will surely share the Good News with you all!**

FRIENDS CORNER



Congratulations to **Brian Joesten** on the birth of his second grandchild: Lorenzo Starna. Born at Good Samaritan Hospital on February 17th, 12:46pm, 7lbs, 2 oz. Baby Lorenzo is thriving and loving Grandpa's snuggles!



Congratulations to **Chris Kearns** on the marriage of his daughter, Bridget to **Eamon Sheerin** on February 28th at Disney World. Eamon is also a Friends of Mercy member!

Congrats Eamon & Bridget!

If you have any highlights in your life that you would like to share with the Friends of Mercy, please send an email to Gloria.Disciullo@chsli.org. Highlight will be posted in the next newsletter.

MESSAGE FROM JOSEPH MANOPELLA

President, Mercy Hospital



As we continue into 2026, I am filled with deep gratitude for our caregivers, our community, and especially for you, our donors, whose generosity sustains our mission at Catholic Health's Mercy Hospital.

Rooted in our Catholic identity, we are called to serve with compassion, dignity, and respect for every person entrusted to our care. Each day, I see this mission come to life

through the dedication of our teams and the steadfast support of those who believe in our work.

This past year has brought meaningful progress. Mercy Hospital was honored with the Pathway to Excellence® designation, reflecting our commitment to exceptional nursing care and a supportive environment for those who serve at the bedside. We are also proud to be on track in our journey toward Magnet® recognition, a significant milestone that underscores our continued pursuit of clinical excellence.

Looking ahead, the future is bright. We are advancing renovations and embracing

innovative technologies, including robotic-assisted surgery, to enhance precision and improve patient outcomes. At the same time, we are proud to continue strengthening our Breast Center, whose enhancements were made possible through the generosity of the Friends of Mercy. Your support directly impacts our ability to provide advanced, compassionate care close to home.

Thank you for your continued support and faith in our mission.

For up-to-date information & events at Mercy Hospital, please visit:
<https://www.catholichealthli.org/mercy-hospital>

DENNIS KELLY: A VOICE THAT LEAVES US SPEECHLESS

The Friends would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to **Dennis Kelly** for so generously sharing his gift with us at both the Mercy Ball and the St. Patrick's Dinner. Each time Dennis sings the National Anthem, he brings a quiet over the room that's something special to witness. With a rich, tenor voice reminiscent of Luciano Pavarotti, he truly leaves everyone speechless. We are so grateful for his continued support and for the pride and heart he brings to these meaningful moments.



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Stephen McLoughlin

2026 EVENTS

St. Patrick's Dinner
The Garden City Hotel
March 5, 2026

Pint for Pint
Blood Donation: May 11, 2026
Pint Redemption: May 14, 2026

Luau
The Ocean Club
June 25, 2026

Golf Outing
Rockaway Hunting Club
September 17, 2026

Mercy Ball
The Lannin
December 5, 2026



Questions regarding the Friends of Mercy, please contact Gloria DiSciullo, Director of Special Events,
516-705-2618 or Gloria.DiSciullo@chsli.org.