

# Ellis Connection

*A newsletter for friends of the  
Ellis Hospital Foundation*

## Rising to the Challenge, Together



*Suzann Smart  
Executive Director  
Ellis Hospital  
Foundation, Inc.*

I recently heard a friend say, “People rise to the challenge when it’s their challenge,” and I thought how appropriate this message is today. The people of Schenectady have risen to the challenge many times – particularly when we needed hospital care (Ellis was founded in 1885, Bellevue in 1931, and St. Clare’s in 1949) – and three great traditions have served our community well.

Today, Ellis Hospital stands as the sole provider of hospital care for our community. The Ellis Hospital Foundation raises funds to support the hospital. This is no small challenge.

Our neighbors demand and deserve the best in health care and should expect nothing less. This includes friendly, caring staff, state-of-the-art facilities, cutting-edge technology and equipment, and highly trained, specialized teams of physicians, nurses, technicians and other caregivers.

Through the generosity of your neighbors, friends and local businesses, the Ellis Hospital Foundation is able to provide funding to assure that our community’s health care needs and expectations are met – even surpassed – and that care for all, regardless of one’s ability to pay, is available. It is through contributions to the Foundation that we will be able to purchase life-saving equipment, expand services, and upgrade facilities to provide the very best health care.

The recent changes in health care, mandated by the Berger Law, require Ellis to reconfigure hospital care. In doing so, there is one clear challenge for this community: we must unify the system of care in the best interest of patients and invest in this system for your care and for the care of future generations.

There are many ways to support Ellis Hospital. Gifts of all sizes are gratefully received. You can give cash, securities, or real estate, or leave a gift in your will or trust. You may donate in memory of, or in tribute to, a friend or loved one, and you may designate how you wish your gift to be used. All donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Making health care in our community the best it can be is our challenge and it should be yours. Expect the best, and find it at Ellis because Ellis truly is the best place to get better. For more information about the Ellis Hospital Foundation, please visit us online at [www.ellishospitalfoundation.org](http://www.ellishospitalfoundation.org), or call me at 518.243.4600.

Best regards,



Ellis Hospital  
**Open  
House**  
September 14, 2008

Drop by one or all three  
of our campuses for a  
tour from 1 to 4 pm.

*Light refreshments will be served.*

*Shuttle service available between campuses.*

*If you plan to attend let us know by calling 518.243.4600.*

# EMERGENCY SERVICES: Adding More Space

Schenectady's emergency departments have historically been very busy, and with the recent changes in service locations, the Ellis Hospital emergency department has experienced a significant increase in volume.



It is important to know that the emergency departments at Ellis Hospital and the McClellan Campus (formerly St. Clare's) are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Additionally, you should know that:

- Both EDs provide all levels of emergency care and are staffed by the same team of experts;
- For patients with less serious medical conditions such as sprains, earaches and minor illnesses, the McClellan Campus ED offers a "Fast Track" service to help patients to get fast, professional care and to return home quickly;
- Patients who come to the McClellan Campus ED who need to be admitted to the hospital are stabilized and transported to Ellis Hospital for care. All inpatient acute care is now centralized on the main Ellis Campus (Nott Street), given the hospital's established cardiac, critical care and neuroscience programs.

## You Can Count on Ellis A GUIDE TO SCHENECTADY'S HOSPITAL SYSTEM

**Ellis Hospital** (1101 Nott Street) is the centralized location for medical/surgical inpatient care, critical care and inpatient pediatric care. Ellis' emergency department is open and fully staffed 24/7.



**The McClellan Campus** (formerly St. Clare's Hospital, 600 McClellan Street) houses outpatient services including day surgery (general, urology, ophthalmology, orthopedics, plastics, and ear, nose and throat), medical imaging (x-ray, mammography, CT and MRI), primary and dental care, laboratory services, wound care and a sleep disorder program, among other outpatient services. The emergency department at the McClellan Campus is open and fully staffed 24/7.



**Bellevue Woman's Care Center** is the centralized location for women's health (OB/GYN care), including maternity services, breast care, imaging and laboratory services.



### QUESTIONS?

If you have questions about the location of any program or service, please call our **Ellis InfoLine at 1-888-Ellis Info (1.888.355.4746)**.

"The community needs more emergency care space than we currently have at either facility," explained Dr. Roger Barrowman, Ellis' chairman of Emergency Medicine. "The hospital's long term plan includes the construction of a new, larger emergency department that can better accommodate the community's emergency care needs in one location. For the short term, we will continue to operate full service, around-the-clock emergency departments at both the McClellan Campus and at Ellis Hospital."

In response to the large number of patients being seen at the Ellis ED, the hospital has added 12 new patient rooms to its emergency department and is in the process of renovating additional space. By fall, the size of the Ellis ED will have grown by more than 75% from the beginning of the summer.

## Donor Dialogues

**Q.** My family purchased a stepping stone in memory of my grandmother, which is in the garden of the former St. Clare's Hospital. What is going to happen to that stone?

**A.** The Ellis Hospital Foundation intends to honor every donor plaque in the McClellan Campus, including the beautiful stepping stones in the garden. We encourage you to come and visit "your" stone and see for yourself!

**Q.** Why did Ellis stop using the St. Clare's name?

**A.** When Ellis officially assumed responsibility for the services of the former St. Clare's Hospital, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany would not allow a secular company to use a saint's name, making the name change necessary. The former St. Clare's campus has been renamed the McClellan Campus for the street on which it is located.

In terms of the Bellevue transition of services, Ellis was able to retain the Bellevue name and this campus is now called Bellevue Woman's Care Center, a service of Ellis Hospital.

**Q.** The last time I updated my will, I included a bequest for St. Clare's Hospital. What will happen to my bequest – will it still go to the hospital?

**A.** If your intention is to leave a portion of your estate to support hospital health care in Schenectady, you must amend your will so that the bequest will go to the Ellis Hospital Foundation, Inc. The Ellis Hospital Foundation raises funds, including those left through estate planning, for acute care in Schenectady at all three campuses – Ellis, McClellan, and Bellevue. You may choose to restrict your bequest to the McClellan Campus, if you would like, or to any of the lifesaving programs provided by Ellis Hospital. Call us – we want to help you make sure that your wishes are carried out as you intend.



*Longtime hospital donor and volunteer Janet Carmichael, who worked at St. Clare's Hospital for nearly 35 years before retiring in 2006, stands in the garden at the McClellan Campus. "This is such an important meditation area for patients, visitors and staff," Janet explained. "It can give you a moment of solace from the stressful environment of a hospital, and the stepping stones, in memory or in honor of a loved one, add to the garden's beauty."*

**Q.** I used to volunteer at Bellevue and want to start volunteering again. Can I still help out there?

**A.** Yes! As a not-for-profit hospital, Ellis depends upon the support of community volunteers. There are a number of ways in which you can get involved as a volunteer, at one of the hospital's three campuses or by working from your home. For more information on volunteer opportunities at Ellis, please contact our Volunteer & Customer Services Department at 518.243.4009 or go online to [www.ellishospital.org](http://www.ellishospital.org).

**Q.** Beyond buying medical equipment and funding capital projects, what else does the Foundation support?

**A.** The Ellis Foundation supports a wide variety of projects that positively impact the lives of our patients and their families. For example, the Foundation provides scholarships for School of Nursing students and graduates, funds continuing education programs for clinical staff, provides a daily newspaper for every inpatient, funds ongoing musical concerts, performances and other entertainment for nursing home residents, purchases coloring books and toys for pediatric patients and recently funded the redecoration of our Adolescent Mental Health Unit.

Gifts to the Ellis Hospital Foundation may be restricted to help support a particular program (such as family medicine, cardiac care, or women's health), campus (Ellis, McClellan, or Bellevue), or service – including help for the uninsured. Our staff is here to help you reach your philanthropic goals – call us at 518.243.4600.



*Ellis nursing home resident Ollie McMahon enjoys listening to a new player piano at the Ellis Residential & Rehabilitation Center. The piano was recently purchased with funds from the Ellis Hospital Foundation.*



Ellis Hospital Foundation, Inc.  
 1101 Nott Street  
 Schenectady, New York 12308  
[www.ellishospitalfoundation.org](http://www.ellishospitalfoundation.org)

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## e-News

If you are interested in receiving future correspondences electronically, please send your e-mail address to us at [foundation@ellishospital.org](mailto:foundation@ellishospital.org).



Make a gift online at  
[www.ellishospitalfoundation.org](http://www.ellishospitalfoundation.org)

## It All Starts With You!

*Please consider making a gift to support hospital care in Schenectady. Through your generosity, our future begins today.*

**Cash Gifts.** You can mail a check to the **Ellis Hospital Foundation** (see address above), or if you would like to use your credit card, please call the Foundation office at **518.243.4600** or go to [www.ellishospitalfoundation.org](http://www.ellishospitalfoundation.org) and follow the prompts to our online giving form.

**Matching Gifts.** Many companies have matching gift programs, which provide an important and simple way to enhance your charitable gift intentions. To find out if your company offers a matching gift program, please contact your human resources or benefits office.

**GE Gift Match.** GE employees, directors and retirees can have their gifts of cash, stock or real estate matched, dollar-for-dollar by the GE Foundation. Gifts must be at least \$25 and cannot exceed \$50,000 per donor, per calendar year. Simply send a gift to the Ellis Hospital Foundation marked "GE Gift Match," then call the GE Fund Matching Center (**800.305.0669**) or log on to [www.gefoundation.com](http://www.gefoundation.com) and provide your GE SSO identification number, Ellis Hospital Foundation's zip code (12308) and the date and amount of the gift.

From cash gifts and gifts of stock to charitable gift annuities and estate gifts, the Ellis Hospital Foundation offers a range of giving opportunities. Please visit our website or call the Foundation at **518.243.4600**.



Give a  
 Dose of  
 Good  
 Medicine

Leave a gift  
 to Ellis in  
 your will.



For more information on bequests  
 and charitable gift annuities:  
[www.ellishospitalfoundation.org](http://www.ellishospitalfoundation.org)  
 e-mail: [foundation@ellishospital.org](mailto:foundation@ellishospital.org)  
 518.243.4600