



...where the future of rural health care delivery is taking shape.

Remembering Lani K. Naihe – Life & Legacy

With a very heavy heart, we are saddened to announce that Lani K. Naihe, MDI Hospital's long-time Director of Advancement, passed away on March 28, 2021. She fought a remarkable 13-month battle against glioblastoma multiforme and handled herself with strength, grace, and her characteristic humor throughout the journey. It will be impossible to measure the impact she has had on the Hospital and the MDI community, and we will carry forward her amazing spirit and legacy in all that we do.

Born on January 19, 1980, Lani Naihe grew up in the greater Bangor area, graduating with honors from John Bapst Memorial High School, and received her Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature in 2002 from the University of Maine at Orono. Lani joined MDI Hospital in July 2007 as Assistant to the Office of Philanthropy and Public Affairs. In June 2008, she was promoted to be the organization's first-ever Philanthropy Officer, and in November 2012, she became Director of Advancement, overseeing all of MDI Hospital's fundraising and marketing efforts.



Legacy: Advancing best-quality healthcare at MDI Hospital

Lani's leadership was integral to MDI Hospital's growth and progress throughout her tenure. Her fundraising expertise is made visible in the Lisa Stewart Women's Health Center, the Community Dental Center, the Don and Beth Straus Center, the Oncology and Hematology Department, the new generator and many essential pieces of equipment, as well as the Penn Medicine collaboration and the subsequent establishment of our Medical Education program. For years to come, patients will walk through doors to receive compassionate care that, stated simply, Lani helped build.

continued on page 4...



/mdihospital



@MDIhospital



@MDIhospital



Reflections on COVID-19

Looking to the past, present, and future at MDI Hospital



It's been sixteen long months since the COVID-19 pandemic reached the shores of Mount Desert Island. As we enter Maine's glorious summer season – full of life, warmth, and hope – I reflect on the past year, and look to the future with optimism.

It was March 13, 2020, when we started this journey through a Public Health Emergency and ultimately the COVID-19 pandemic. The work that the MDI Hospital team completed is an encyclopedia of learning, healing, teamwork, and collaboration. I remember that frigid, rainy Friday night sixteen months ago when MDI Hospital tested our first patient for COVID-19. With all we've learned in the past year and the emergency use authorization of three excellent COVID-19 vaccines, I see hope for a return to what will become our new regular on the horizon.

We are all looking forward to the excitement on Cottage and Main Streets when they return to a flurry of families and visitors taking in the essence of Bar Harbor and enjoying their time in restaurants and the park. The Flamingo Festival in Southwest Harbor, decked in Pink Boas, the Strawberry Festival in Somesville, and the traffic backed-up to Trenton. I am most looking forward to seeing every one of you – our unwavering supporters and community members – to let you know how important you have been to this effort and how your continued diligence will navigate us to the “post-COVID” normal.

MDI Hospital and Birch Bay Retirement Village began Emergency Preparedness Planning for the Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) as the Washington and Oregon spread was proliferating, investing significant resources to help keep our communities safe and prepared. No area of this organization was not impacted, and to all who contributed to our planning to care for our patients, residents, and community, including the Downeast COVID-19 Task Force: we are so grateful for your flexibility and perseverance in responding to the pandemic's demands.

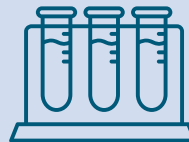
And now more than a year later, with most of our Island over 85% vaccinated, I thank you for being a part of this journey. Together, we have weathered the worst of the storm. The pandemic is and will continue to be a globally shared experience for quite some time. Someday, it will be a memory, but one that will not be long forgotten. Hopefully, in the end, what will be remembered is how we united, while apart, to protect and care for our precious Downeast community.

Be happy, healthy, and well,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christina Maguire".

Christina Maguire
President/CEO

COVID-19 by the numbers at MDI Hospital*



Tests

Total tests conducted: 7,493
Confirmed positive cases: 111

Vaccines

Cumulative Doses Administered: 9,956
First Doses: 5,675
Second Doses: 4,211



Masks

Over 70,000 masks distributed to
the MDI community

* As of 5/26/2021

MDI Hospital Breaks Ground on New MRI Project

Mount Desert Island Hospital held a groundbreaking ceremony on May 3 to announce plans for its first-ever fixed-place magnetic resonance imaging unit. The new construction, which has been made possible by private donations and public funding, will incorporate the recently acquired Philips Ingenia Ambition MRI system into the main hospital building, replacing a cumbersome, leased mobile MRI trailer in the parking lot.

“This Philips Ingenia Ambition MRI system is the first of its kind with zero boil-off and thus considered a helium free ‘green’ MRI system. The new scanner has advanced technology allowing for shorter scan times, better image quality, and a spectacular patient experience,” said Phil Pizzola, MDI Hospital’s Director of Medical Imaging. With patient safety and comfort as our utmost priorities, this project will greatly improve and increase medical diagnostic services for our patient population while streamlining workflow for medical imaging staff.

As the last independent hospital standing in our catchment area, this acquisition of one of the most advanced MRI units in our state is a profound step forward for our region’s medical imaging needs, promoting our progress while advancing the health and well-being of our community. “This is far beyond MDI; this is the Hancock County region that now has access to this high-quality service,” said MDI Hospital President/CEO Chrissi Maguire. The hospital plans to begin its first patient scans in the new MRI by early August.



A patient is brought outside to the current mobile MRI trailer in MDI Hospital's parking lot



A groundbreaking ceremony was held on May 3, announcing the Hospital's first-ever fixed-place magnetic resonance imaging unit



A rendering of what the outside of the building will look like upon completion of the new MRI system.

Lani assembled a team of colleagues to fulfill her philanthropic vision for our organization, each bringing varied skills: fundraising, data management, communications, graphic design, events-planning, and relationship-building. Her team continues to work productively and in full collaboration, guided by Lani's vision and, especially, her trust.

Lani built an even larger team, our Hospital's donors, whom she viewed as partners and friends. Donors often describe the connection they feel to MDI Hospital: sharing gratitude for responsive healthcare or ready assistance in a medical emergency, and a sense of personal engagement that is less typical in other hospital settings. Lani carried our donors' sense of connection to MDI Hospital's leadership as a catalyst for decision-making, putting philanthropic support into action.

Among a multitude of innovative initiatives, in 2017, Lani took up the charge to fund an entirely new service at MDI Hospital: the Cancer Patient Navigator Program. Under her leadership, MDI Hospital brought together a social worker and a registered nurse, who identified the best ways to address urgent needs for newly diagnosed cancer patients. Our Navigator team quickly became invaluable, their caring assistance an integral part of cancer treatment journeys in this community.

In 2020, Lani herself benefitted from the Navigators' support. Last April, Lani took the time to message a major donor to the Cancer Patient Navigator Program: "I never thought I would be writing to you



Members of the Advancement Team at the Hospital's 2019 Annual Meeting: Nessa Reifsnnyder, Ryann Grove, Danielle Silverman, Bethany Roberge, Lani Naihe, Oka Hutchins, Julie Hagle, and Carly Ancona



A 2017 fundraising event held at Islesford Dock. On left, front to back: Carol Fremont-Smith, Art Blank, Noelle Wolf. On right, front to back: Betsy Mills, Dick Wolf, Lani Naihe, and Paul Fremont-Smith

as a patient.... Now that I'm completely overwhelmed with doctors' appointments (both in Maine and in Boston), I have a complete appreciation for why Navigators are important. So now when I write to you about the work we are doing at MDI Hospital (which I am immensely proud of), I can tell you how truly impactful this program is from my personal standpoint. Thank you."

These words are a succinct representation of Lani's commitment to MDI Hospital and our community. Lani uplifted her colleagues, her institution, and those who supported us – and her gratitude was absolutely evident, every day.

On a personal level, Lani befriended and brightened everyone she met, sharing her passions: good food, books, music, and television series; enjoying the outdoors; and helping ensure the health and well-being of animals. She brought phenomenal energy as a volunteer to several nonprofit organizations, including the Hub of Bar Harbor, the Down East AIDS Network, and the Bangor Humane Society, where she proudly served as President from 2016-2018. Her "fur kids," Henry and Willow, were much loved companions.

"There are times when people pass through our lives and provide us joy, kindness, and memories to make us smile," Chrissi Maguire wrote, when she learned that Lani had passed away. "Lani had a purpose to her step, and it represented who she was and how full of life, her infectious laugh, her deep dedication to our organization, and the love for her friends."



Lani Naihe and Chrissi Maguire

Congratulations, Julie Hagle!

Mount Desert Island Hospital is pleased to announce Julie Hagle as the new Community Engagement Coordinator. Already a familiar face within the Office of Advancement, Julie joined the organization in April 2019 as the Advancement Assistant.

After earning her Master's Degree in Health Information Management from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Julie worked for 12+ years as a consulting Director of Information Systems for a local healthcare institution. While her sons were young, she opted to take a sabbatical from full-time work. During that time, she continued to support her community, volunteering for board positions on her Homeowners Association and with MDI Music Boosters, Inc.

With a career that has focused on healthcare nonprofits, joining Mount Desert Island Hospital and supporting its commitment to a healthy community fits right in with Julie's personal priorities. "I am excited to be in a position to promote the good work, service, and value our independent hospital provides to the greater Mount Desert Island area, and look forward to working with those in our community who are interested in supporting our common goals", said Julie.

In addition to supporting the Hospital's community events, Julie will serve as the primary liaison and help lead the MDI Hospital Auxiliary. She is also actively engaged in improving our volunteer program and identifying opportunities for interested individuals. While COVID-19 risk mitigation measures have limited on-campus volunteer opportunities, some off-campus opportunities related to our pandemic response and health outreach are open in the near term. For more information about volunteer opportunities, please contact Julie at julie.hagle@mdihospital.org or 207-801-5042.



MDI Hospital Receives Outstanding Patient Experience Award

Mount Desert Island Hospital has been recognized by as a top hospital for patient experience with the Healthgrades 2021 Outstanding Patient Experience Award™.

"MDI Hospital is proud to be recognized for outstanding achievements in patient care," said Chrissi Maguire, President/CEO. "This award reflects the remarkable dedication of our caregivers, staff, volunteers, supporters and friends. Their exceptional commitment to our patients and our community ensures that top-quality care is available to all who need it."



"Hospitals that receive the Healthgrades Outstanding Patient Experience Award are among the top 15 percent of hospitals nationwide for providing exceptional patient experience. We commend these organizations for their long-standing commitment to providing top quality care," said Brad Bowman, MD, Chief Medical Officer for Healthgrades.

Healthgrades evaluated 3,297 hospitals that submitted at least 100 patient experience surveys to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for this year's award. Of those hospitals evaluated, 417 hospitals outperformed their peers—based on their patients' responses—and achieved the Healthgrades 2021 Outstanding Patient Experience Award.

For a complete list of award recipients, visit www.healthgrades.com.

Renovations at the Lisa Stewart Women's Health Center Improve Patient Access

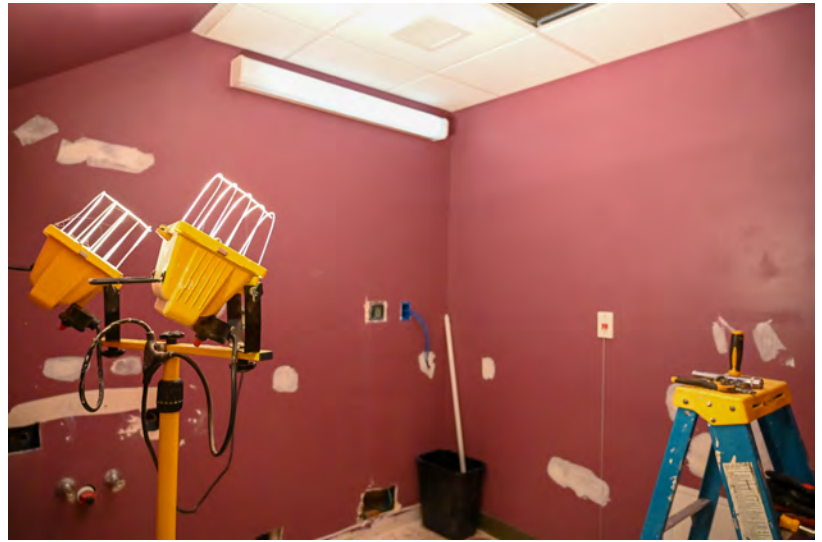
Last month, renovations were completed at the Lisa Stewart Women's Health Center in Bar Harbor to expand and improve patient access for Dr. Jorge F. Peacher's practice and the health center.

This newly completed project, which was made possible by a generous gift from the family of the late Lisa Stewart, better utilizes the health center's space and helps expand services available by adding diagnostic equipment to improve the quality of care. Most importantly, the renovations allow for a continued positive patient experience for the women of Mount Desert Island.

"For new patients, I prefer to meet with them in my office to get their detailed history, as opposed to being in the exam room, which can be intimidating," said Dr. Peacher. The building updates improve access for his patients and creates a more welcoming environment for consultations. "When my patients are more comfortable, I'm more comfortable," Dr. Peacher added.

Jorge F. Peacher, MD joined MDI Hospital in May 2019, and specializes in both gynecology and urogynecology. He is one of only a handful of board-certified urogynecologists in the state of Maine. Before moving to MDI, Dr. Peacher was in private practice for more than 27 years.

"We greatly appreciate the generosity of the Stewart and Target families, and how much this renovation will help us meet and exceed the needs of our community," said Dana M. Fadley, Vice President of Provider and Ancillary Services.



The beginning of renovations at the Lisa Stewart Women's Health Center



The completed renovations



Jorge F. Peacher, MD meets with new patients in his office

"MDI Heroes" Film Premieres Virtually on July 17

 Mount Desert Island Hospital		You're Invited to the <i>World Premiere</i> "MDI Heroes"		4:00 PM EDT
 Scan Here		A MOUNT DESERT ISLAND HOSPITAL FILM		17 July 2021
Sponsored by 		Produced by Peter Logue & Tailwind Media 		ADMIT ONE
Ticket № 1897				

With the community's safety as our number one priority, MDI Hospital is continuing to postpone in-person events, including the summer gala and annual meeting, until 2022 due to the continued presence of the pandemic.

In lieu of an in-person event, please join us on July 17 at 4:00 PM EDT for a virtual world premiere of "MDI Heroes," a film celebrating local heroes of the pandemic and the incredible Mount Desert Island community.

Premiering on MDI Hospital's YouTube page, this special presentation will be hosted by Chrissi Maguire, MDI Hospital's President/CEO.

To learn more about this special presentation or find out how you can join the celebration, please visit mdihospital.org/giving/mdiheroes2021 or email events@mdihospital.org.



Jane Ogembo, DDS, MPH



Angela DelVecchio, APRN, FNP



Robert Miller, Staff Pharmacist