

Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center brings first 3T MRI unit to Niagara County

General Electric Signa Pioneer 3 Tesla MRI at MRI Imaging Center of Niagara 'delivers unparalleled diagnostic precision for the Niagara County community'

Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center Press Release

Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center (NFMCC) announced the opening of its MRI Imaging Center of Niagara, a landmark development in Niagara County's medical diagnostic capabilities.

Located on NFMCC's downtown Tenth Street campus, the center is equipped with the groundbreaking 3 Tesla (3T) magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) unit from GE Healthcare. It will begin welcoming outpatient appointments beginning the week of March 18, offering unprecedented access to superior diagnostic imaging services.

The new MRI Imaging Center will provide advanced imaging for our patients in-house, including those at the ER1 emergency department, Heart Center and Oncology Center, without the need for transportation to another site and the resulting delay in diagnosis.

"Introducing our new 3T MRI unit is a significant step towards



A look at Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center's 3 Tesla (3T) magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) unit from GE Healthcare. (Submitted photo)

providing health care equity and accessibility, especially for those facing economic challenges, living in vulnerable communities, or dealing with special needs and mental health issues," NFMCC President and CEO Joseph Ruf-

olo said. "Memorial is committed to ensuring that everyone has access to the highest-quality diagnostic care, regardless of their circumstances. This initiative demonstrates our unwavering dedication to inclusivity and

the well-being of our entire community."

The opening of the MRI Imaging Center marks the culmination of a \$3 million project, introducing the first 3T MRI technology to the region. This initiative not only expands NFMCC's capabilities in downtown Niagara Falls, but also represents a significant step forward in the battle against cancer and other diseases in a community facing above-average cancer rates.

Early detection is crucial in Niagara County when it comes to cancer. The mortality rate for breast cancer is 18.2% higher here than the state average, while prostate cancer mortality exceeds the statewide rate by over 27%.

The MRI Imaging Center offers precise detection of cardiovascular diseases, strokes, and early-stage cancers such as breast and prostate cancer. Additionally, the 3T MRI unit will provide highly detailed musculoskeletal imaging, addressing the

growing demand for advanced scans – and eliminating the need for patients to travel for diagnostic purposes.

Southtowns Radiology, serving as NFMCC's diagnostic imaging partner, will manage the operations of the MRI Imaging Center. Southtowns Radiology is recognized as one of the leading medical imaging providers in Western New York, and it brings its expertise, along with a team of over 20 board-certified radiologists, to support the diagnostic imaging needs of Memorial's patients.

The 3T MRI unit's superior imaging capabilities will facilitate early detection of various conditions at treatable stages, significantly reducing health disparities in Niagara County by providing faster results and improving patient outcomes.

The new MRI Imaging Center highlights NFMCC's commitment to accessible health care for the Niagara Region. Patients can schedule appointments by calling 716-278-4341.

IN THE NEWS

Mt. St. Mary's appoints VP of operations

Mount St. Mary's Hospital (MSMH) recently appointed Kyle Donovan, B.S., M.B.A., to serve as the vice president of operations for Mount St. Mary's Hospital in Lewiston and Catholic Health's new Lockport Memorial Campus of Mount St. Mary's Hospital.

A 10-year veteran of the Catholic Health System (CHS), he holds a bachelor of science in business administration and a master of business administration, with a concentration in strategic management, from Niagara University.

Donovan is a lifelong resident of Lewiston and began his career with Catholic Health System in positions with supply chain, followed by additional responsibilities as the director of financial services at both Mount St. Mary's and Kenmore Mercy Hospital. Since 2022, he has played a critical role directing operations at Mount St. Mary's and leading numerous initiatives at Catholic Health's new Lockport Memorial Campus, the Niagara Ambulatory Surgery Center, and the system's outpatient centers across the Niagara County region.

In addition to his experience in finance and operations with Catholic Health, Donovan has played a significant role in leading special projects, including St. Joseph Hospital's COVID-19 emergency response team, implementation of the Lawson ERP system for supply chain function, and serving as a board member for the CHS Orthopedic Management Company.

In his new role, Donovan will serve in the leadership capacity for various essential operational departments across each of Mount St. Mary's Hospital's Niagara County campuses, while focusing on strategic initiatives to further efficiency, patient satisfaction, and opportunities for growth across the region.

"We are grateful that Kyle Donovan has chosen to accept this critical leadership role. His knowledge and expertise have been invaluable to Catholic Health for the past decade, and this appointment recognizes his outstanding commitment to Niagara County," said CJ Urlaub, Catholic Health's vice president of strategic growth and new partnerships. "He will work closely with Susan Brooks, VP for patient care services, to advance high-quality health care services.

"Familiar to most associates and the Lewiston community from his work at MSMH, Kyle is highly committed to our mission and has demonstrated his dedication and vision for the future in countless ways. He is truly an asset to our entire organization."

HAL to learn more about Joseph Ellicott

The Historical Association of Lewiston's March program is titled "Joseph Ellicott." This presentation will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 27, at the Lutheran Church of the Messiah Fellowship Hall, 915 Oneida St.

HAL stated, "Joseph Ellicott and the Holland Land Company are names that are interwoven in local history, with Ellicott's name found in all of the corners of WNY. Most of us are acquainted with places with the Ellicott name: Ellicottville, Ellicott Creek, the Town of Ellicott, the Ellicott Building, various Ellicott Roads, etc. However, there is so much more to learn about this man who was a key figure surveying and selling land in Western New York in the late 1700s and early 1800s.

"Additionally, for many, his name is synonymous with the Holland Land Company and the development of the western end of New York.

"Dennis Upton will take you back to 1824 as he brings Joseph

Ellicott to life in this portrayal."

Upton is a retired teacher who has had stage experience in various performing venues. A few years ago, he was asked to put together a presentation to portray Ellicott. That has developed into a first-person historical portrayal.

This presentation will be told first-person to the listeners using maps and artifacts "as though it takes place in 1824 during Ellicott's final hours spent in Western New York before he was sent down the Erie Canal, which Ellicott was instrumental in bringing through Western New York, to an institution in New York City."

This community event is free and open to all, but donations are greatly appreciated to help support the Lewiston museum.

Refreshments will be served.

Sports gear collection drive to benefit LPYFC

Clean out your garage and donate your used/excess sports gear: Lewiston-Porter Youth Football & Cheer is partnering with Leveling the Playing Field to run a used gear collection drive. Consider dropping off your new or unused equipment to support kids in Western New York practice and play the sports they love!

The event will take place from April 2-23. Items can be dropped at the Red Brick Municipal Building's gymnasium entrance on the corner of North Fourth and Onondaga streets.

Leveling the Playing Field (LPF) is a nonprofit organization that helps local kids from under-resourced communities become involved in youth sports through the collection and free redistribution of gently used/excess sporting equipment.

For more information, email Lew-Port Youth Football & Cheer President Amy Wall at lewporthyouthfootball@gmail.com.



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