The mission of the WCA Hospital is to improve the health and well-being of the people of Chautauqua County and the surrounding area in a way that includes compassion, dedication, and a commitment to quality, while maintaining economic viability and a vision for the future.
Dear Friends,

On May 23, 2010, WCA Hospital begins its 125th year of serving the community. It has been a significant and memorable honor to care for our community for the past 125 years.

As we enter this distinguished year of service, it is a special opportunity to reflect on our rich history. On that date in 1885, WCA began its service to the Jamestown area in a one-room hospital in a boarding house for young, working women. From these humble beginnings to the present, WCA has never wavered from our mission of improving the health and well-being of those we are so privileged to serve – the very purpose for which this hospital was founded.

Throughout our 125 year history, WCA in partnership with our community, has worked together to honor the spirit of those early healthcare pioneers. In doing so, we have set a benchmark for nationally recognized, high quality care that will endure for many generations to come.

This commemorative book honors the pioneering spirit of our predecessors whose vision of community service has grown substantially and touched so many lives in the process. Today, we stand with them, looking forward to building a future that others will be proud to build upon.

Enjoy your journey through these pages as you experience the history and current life of WCA Hospital in light of the 125 years it has taken to bring us to this memorable point in time.

Most sincerely,

Betsy T. Wright,
President/CEO
Mission

The mission of the WCA Hospital is to improve the health and well-being of the people of Chautauqua County and the surrounding area in a way that includes compassion, dedication, and a commitment to quality, while maintaining economic viability and a vision for the future.

Vision

To be the first choice of all stakeholders with a commitment to quality, independence, fiscal integrity, innovation, and collaboration.
Dear Community,

Welcome to a very special publication commemorating WCA Hospital’s 125-year history. As the oldest hospital in southwestern New York, we have a proud heritage of providing excellent care and devoted service to our community. For a century and a quarter, we have been building upon a solid foundation of medical expertise, compassionate care, and advocacy that keeps our patients and communities safe and healthy.

As we celebrate the accomplishments of the past, we look ahead to what these accomplishments will mean for the future of healthcare in our region. We will soon lay another foundation—one that will support a new state-of-the-art Emergency Department, allowing us to better serve a growing number of patients who need the depth and scope of sophisticated emergency care that we offer.

We thank all of the wonderful and generous people who have supported WCA Hospital over our remarkable history and we look forward with great excitement and anticipation to implementing new and innovative ways to deliver healthcare that ensure you will have access to the very best care and treatment spanning another 125 years and beyond.

We hope this commemorative book will inspire you as it continues to inspire us.

Sincerely,

Judith Burgett, Chair
WCA Hospital Board of Directors
Message from Medical Leadership

Proud To Serve Our Community

For 125 years, WCA Hospital and our medical community has consistently been there for whomever, wherever and whenever there is a health need, providing strength and stability in our community. Many renowned and respected physicians have followed in the footsteps of our distinguished pioneer doctors in the Chautauqua Region, leaving a legacy of medical advances and treatments that preserve the health of this city.

This commemorative book traces the birth of WCA Hospital, its growth, and evolution over the decades of care. As we mark another significant milestone in WCA’s history, we would like to thank you for entrusting us with your health.

In your good health,

Ellen Weinberg, MD
President, WCA Hospital Medical Staff

WCA Hospital Medical Staff Officers

Ellen Weinberg, MD, President
William Geary, MD, President-Elect
Lyndon Gritters, MD, Secretary/Treasurer
I would like to extend my congratulations and thanks to all who have dedicated so much of their life to the success of WCA Hospital. The services that WCA Hospital provides to residents of our area are critical to the health and well being of all.

WCA Hospital has certainly come a long way from its humble beginnings as a boarding house for young working women with one room to a modern facility delivering excellent health care services.

The accomplishments of WCA would not have been possible without the dedication and commitment of over 125 years of employees and the vision of Administration.

Once again, congratulations and best wishes for continued success in providing excellent healthcare to the community.

Very truly yours,

Gregory J. Edwards
County Executive,
Chautauqua County
~PROCLAMATION~

WHEREAS Today, we join with residents from throughout the Greater Jamestown Area in celebration of WCA Hospital's 125th Anniversary; and

WHEREAS We recognize WCA as a world-class, nationally acclaimed health care organization known for its high quality, advanced medical care; and

WHEREAS The mission of WCA Hospital is to improve the health and well-being of people throughout Southwestern New York and Northwestern Pennsylvania with compassion, dedication, and a commitment to excellence; and

WHEREAS WCA Hospital provides a wide-range of acute care, outpatient, and rehabilitation services, wellness programs and other support services; and

WHEREAS WCA Hospital serves as a major and indispensable engine of economic activity for the entire region;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Samuel Teresi, Mayor of Jamestown, do hereby proclaim Sunday, May 23rd, 2010 as

WCA HOSPITAL DAY

in the City of Jamestown, and urge all residents in the Greater Jamestown Area to support both this incredible civic asset and the vitally important community building work of its physicians, nursing staff, support groups, volunteers and management personnel.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Jamestown to be affixed on this 23rd day of May, 2010.

Samuel Teresi
Mayor
May 23, 2010

To My Dear Friends at WCA Hospital:

Please allow me to offer the WCA Hospital my personal congratulations on celebrating your 125th anniversary of exemplary service to the community. I am proud of your roles in seeing this long-standing institution grow and thrive over the years.

WCA Hospital has a tradition of serving as a beacon of hope, center of warm welcome and excellence, and place of compassionate care and healing. Your commitment to quality and innovation has been conspicuously evident during your 125-year history.

The same vision that guided the young working women who originally chartered the Woman's Christian Association in 1885 is evident even today as WCA continues to build upon its tradition of enhancing services, technology and accessibility offered to its patients.

The patients who have come to WCA Hospital have been touched by the dedication and commitment of the nurses, physicians, staff, countless professionals and volunteers that continue to devote their time and energies here. We owe you a huge debt of gratitude for your countless sacrifices. You truly are an elite group of citizens who care deeply about humanity.

Celebrating the longevity of the hospital and its exemplary staff is a fitting way to commemorate this milestone. I hope the hospital thrives for many years to come and continues to provide vital services to the people of our region.

Thank you for all that you have done, and continue to do. With warm regards.

Sincerely,

Catharine M. Young
Member of Senate
Our History

1885 - 1946

Chartered in 1885, the Woman’s Christian Association of Jamestown, New York, was founded as a boarding house for young working women and a one room hospital for its residents and other sick or injured persons. The hospital idea originated with a group of women who later affiliated with the Woman’s Christian Association.

With Mrs. Josephus Clark as their first president they were chartered May 23, 1885 under New York State law to found and maintain a boarding house for young working women and a hospital for its residents and other sick and injured persons. At first, one room of the home was officially designated as a hospital. However, it was soon apparent that the community needed a hospital. Mrs. C.C. Burtch was appointed by the W.C.A. as the first president of a hospital board of managers, and plans were made to devote the entire residence to the care of the sick.

Miss Christina Hall, a graduate of the Toronto General Hospital, was engaged as superintendent, setting the standards that became WCA’s hallmark. As the hospital grew, support came from many sources. Church and fraternal groups equipped rooms. Physicians gave services and supplies. Individuals contributed staples and linens. “Donation Days” were begun to pay off the debt on the building and bridge the gap between operating costs and receipts from patients.

In 1890 a training school for nurses was opened with three students. It became the main source of trained nurses not only for WCA, but throughout the southern tier.

When state law mandated that nurses must graduate from an incorporated institution, the hospital board withdrew from the Woman’s Christian Association, and in 1907 formed a separate corporation devoted solely to hospital work. The name “WCA Hospital,” which had come to stand for quality hospital care was retained. The business was vested in a board of trustees which included nineteen public spirited women with Josephine Fenton Gifford as president, an office she held for twenty years.

The “Packard Wing” or “A” building completed in 1928. Landmark hospital at right.

The American College of Physicians and Surgeons gave the hospital unconditional accreditation.

Historical Timeline for WCA Hospital

1885 - First Charter: Woman’s Christian Association of Jamestown, NY

1890 - Training school for nurses opens with three students

1907 - WCA Hospital is incorporated

1925 - WCA Hospital receives its first accreditation from the American College of Physicians and Surgeons

1927 - President Gifford lays the cornerstone for a three-story pavilion, today’s “A” building
accreditation in 1925. Continuous unconditional accreditation, for the maximum
time permitted, has been maintained since accreditation first became available.  

As W.C.A. entered its fortieth year, the shortage of hospital beds became 
crucial and the very survival of the hospital as a private institution was threatened. 
An unexpected gift of $150,000 from J. Ward Packard, a pioneer automobile 
manufacturer, opened the door on a new hospital era. On September 21, 1927, 
President Gifford laid the cornerstone for a three-story pavilion, today’s “A” 
building, which was joined to the original residence-hospital. It contained an 
operating room with the latest in modern equipment, wards, and private rooms.

1946 - 1979

By the end of World War II, the W.C.A. was ready to move ahead. In 1946, it supported 156 beds, and 28 bassinets. The staff of nurses, orderlies, cooks, housekeepers, laundrymen and lab technicians totaled 175 employees, all working under cramped conditions. A class of seventy was training for the coveted cap and bib of a W.C.A. registered nurse, but the school was in danger of losing its license. Its facilities did not conform to modern standards. A master expansion plan was drawn up that led to a new School of Nursing building that opened in the fall of 1949.

In 1964, the School of Nursing closed in deference to Jamestown Community College’s Associate in Arts degree in Nursing. In its 75-year history, the school graduated 799 nurses, whose professional standards were a distinguishing mark wherever they practiced. Additionally, a new stone façade entrance for visitors was built in the center of Building “A”. A four-story wing was constructed to the rear of the new entrance and extended east and west along Allen Street. A new maternity section and expanded pediatric wing was created.

Patient census soared during the five year period between 1963 and 1968, reflecting the hospital’s commitment to “the provision of primary care for those who are without it as a price they can afford.” Following a nationwide trend, the hospital expanded its outpatient services and extended special services to nursing homes and housebound patients.

Historical Timeline for WCA Hospital

1951 - Completion of the “B” Wing which replaces the landmark hospital

1964 - WCA School of Nursing closes as the JCC Associate in Arts degree program in Nursing grows

1965 - Completion of the “C” Wing - A four-story wing is constructed

1975 - Dedication of the “D” Wing

1982 - W.C.A. Foundation and W.C.A. Services Corporation are established

School of Nursing, opened in 1949, contained rooms for 60 girls, classrooms and laboratories.

An Isolette Unit (1965) used for premature and critically ill newborns at WCA.

Since 1885, The Heartbeat Of Our Community
In 1969, two floors in the former nursing school building were remodeled to provide a self care unit for patients needing minimal care. Once more, WCA had outgrown its capacity and was looking ahead. The hospital’s goal was to reshape health care delivery, making it available to all its service area of Chautauqua and Cattaraugus counties and portions of nearby Pennsylvania. Ground was broken on the new expansion project, the board donned hard hats as they inspected the gaping hole where soon would rise a new five-story patient-care wing.

The project included a new service wing as well as an emergency and ambulatory care unit, a sheltered ambulance entrance, enlarged and modernized facilities for laboratories, pediatrics, surgery, respiratory care, and other areas of service. Funds for the $10 million dollar project came primarily from community contributions and endowments reserved for building, complemented by Hill-Burton aid. The annual report of President Mrs. Frank E. Taylor called 1975 the most significant year, in terms of expansion, since the hospital was founded.

1980 - 2000

The 1980s were years of opportunity as the hospital added new services and expanded existing programs to meet the changing needs of the community and achieve greater efficiency in meeting new challenges.

Through corporate restructuring in 1982, the W.C.A. Foundation and the W.C.A. Services Corporation were established. The Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the hospital through which funds can be directed through WCA, including endowed funds which support the present and future of WCA Hospital. The Services Corporation conducts for profit business enterprises, the gain from which goes to support WCA’s mission.

Unique to this area is WCA’s Sports Medicine Center. Staffed with specialists in orthopedics and physical therapy, the Center opened in November of 1984. WCA Lifeline emergency response program provides an important community service which allows many who could not otherwise do so to live independently at home.

Now in its centennial year, 1985, WCA Hospital with approximately 1,000 employees, is one of the largest employers in the area, and a vital factor in the economy. While little remains of the small hospital that opened its doors to the community a century ago, the caring spirit of the women who founded it continues to thrive in the modern medical center.

In 1986, W.C.A. Hospital launched the STARFLIGHT medical helicopter, in cooperation with Chautauqua County Sheriff’s Department and with the generous support of the Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation, Inc.

In 1987, The Children’s Hospital of Buffalo, in cooperation with WCA, established a Pediatric Cardiology Consultation Program. The program continues today, assessing new pediatric patients with possible cardiac problems.

In an era of frequent hospital consolidations and closings, WCA acquired the assets of the Jamestown General Hospital in 1988, offering the...
Since 1885, The Heartbeat Of Our Community

opportunity to better utilize community resources, minimize unnecessary duplication of programs and equipment, and establish new programs to meet the needs of the Jamestown area. The hospital is renamed the Jones Memorial Health Center.

As we reflect on the events of 1989, WCA can be proud of its accomplishments. Following the opening of the 20-bed Adult Mental Health Unit in December 1988, the Family Health Center accepted patients in January, 1989. The 20-bed Alcoholism Rehabilitation Unit opened in May, a 10-bed Adolescent Mental Health Unit became operational in November, and the 28-bed Medical Rehabilitation Unit received its first patient in December of that year.

During the early 1990s, three major projects were planned for WCA comprising of the renovations of the Emergency Department; conversion of the existing space to an labor observation room and three new labor, delivery, and recovery rooms that easily converted from special patient rooms into fully functional birthing suites; and groundbreaking began on the Cancer Treatment Center at Jones Memorial Health Center.

WCA broke ground on the new Cancer Treatment Center.

The Family Health Center at Jones Memorial Health Center adds services in 1993 and increases hours to meet community needs.

Murray S. Marsh retires after 29 years of service at WCA Hospital.

Mark Celmer is appointed Chief Executive Officer in September of 1994.

Understanding the need to extend primary care beyond the WCA’s campus doors and embodying the tradition of community-based care, the 1990s witnessed the establishment of primary care centers in Panama, Randolph and Sinclairville, New York.

Local industries benefited from the WCA Occupational Health Program for over 16 years.

WCA breaks ground on the new Cancer Treatment Center.

Members of the Medical Rehabilitation team discuss the course of treatment for a patient.

W.C.A. A Taste of the Season.

That same year, marked the Silver Anniversary of WCA Hospital’s accredited School of Radiologic Technology.

The Family Health Center at Jones Memorial Health Center adds services in 1993 and increases hours to meet community needs.

Speech and Hearing perform newborn screening.

The Family Health Center provides medical care for patients of all ages.
WCA continues to receive the highest honors for their care, obtaining re-accreditation from The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations that signifies WCA has met national quality health and safety standards at the highest levels of performance and the Cancer Care Program receives the highest stamp of approval.

Betsy T. Wright is appointed the hospital’s President/CEO by the Board of Directors on July 1, 1999.

The New Millennium

The new Millennium proves to be a busy and momentous decade for WCA Hospital as a community-wide capital campaign, co-chaired by Allen Short and Peter Sullivan, was set in motion that would enhance the future.

In light of the physician shortages projected across the U.S. in the new century, WCA worked collaboratively with area physicians and state champions. An unprecedented fourteen doctors joined the WCA Medical Staff in 2001.

The events of September 11, 2001, saddened our nation. WCA united with the rest of the world in responding to the tragedy. Physicians, employees, and volunteers of the WCA family came out in record numbers to donate blood, share their talents, and provide care to anyone who needed medical care, comfort, support or encouragement.

Special enhancements are made to the WCA Hospital Maternity Center in 2001. All newly redesigned single-room units and private dressing areas await our new enhancements.

For a second consecutive year, WCA earns distinction as a 100 Top Hospital Performance Improvement Leader by Solucient, a nationally recognized health research firm, affirming its commitment to

WCA employees give to oversees troops.

WCA Maternity care makes special deliveries happen.

WCA Occupational Health Program maintains a healthy productive work force.

WCA Hospital Building Expansions

1928 - Original Facility
A-Wing
1949 - South Building
1958/1961 - B-Wing
Additions+
1963 - C-Wing
1974 - D-Wing
1990 - Addition
1997 - Medical Office Building

WCA Hospital
Building
Expansions

1928 - Original Facility
A-Wing
1949 - South Building
1958/1961 - B-Wing
Additions+
1963 - C-Wing
1974 - D-Wing
1990 - Addition
1997 - Medical Office Building
being a leader in providing efficient, high quality care, in an ever-changing and challenging healthcare reform climate.

Along with a state-of-the-art facility, WCA extended healthcare through the latest technologies and treatments in the new Millennium. A 3D Cancer Planning System, was offered to pinpoint treatment for patients diagnosed with cancer; the WCA Heart Center celebrated the opening of the Catheterization Lab; and a new technology called a PET Scan was available for the physician community to assist in diagnosing patients. A Picture Archiving Computerized System allowed radiologists to share x-rays electronically; and a new MRI site opened in the Sherman Street Medical building.

One of the traditions at WCA each year is the Annual Donation Days Appeal.

In 2008, WCA had scores of reasons to celebrate success. The Wound Care Center opened and construction began on the Center for Imaging & Medical Arts at WCA – a new outpatient design concept that connects diagnostic imaging and medical care in a convenient and accessible modern environment. Renovation was completed on the surgical suites/OR advancements; and WCA expanded needed dialysis care. Surgeons offered minimally invasive surgical techniques that lessen patient stays and implemented technology upgrades in cardiology and cardiac catheterization systems. The end of the year saw the beginning of a landmark affiliation with Roswell Park Cancer Institute to provide radiation therapy treatment, right here at home.

To a standing-room only audience in 2009, WCA officially cut the ribbon to the Center For Imaging & Medical Arts At WCA, moving forward in its efforts to create the 21st century of healthcare. With the increasing use of diagnostic imaging, patient care is growing and changing at an unquestionable rapid speed. The new Center keeps pace with this growing trend.
The 40th commencement of the WCA Hospital School of Radiologic Technology proved to be an exceptional graduation night for the Class of 2009 as six students receive their certificates and graduation pins on a milestone occasion for the school.

Most recently, WCA embarked on the largest capital campaign ever undertaken by our community – a new Emergency Department that will meet the emergency needs of the community.
Medical Advances & Technology

From early surgical procedures to the most diagnostically advanced medicine, WCA has kept pace with medical and technological advances over its 125-year history.

1966-1975

During the late 1960s through the mid-1970s, medical technology underwent revolutionary change throughout the world. Tremendous strides were made in the field of technology and WCA incorporated wide-spread technological changes including a new coronary care unit, cobalt therapy used to treat patients diagnosed with cancer, and other advanced medical equipment improvements for the betterment of the patients.

1976-1985

The late 1970s introduced many innovative programs and technologies. The most modern diagnostic and treatment equipment included Ultrasound that provided detailed images of the body’s interior. The Computerized Tomograph (CT) scanner and the Angiography equipment permitted detailed and faster diagnostic studies.

WCA has the area’s premier Dialysis Center for the care of patients with kidney disorders. Cobalt and chemotherapy treatments are given at WCA.

Since 1885, The Heartbeat Of Our Community
1986 – 2000

WCA Hospital’s long-standing commitment to quality of care applies not only to inpatients, but also outpatient care. In 1986, many diagnostic and treatment procedures are performed on an outpatient basis. Ambulatory surgery, extensive services for patients diagnosed with cancer, cardiology, neurology, respiratory care services, and radiology procedures are some of the many services for outpatients.

Thanks to a generous gift of funds from CRECHE, Inc., the WCA Maternity Unit purchased a portable Doptone Fetal Heart Detector Ultrasonic instrument which is used to assess fetal hearts when women are admitted in labor.

In 1991, a new Personal Computer based Local Area Network is used for the clinical systems at WCA.

WCA acquired a new Nuclear Medicine Imaging system, thanks to the contributions of the WCA Auxiliary. The new system is the most current state-of-the-art equipment of its time which detects abnormalities earlier enabling earlier treatment for patients. WCA Women’s Imaging Services open a Mammography Suite featuring the latest in Mammography equipment.

WCA opens the new Cancer Treatment Center in 1991, equipped with the a Clinac 2100C laser treatment unit.

Starflight adds a second helicopter in 1992. The new helicopter can fly through clouds and can land by instrument if needed. Starflight personnel are able to respond to calls in much worse weather than in the past.

New rapidly-advancing medical technology in 1995 are introduced that benefit patient care. The opening of a new Endoscopy Center in 1998 meant faster procedure times, access to specialty equipment and a comfortable experience for patients.

WCA Information Systems staff make extensive Y2K preparations and computer upgrades: All software and hardware products are upgraded as necessary to ensure compliance with processing the date in the Year 2000.

The Intensive Care (Special Care) Unit provides continual state-of-the-art monitoring.

The WCA Radiology Department is dedicated to providing leading-edge technology and highly skilled staff.
WCA Hospital continued to strategically expand services in response to medical and technological advances that offer improved benefits for patients. Microwave Therapy for prostate disease was introduced; brachytherapy for prostate cancer helped men back on the road to recovery; videoscopic surgery for gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD) was offered; and gynecologists on staff introduced a new Uterine Balloon Therapy that relieves excessive uterine bleeding.

WCA remained committed to changing care at the bedside and in 2001, the hospital ushered in the Pharmacy System, Mediware Computer System that standardized medication orders and increased efficiency of medication order and entry while tracking patient allergies and drug interactions.

The hospital launches a multimillion dollar, three-year renovation in 2001, of the Operating Room, Ambulatory Surgery Center, Post Anesthesia Care Unit and Endoscopy Suite.

In 2003, WCA Hospital’s Auxiliary donated $75,000--funds allocated for heart monitors and a centralized monitoring system for the Emergency Department.

WCA installs new high power laser equipment for urology surgical services.

Utilizing rapid information technology in our daily operations at WCA is crucial in providing care at WCA in the new Millennium. The new Picture Archiving Computerized System (PACS) is one of the ways WCA is driving excellence in patient care through technological advancements. Additionally, WCA adds a new tool for early detection of breast cancer, the Computer Aided Detection (CAD) to assist radiologists in analyzing mammograms.

In 2006, WCA introduced the latest in imaging technology, the PET/CT Scanner, utilized for cancer staging and response to treatment, offering another step forward in providing the most modern cancer care program.
WCA advances care with new technique to enhance kidney surgery. Orthopedic surgeons at WCA perform a new gender knee replacement specifically designed to fit a woman’s anatomy.

PACS computer system in the Emergency Department allows physicians to view precise x-rays from multiple locations throughout the hospital, physician offices and from other regional centers.

In 2007, WCA Hospital opened the Sleep Center that provides all-night polysomnographic monitoring and daytime testing. The WCA Laboratory ushered in 2008 with advanced lab technology, Soft Computer Consultants (SCC) - a powerful laboratory information systems suite that optimizes the clinical lab’s overall operation. manual, time-consuming tasks; microbiology information system; and SoftLab, decision-making tools.

With support from a generous grant from the Carnahan-Jackson Foundation the WCA Hospital Heart Center is equipped with specialized cardiac technology that benefit patients diagnosed with cardiovascular disease.

In collaboration with Roswell Park Cancer Institute, the WCA Hospital Cancer Treatment Center Radiation Program now provides world-class radiation treatment here at home.

WCA has laid the foundation for developing a fully integrated electronic medical record. Information initiatives such as HEALTHeLINK move us closer to ‘One Patient One Record’ — the government’s goal of establishing a national uniform electronic healthcare record by the year 2014.

As WCA gains momentum in the 21st Century of Healthcare, new medical and technological advances will influence the incidence of diseases and change the way WCA Hospital delivers care in the future.
Since 1885, The Heartbeat Of Our Community

Community Value

WCA Hospital is committed to serving the healthcare needs of every person in our region. For a century and a quarter, WCA has worked to find collaborative ways to maintain the health and well being of our people in the place we call home.

Giving Back

In 1986, W.C.A. Hospital employees established the WCA Employee Care & Share Fund, a humanitarian fund that directly supports community organizations and activities.

The WCA Emergency Staff host a Teddy Bear & Doll Clinic. WCA offers free Speech & Hearing screenings and other programs in the community that keep people healthy.

A Economic Engine

The contribution of WCA to their communities extends far beyond their role as cornerstones of healthcare. WCA is an economic engine, contributing millions of dollars into the economy.

WCA Hospital, along with its physician community, contributes an estimated $250 million to the local economy annually.

Since its inception in 1985, the WCA Wellness Program was designed to identify community health needs and improve health status. Wellness reaches hundreds of local individuals each year through free screenings, education, awareness and networking with other health coalitions and agencies throughout the Chautauqua Region.

Hall of Fame and prostate survivor Coach, Marv Levy, motivates residents of Jamestown on how to stay together, to never give up and the character it takes to WIN!
New York State Governor George Pataki visits WCA Hospital in June of 2005, personally praising WCA for leading the nation in improving healthcare quality. He states that WCA should be proud to be a national leader in healthcare reform and publicly recognizes WCA for being selected for a second year as a 100 Top Hospital Performance Improvement leader. From encouraging healthy eating to making sure people are well-informed of the latest ways to maintain a healthy lifestyle, WCA Hospital offers a wide-range of programs to care for and protect our communities.

**EDUCATION**
- Life Fit Adult Exercise Program
- Stress Management
- Weight Management
- Speakers’ Bureau
- Asthma Center
- Back School
- Smoking Cessation
- Early Pregnancy/Prenatal Classes
- Diabetes Classes
- CPR/First Aid
- School-Based Wellness Days

**COMMUNITY SCREENINGS/EVENTS**
- Low Cost Mammograms
- Pap Smear and Breast Clinic
- Stroke Screenings
- Anxiety Disorder
- Depression Screening
- Speech, Hearing, & Swallowing Screenings
- Teddy Bear & Doll Clinics
- Blood Pressure Screenings
- Pneumonia Vaccine Program
- Fitness Evaluations: Body Composition, Strength, Cardiovascular
- Employee Worksite Programs/Health Promotion Programs
- Melanoma Screenings
- Adult Cholesterol Screenings
- Stress Management
- Community Colorectal Screenings

**NETWORKING IN THE COMMUNITY**
- Chautauqua County Tobacco Control Coalition
- Women’s Health Initiative
- Healthy Heart Programs
- WCA Women’s Health TV programming
- Public Service Announcements
- Community Health Assessment of Chautauqua County
WCA embraces a progressive vision for the future of our region in the 21st Century. We envision an integrated regional system of delivery that is efficient and responsive. Our future embraces technological and medical advancements that enhance patient care.

Emergency Care

The Emergency Department at WCA Hospital provides 53 percent of all emergency department visits in the Chautauqua Region and is the principal driver of inpatient volume as 77.5 percent of the hospital’s inpatients begin their episode of care in the Emergency Department.

WCA’s Emergency Department is the main source of health care for a large percentage of area residents and provides much of the medical care for patients without medical insurance. It plays a key role in public health surveillance as well as disaster preparation and response.

Construction of the hospital’s new 18,000 square foot Emergency Department, slated to break ground in late 2010, will maintain and enhance the quality of care for which WCA is nationally recognized. Featuring 28 private treatment rooms and two private triage rooms, the Emergency Department will meet the present and future volume demands of our community, offering patients state-of-the-art care and treatment.

Space, care, comfort, and convenience are all being carefully implemented when construction begins. A large, welcoming entrance will greet patients and families; comfortable seating; a commitment to privacy; and the outstanding utilization of natural light will completely envelop the entire department. An efficient triage process, private “Fast Track” treatment rooms, and multi-purpose patient treatment rooms will enable medical personnel to meet patients’ and families’ expectations and deliver a compassionate, excellent emergency care experience.

W.C.A. Foundation pledges $1 Million to Emergency Department Campaign.

The Sheldon Foundation Awarded WCA $2.5 Million toward the Emergency Department.

Sharing the Gift of Health: The Capital Campaign for our new Emergency Department.
Physician Recruitment

Over the past years, physicians recruitment initiatives have been undertaken at WCA with positive results. WCA and other community partners, including the Healthcare Association of New York State, Western New York Hospital Association, Chautauqua County Health Network and Jamestown Area Medical Associates are working collectively to retain and recruit highly skilled physicians.

An Emerging Healthcare Corridor

A ‘Healthcare Corridor’ is becoming a major driver of healthcare delivery throughout the country and in Jamestown, providing medical services that the community demands. The corridor enhances the district’s physical appearance through revitalization and rehabilitation and strengthens the overall economic base by creating new healthcare opportunities that are anchored to the area’s local businesses and industries.

A Beacon Of Health

WCA Hospital has advanced far beyond the hopeful expectations of the women whose vision has evolved into a major city asset and economic powerhouse. In 2009, WCA provided care for 36,000 people who needed emergency treatment; admitted 8,500 inpatients; provided 219,117 outpatient procedures/visits; and welcomed 640 newborns into the world.

What began as a one-room hospital now contributes $191 million into the local community annually, supports, 1,175 jobs, offers over 100 comprehensive health services and programs, and maintains two Accredited Schools of Technology.

What started as a seed in the minds of these passionate and visionary women has, today, flourished into an award-winning, nationally recognized health leader that is staffed by the people you know, the professionals you trust who all share the same passion — the same mission.
Thank You
We hope our 125th Anniversary Commemorative Book brings back heart-felt memories and highlights the countless ways that WCA Hospital impacts our community and brings to light the many exceptional hospital leaders, employees, physicians, volunteers, and benevolent donors and supporters who give so much to those we are so honored to serve. We wish you good health and happiness and trust you will stand by us in sharing the gift of health for the next 125 years.
Introducing the Historic Wall

Prominently placed in the Main Lobby of WCA Hospital, a new Historic Wall displays the rich history of the hospital dating back to 1885. The wall displays several photos of the medical and technological advancements and facility developments that characterize WCA’s commitment to state-of-the-art care, and exemplifies the one constant through the years at WCA Hospital—our pledge to improve the health and well being of those we are so privileged to serve.
Since 1885, The Heartbeat Of Our Community

Dedication

This book is dedicated to the thousands of men and women who, through their generosity, compassion, devotion, and dedication, formed the organization that today is WCA Hospital. We would also dedicate this book to the countless individuals who have worked or volunteered at WCA Hospital, gratefully acknowledging all of the unselfish and gallant contributions they have made to this caring and vibrant hospital.
Acknowledgements

This 125th Anniversary Commemorative Book would not be possible without the support and encouragement of:

WCA Hospital Board of Directors and Administrative Leadership

WCA 125th Commemorative Committee:
Judith Burgett, Barbara Bumsted, Jane Campbell,
Brenda Ireland, Diane Wellman, Betsy Wright

WCA 125th Sub-Committee – Historic Wall:
Joni Blackman, Helen Ebersole, Bonnie Engberg, Mildred Withington

WCA 125th Sub-Committee – Event Planning:
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