



Samaritan Medical Center

good Health Matters

Samaritan's Newsletter to the Community



Samaritan's Family Health Center in LeRay Opens Its Doors

Healthcare Team Includes Dr. Benjamin Rudd and Tasha Richards, PA-C

Dr. Benjamin Rudd grew up in Sandy Creek in northern Oswego County. "I always knew I wanted to go into family medicine," he shares. "I also knew that I would end up in a small community. I grew up with that lifestyle and I enjoy it."

Now Dr. Rudd will be part of the healthcare team at a brand new community facility that opened in March – the Samaritan Family Health Center in LeRay. Joining him there is Physician Assistant Tasha Richards. Both practitioners stress the importance of creating an on-going relationship with a primary care provider.

"Your primary care physician is in charge of your overall healthcare. You can think of us as a football quarterback or a musical conductor – putting all of the pieces together for the healthcare team," explains Ms. Richards.

"Knowing our patients ... not just their physical health but also their family situation, their home life, and their work environment ... all of this affects overall health," adds Dr. Rudd.



Tasha Richards, PA-C
and Benjamin Rudd, MD

continued on page 3

Get Outpatient Tests Done Quickly ... and Get Back to Your Life

Samaritan Introduces New Network of Off-Campus Care Centers

Medical tests are important, but sometimes it's hard to fit everything in to a busy schedule. Samaritan Medical Center is making it easy to get the healthcare tests you need by bringing services right to you through a network of convenient off-campus care centers.

In January, Samaritan opened its newest off-campus care center in the Washington Summit on outer Washington Street in Watertown. Washington Summit Imaging and Lab Services provides the North Country community with another option for diagnostic imaging (X-Ray), ultrasound and laboratory blood drawing services.

Washington Summit Imaging and Lab Services is the second of four planned off-campus care centers. The first opened in Clayton in January 2009 and is located within the Samaritan Clayton Family Health Center. The third site opened in March 2010 in conjunction with the Samaritan Family Health Center in LeRay. The fourth center, which will co-exist at Watertown Urgent Care on Coffeen Street, is slated to open in Fall 2010.

continued on page 6

FORT DRUM CONNECTION

Samaritan's Adopted Platoon Returns Home

Samaritan has a long history of supporting Fort Drum Soldiers and their families with innovative and excellent healthcare services. In recent years, however, the Samaritan family of employees and volunteers has taken their support one step further by proudly "adopting" a platoon of deployed 10th Mountain Division Fort Drum soldiers.

C Company, 710th Brigade Support Battalion, otherwise known as "Charlie Med," provides combat health support to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team. During their most recent 12-month deployment, Charlie Med was stationed in a remote mountain area of Afghanistan.



To help provide a little touch of home to their adopted Soldiers, the Samaritan staff sent out monthly care packages. "It was a small thing that we could do to say 'thank you' for serving on our behalf," explains John Smith, Director of Food Service, one of the organizers of the Samaritan efforts.

Donated items included books, magazines, comic books, newspapers, DVDs, snack foods, packaged coffee, baby wipes and hygiene items of all types. The monthly mailings to the platoon usually ranged between 15-25 boxes. "Our employees were incredibly supportive of this effort," adds Mr. Smith.

Samaritan Foundation Introduces a New Way to Say "Thanks:"

The Grateful Patient Program

Gracias. Merci. Danke. There are a lot of different ways to say "thank you," but sometimes words alone just aren't enough. That's why the Samaritan Foundation has recently introduced its Heart to Heart Grateful Patients/Family and Friends program: an initiative designed to help patients and their families thank the Samaritan doctor, nurse, technician, therapist, dietician, housekeeper, volunteer or other caregiver who made a difference in their visit or stay.

"It's common for patients and their families to feel gratitude for the care they receive," explains Jenna Cleaves, Executive Director of the Samaritan Foundation. "They often ask healthcare providers what they can do to show their appreciation. This program provides an opportunity for them to say 'thank you' in a lasting and meaningful way."

According to Ms. Cleaves, donations received through the Heart to Heart program will support an area or program within Samaritan that is important to and impacts the greatest number of patients, employees and community members. Initial funds, for example, will go toward maintaining the planned Healing Garden that will be established on the Samaritan campus as construction and renovations are completed.

"Samaritan is proud of our dedicated and caring employees who truly live our values of Honesty, Empathy, Accountability, Respect and Trust. Our values spell H.E.A.R.T., and patient care is at the HEART of everything we do," says Ms. Cleaves. "When you contribute financially to the Heart to Heart program, you show your appreciation in a way that helps ensure that future patients will receive that same outstanding care."



According to the Platoon Sergeant, Sergeant First Class Patrick Neal, the donated items were always well-received by the troops. "The amount of items that was sent was pretty amazing. We all enjoyed opening the boxes. At one point the

Samaritan staff sent coloring books and crayons that we were able to hand out to some of the Afghanistan children who were among our patients. Many of them had never seen a coloring book before."

Samaritan also adopted Charlie Med during its previous deployment in 2006-2007, and SFC Neal hopes the connection will continue for future deployments. "It's been a nice relationship, and it helps us to know we have the support of people back home."

"I like to look at what we do as being experts in the individual... in the patient."

~ Dr. Benjamin Rudd

“From all the dedicated professionals in the ED, to the nurses on the 4th floor where we were able to be with my dad privately when he died, and especially to Dr. Chang, my family will always remember the way that our dad and we were treated as ‘family’ during a very difficult and emotional time last April. It was for these reasons we requested that memorial donations be made to the Samaritan Foundation in honor of Dad’s caregivers. We wanted future patients to receive the same care and compassion that we found at Samaritan Medical Center. We all miss my dad very much, but the incredible care, and even more importantly the ‘caring,’ extended to us will never be forgotten.”

Chris Papayanakos and the Papayanakos Family

Heart to Heart donation forms may be obtained at various locations throughout Samaritan Medical Center and the Samaritan Keep Home, on-line at www.samaritanhealth.com/foundation or by calling the Samaritan Foundation at (315) 785-5785.

Samaritan’s Family Health Center in LeRay... continued from front cover

Dr. Rudd also believes that building this on-going physician-patient relationship is a benefit that extends to the soldiers and families stationed at Fort Drum. “We’re here and, as civilians, we’re not going anywhere,” he says. “This allows us to focus on providing continuity of care and stability for our patients.”

Preventative care is also a big part of family medicine and something that Dr. Rudd is particularly passionate about. “In today’s society, people don’t usually think about preventative care. If you’re sick, you go to the doctor. The doctor does something to fix you and then you don’t go back to the doctor until you’re sick again,” he says.

While the LeRay Family Health Center does provide this type of acute care, Dr. Rudd also stresses the benefits of periodic health maintenance exams. “This type of exam lets us identify when a patient has risk factors for certain diseases, talk about lifestyle modification, do screening tests, and catch and treat little problems before they become big problems. It can have a major impact on the patient’s long-term health.”

The Family Health Center in LeRay provides primary care for all ages, including: well child visits, immunizations, school sports physicals, well woman/gynecologic care, sports injury evaluation, cancer screenings, chronic illness care (such as asthma, high blood pressure, arthritis), and office procedures such as removal of skin lesions and ingrown nail treatment. Diagnostic x-ray and laboratory services are available on-site. The Center accepts all major insurance providers, including TriCare.

Samaritan Family Health Center at LeRay
629-4525

X-Ray & Lab Tests – walk-in or by appointment
Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

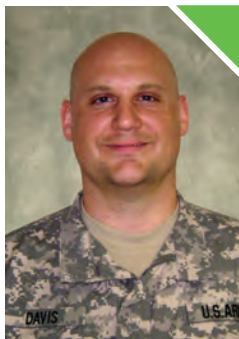
26908 Independence Way • Suite 101 • Evans Mills
Located just outside Fort Drum’s North Gate, off Route 11, behind Pizza Hut.

Welcoming New Healthcare Professionals



**Adekola Alao, MD, MRC-Psych
Psychiatry**

Fort Drum/Samaritan Behavioral Health Clinic
165 Coleman Avenue • 782-2061
Medical School: College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
Medical Residency: Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY
Board-certified and a diplomate with: American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology.



**Jason A. Davis, MD*
Orthopaedic Surgery**

Fort Drum Orthopaedic Surgery
11050 Mount Belvedere Blvd, Fort Drum • 772-9823
Medical School: University of Texas Medical School, Houston, TX
Medical Residency: William Beaumont Army Medical Center, El Paso, TX



**Laura Boggs, DO
Internal Medicine**

Watertown Internists, PC
53-59 Public Square • Ste 301 • 782-2141
Dr. Boggs joins Drs. LaVerne VanDeWail, Collins Kellogg and Julie LaPointe at Watertown Internists, PC.
Medical School: West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine, Lewisburg, WV
Medical Residency: Samaritan Medical Center, Watertown, NY



**Jennie L. Dembski, MD*
Obstetrics & Gynecology**

Fort Drum OB/GYN Clinic
826 Washington St, Ste 202 • 785-4624
Medical School: Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY
Medical Residency: National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, MD



**Beth Brunner, DMD, MD
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery**

127 Winslow Street • 786-3990
Dr. Brunner joins the practice of Dr. Gerald Schneeberger.
Medical School: University of Buffalo School of Medicine, Buffalo, NY. Dental degree from Temple University School of Dentistry, Philadelphia, PA
Medical Residency: University of Buffalo School of Dentistry, Buffalo, NY



**John Huszonek, MD
Psychiatry**

Fort Drum/Samaritan Behavioral Health Clinic
165 Coleman Avenue • 782-2061
Medical School: Stritch School of Medicine, Loyola University of Chicago, Maywood, IL
Medical Residency: Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY
Board-certified and a diplomate with: American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology



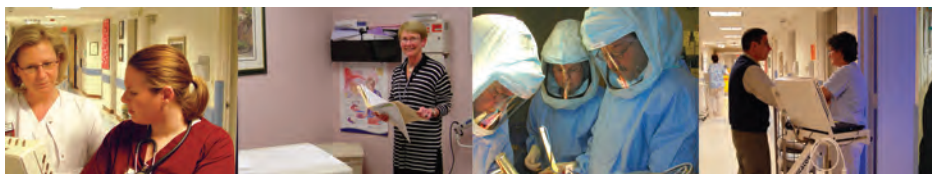
**Brian J. Carr, MD*
Orthopaedic Surgery**

Fort Drum Orthopaedic Surgery
11050 Mount Belvedere Blvd, Fort Drum • 772-9823
Medical School: USUHS F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine, Bethesda, MD
Medical Residency: William Beaumont Army Medical Center, El Paso, TX



**Robert Johnston, MD
Ophthalmology**

Center for Sight - Watertown Eye Center
1815 State Street • 788-6070
He joins Drs. Noaman Sanni and Debra Koloms at Center for Sight - Watertown Eye Center.
Medical School: Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD
Medical Residency: Yale-New Haven Hospital, New Haven, CT
Board-certified and a diplomate with: American Board of Ophthalmology

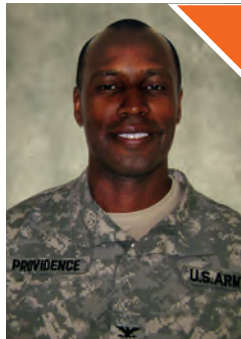




Rebecca R. Laufer, Psy.D.
Psychiatry

Samaritan Behavioral Health Services
1575 Washington St • 779-5060

Graduate School: Masters of Science and Doctorate
in Clinical Psychology from Antioch New England
Graduate School, Keene, NH
Dr. Laufer is a Registered Play Therapist.



Bertram C. Providence, MD*
Orthopaedic Surgery

Fort Drum Orthopaedic Surgery
11050 Mount Belvedere Blvd, Fort Drum • 772-9823

Dr. Providence currently serves as Commander of
the U.S. Army Medical Department Activities at
Fort Drum.
Medical School: Uniformed Services University of the Health
Sciences, Bethesda, MD
Medical Residency: Tripler Army Medical Center,
Honolulu, HI
Board-certified and a diplomate with: American Board of
Orthopaedic Surgery



Karen A. Leedom, MD*
Obstetrics & Gynecology

Fort Drum OB/GYN Clinic
826 Washington St, Ste 202 • 785-4624

Medical School: Drexel University College of Medicine,
Philadelphia, PA
Medical Residency: National Naval Medical Center,
Bethesda, MD



Katherine A. Schumacher, DO
Emergency Medicine

Samaritan Medical Center
Emergency Department & North Country
Emergency Medical Consultants

Medical School: Midwestern University Arizona College of
Osteopathic Medicine, Glendale, AZ
Medical Residency: Upstate Medical University,
Syracuse, NY



Simon Ouaknine, MD
Urology

Samaritan Urology
19324 US Route 11 • Bldg 2, Ste A • 782-7230

Dr. Ouaknine joins Dr. Seetharaman Ashok and Dr. David
Butters at Samaritan Urology Center.
Medical School: Laval University, Québec, Canada
Medical Residency: University of Montréal,
Québec, Canada



Melba M. Taylor, MD
Emergency Medicine

Samaritan Medical Center
Emergency Department & North Country
Emergency Medical Consultants

Medical School: University of Washington School of
Medicine, Seattle, WA
Medical Residency: New York Presbyterian Hospital,
New York, NY



Diana Page, DO
Otolaryngology

Watertown Medical Center
826 Washington St, Ste 204 • 788-1751

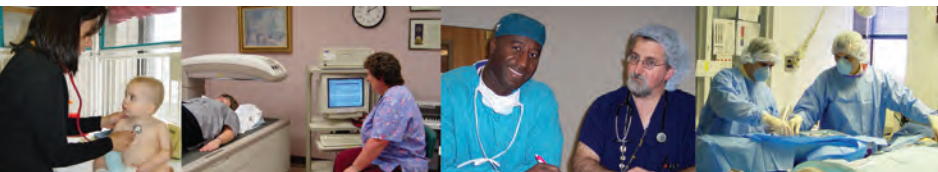
Dr. Page joins the practice of Dr. Tony Chuang and is
co-located with Dr. Braxton Hillerman.
Medical School: New York College of Osteopathic
Medicine, Old Westbury, NY
Medical Residency: University of Medicine and Dentistry
of New Jersey – School of Osteopathic Medicine,
Kennedy Health Systems, Stratford, NJ



A. Melynn Youngblood, MD
Pulmonary-Critical Care & Sleep Medicine

Pulmonary Associates
19320 US Route 11 • 786-0254

Dr. Youngblood is co-located with Dr. David Rechlin and
Dr. Lawrence Kramer.
Medical School: Albany Medical College, Albany, NY
Medical Residency & Fellowship: University of Minnesota,
Minneapolis, MN
Board-certified and a diplomate with: American Board of
Internal Medicine with subspecialty certification in
Critical Care Medicine, Pulmonary Disease, and Sleep
Medicine



September 2009



February 2010



Watch Us Grow!

Work continues on Samaritan's new Patient Pavilion.

Learn more at
[www.samaritanhealth.com/
advancinghealthcare](http://www.samaritanhealth.com/advancinghealthcare)

Celebrating 40 Years

When Kathy Claflin first began working for Samaritan Medical Center back in 1969, she couldn't have imagined that more than 40 years later she would still be providing services for the hospital and the community.

Ms. Claflin has not just worked for the same organization for 40 years; she has also worked in the same department: what is now information technology (IT). After training in data processing at BOCES during high school, Ms. Claflin accepted a job at Samaritan as a key punch operator soon after graduation.

"The changes in IT over the past 40 years have been enormous," Ms. Claflin explains. "Samaritan didn't even have a computer room when I started in 1969. Today, she is a familiar voice to many Samaritan employees as she answers calls and fixes problems as a key member of the IT Help Desk."

Get Outpatient Tests Done Quickly... continued from front cover

"Washington Summit and the other off-campus centers are a natural expansion of our hospital facilities. They allow us to make imaging and lab services more accessible and more convenient for our community," explains Michael Mandich, Radiology Services Supervisor. "Each site combines the quality of Samaritan Medical Center with the convenience of a smaller building with at-the-door parking."

"The tests performed at our off-campus sites are often crucial to a patient's diagnosis, treatment or follow-up," adds Mr. Mandich. "We're committed to efficient turnaround and providing the referring physician with quick and easy access to the test results."

All of the off-campus centers provide outpatient tests only, which allows them to make those patients the top priority. Samaritan Medical Center itself is still a source for outpatient imaging and lab testing, but also handles testing for inpatients and Emergency Department cases as well.

Accepting both walk-in patients and those with appointments, Samaritan's off-campus care centers are designed to get you in and out for medical testing as quickly as possible. After all, you have other things to do!

Clayton Family Health Center

315-686-2094

X-Rays – walk-in or by appointment
Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
909 Strawberry Lane, Clayton

LeRay Family Health Center

315-629-4525

X-Ray & Lab Tests
walk-in or by appointment
Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
26908 Independence Way • Ste 101
Evans Mills

Washington Summit Imaging & Lab Services

315-788-1204

X-Ray & Lab Tests – walk-in or by appointment
Ultrasound – by appointment only
Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
19324 US Route 11, Watertown

at Samaritan

Entering Samaritan on her 40th anniversary day, Ms. Claflin said, "I had walked in that same door 40 years ago and began a career that I still love. I'm proud of all I have done, all that Samaritan has accomplished and the direction Samaritan is headed."

If it sounds like Ms. Claflin is passionate about her work and her life in general, there is a very good reason. She is not just a Samaritan employee, but was also recently a Samaritan patient. Over the course of seven months, Ms. Claflin dealt with two broken hips and battled two different types of cancer. "The compassionate treatment I received from everyone involved in my care was absolutely wonderful. As a patient, there is nowhere else I would ever go!"



Kathy Claflin entering Samaritan on her 40th anniversary day.

"Kathy is just a wonderful person to be around. Everyone who knows her and works with her deeply respects her," says M. Andrew Short, Vice President of Information Services and CIO at Samaritan, who has worked with Kathy for the past ten years. "She has helped our department in more ways than she knows. It's an honor for me to work with someone who cares as much as she does about our organization and the community we serve."



Renee Berry, RDMS, performs an ultrasound.



Melissa Sboro, RT(R) is cross-trained as both a phlebotomist (lab) and a radiologic technologist (X-rays).

Coffeen Imaging & Lab Services Coming Fall 2010!

X-Ray & Lab Tests
Corner of Coffeen Street and Gaffney Drive
Watertown





Samaritan Medical Center
830 Washington Street
Watertown, NY 13601



www.samaritanhealth.com

Samaritan Medical Center is interested in your comments! Please write or call and let us know your thoughts about this newsletter or any of our healthcare services. *Good Health Matters* is published quarterly by Samaritan Medical Center, 830 Washington Street, Watertown, NY 13601, 315-785-4504.

Samaritan Medical Center's New Parking Garage is Now Open for Patients & Visitors!

Entering and exiting the garage.

Vehicles enter and exit the garage from Woodruff Street, which is a small side street accessible from Washington Street or Sherman Street. A pedestrian crosswalk links the garage to the Emergency Department, temporary main hospital entrance, and Medical Office Building. Handicapped parking is available on the ground level of the garage.

How to get to Samaritan Medical Center from the garage.

Follow the signage and the pedestrian crosswalk. If you are going to the Emergency Department, please use that direct entrance. For all other hospital services, please use the temporary main entrance located between Samaritan Medical Center and the Medical Office Building. An information desk is located at this entrance to assist with directions and other information.

Free parking with ticket validation.

A parking ticket will be automatically issued to every car entering the garage. Take your ticket inside the hospital with you. Before returning to your car, have your ticket validated once you reach your destination in the hospital or Medical Office Building.

It's FREE!

Use our new FREE parking garage the next time you visit Samaritan Medical Center!

