# VITALSIGNS

AMERICAN FRIENDS OF RABIN MEDICAL CENTER
SPRING 2007



ART BY BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS
SAVING THE HEROES OF ISRAEL'S WAR
LARRY KING QUESTIONS AMBASSADOR BOLTON
GE HEALTHCARE ARRIVES AT RABIN
BUILDING A NEW BREAST CARE CENTER



RABIN MEDICAL CENTER
ISRAEL'S PREMIER MEDICAL COMPLEX

# VITALSIGNS INTHIS ISSUE





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#### AMERICAN FRIENDS OF RABIN MEDICAL CENTER

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American Friends of Rabin Medical Center educates Americans about the Rabin Medical Center, located in Petah Tikvah, Israel and raises funds on behalf of Rabin Medical Center.

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#### **NEW MOMENTUM**



Abraham "Barry" E. Cohen

#### Dear Friends.

At the beginning of February, former CEO of Rabin Medical Center (RMC), Dr. Dan Oppenheim, left the hospital to apply his considerable talents as CEO of the Herzliya Medical Center. It seems a good time to reflect on where we are as a result of his long and fruitful tenure with RMC.

Simply put, Rabin Medical Center is a place that, because of its leadership, has become one of the finest medical centers in Israel. It is a world-class institution that exists in the hearts of so many people for whom this hospital has accomplished miracles. Those who work within and on behalf of RMC share a dynamic spirit that thrives on growth and excellence, often in the face of economic and political challenges. During the past decade, for example, one specialized center after another has found a place on the RMC campus, offering the very best in research and treatment. I am proud to mention in this group the new Recanati Genetics Center, the Felsenstein Medical Research Center, the Davidoff Comprehensive Cancer Center, and the Helen Schneider Women's Health Center. With plans underway for a new Level One Emergency and Trauma Center and a major state-of-the-art Heart Center, there is much to look forward to and much work to be done.

Dr. Oppenheim is handing the baton over to Rabin Medical Center's new CEO, Dr. Eyran Halpern, who will find much to be proud of and so much more to accomplish. We look forward to his continuing partnership with American Friends of Rabin Medical Center and to welcoming him in the United States. We wish Dr. Halpern every success in his new role.

We also look forward to a strong and enduring friendship with Dan and Tzippy in the years ahead and wish them both every happiness. And, as always, at American Friends of Rabin Medical Center, we are delighted to welcome new friends who share our enthusiasm for this center of promise for Israel, the Middle East and well beyond.

Abraham "Barry" E. Cohen Chairman American Friends of Rabin Medical Center

#### **NEW BEGINNINGS**







Dr. Eyran Halpern

#### Welcome to Dr. Eyran Halpern, New CEO at Rabin Medical Center

American Friends of Rabin Medical Center proudly welcomes Dr. Eyran Halpern as the new Chief Executive Officer of Israel's Rabin Medical Center. At the same time, we express our deepest thanks to Dr. Dan Oppenheim for his years of leadership. His vision transformed this hospital into an internationally renowned medical institution.

Dr. Halpern brings his considerable talents and experiences to Rabin Medical Center. An innovator in hospital management, Dr Halpern consolidated numerous small laboratories scattered throughout the Western Galilee and Haifa region into one modern facility. He also established "Zebulon," the most comprehensive ambulatory center in Israel. While serving as deputy director of HaEmek Hospital for four years, he developed and modernized the hospital, including the main hospitalization tower and the emergency department. In the ensuing years, Dr. Halpern held various senior level positions within Clalit Healthcare System, primarily in the Western Galilee and Haifa regions, culminating in the position of Regional Director. During the last four years, Dr. Halpern served as Deputy Director General of Clalit with responsibility to all Clalit hospitals nation-wide. He implemented information systems in the hospital's administration, as well as accreditation standards and guidelines for all Clalit Hospitals.

Dr. Halpern is an alumnus of Jerusalem's Hebrew University School of Medicine. He holds a Masters in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Dr. Halpern lives in Kfar Tabor, is married to Dr. Maya Halpern, and together they have a family of three children.

We wish Dr. Halpern much success. Under his leadership, may the Rabin Medical Center go from strength to strength in the days and years ahead, knowing that his American Friends stand at his side as partners to help the hospital grow and flourish.

Mazal tov and good luck,

Joshua Eli Plaut, Ph.D. Executive Director American Friends of Rabin Medical Center

#### URGENT NEEDS: HELP ENSURE ISRAEL'S SURVIVAL

EMERGENCY & TRAUMA CARE EQUIPMENT FOR ISRAEL'S RABIN MEDICAL CENTER OF PETAH TIKVAH

To make a donation contact AFRMC at 212.279.2552 arfmc@afrmc.org

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#### THE ART OF HEALING: ART BY BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS

veryone is aware of the level of expert care that Rabin Medical Center offers to its patients. What is less well known, however, is the degree of thought that goes into planning and managing a patient's care. Essential to this process is the emotional well-being of each and every patient. As you will discover, care at Rabin Medical Center is clearly a science but also an art.

The case of Talia Shaleet proves this point. Three years ago, Talia, a spirited and stylish blond with sparkling sapphire-blue eyes received the diagnosis that she had breast cancer. Talia was classified as a "high risk" patient because her mother had also been stricken with cancer and ultimately died from the disease.

Unlike her mother, Talia-married, a mother of three and an interior decorator by trade—was treated at the Davidoff Cancer Center at Rabin Medical Center. Talia came to understand that a patient's state of mind and level of emotional strength, coupled with support from family and friends, could and would make all the healing difference in the world. In addition to the expert medical treatment received from her caring physician Dr. Salomon Stemmer, treatment that included chemotherapy and surgery, Talia met regularly with a psychologist and a nursing coordinator to nourish Talia's emotional well-being. "Had my mother been privy to the same cutting edge treatment that was available to me at the Davidoff Center," said Talia, "perhaps she would have beaten the odds."

Frieda Ohayon was that nursing coordinator—that special addition to the healing network that has helped to solidify Rabin Medical Center's reputation for patient care. Frieda's guidance, advocacy and support have made a world of difference in Talia's life, as well to the lives

of so many others. Nurse Coordinator at The Davidoff Center, Frieda serves as a guide to navigate the way for patients like Talia who have been diagnosed with breast cancer. Frieda is present from the moment the doctor confirms the diagnosis and accompanies the patient through the processes of surgery, the aftermath of surgery, treatment and post treatment.

The origin of the idea of adding a nursing coordinator to the network of healing, itself, proves to be an amazing story. In 1996, Susan Sered, Assistant Professor at Suffolk University in Boston and alumni of Hebrew University in Jerusalem, conducted a study on women with breast cancer. Her research concluded that the process of dealing with hospital protocol and bureaucracy was emotionally demanding for patients who have just been diagnosed with breast cancer. Her research demonstrated that patients cited nurses as one of the most helpful figures at hospitals during cancer treatment. Based upon this and other findings, the Ministry of Health and the Israel Cancer Association created the position of "nurse coordinator."

It was during one of their weekly meetings that Frieda and Talia discussed the idea of creating an art exhibit for women who have breast cancer. Hence, the idea was born out of collaboration between the healer and the one being healed. "When you spend

> so much time in a place, it starts to feel like a second home," said Talia, "the staff at Davidoff is amazing and one feels the need to give something back."

> During its first year, 12 breast cancer patients joined together as exhibitors. By the following year, the number of exhibitors grew to 17. The annual exhibit has been highly praised by both patients who are given an artistic channel to express their experiences and by viewers who are mesmerized by the depth of emotion displayed in the work. This, in turn, has generated growing interest and support demonstrated by the continuous inquiry about opportunities for participation. A sense of strength, integrity and hope is transmitted through the color and movement of each work. The exhibit symbolizes the journey for women who come to The Davidoff Center to be treated and stands as testimony to those who, during and after treatment, have become inspired to offer others hope that they—like Talia—will be cared for by the loving staff of Rabin Medical Center.

Rabin Medical Center believes strongly in the art of healing and in the healing

arts. The artwork, sculptures, and landscaping that grace the hospital are integral parts of the healing environment.

The Davidoff Center addresses the medical needs of approximately 600 new breast cancer patients annually. As important as the advanced medical care breast cancer patients receive from doctors, nurses, social workers, psychologist and integrative healers, the contributions of a guide and friend like Frieda will make the journey seem a little less daunting. Medicine is, indeed, just as much art as it is science.

For more information on the art exhibitions at The Davidoff Center, please contact: afrmc@afrmc.org or call 212 279 2522.



Breast cancer survivor Talia Shaleet with her artwork

We invite you to be our partners in building a new Breast Care Center Please contact American Friends of Rabin Medical Center at 212.279.2522, afrmc@afrmc.org

#### HELP BUILD A NEW BREAST CARE CENTER AT RABIN MEDICAL CENTER

# MAKING THE CASE FOR IMPROVING BREAST CANCER DETECTION AND TREATMENT IN ISRAEL

In Israel, about 4,000 women are diagnosed each year with breast cancer. Most of these women are over the age of 50. Breast cancer in women in this age group is primarily attributed to age and "Western" standards of living. Factors include: diet, exercise, medication, and exposure to radiation. Frequently, breast cancer developed at a younger age derives from hereditary genetic mutations. One in nine women in Israel are diagnosed with breast cancer during their lifetime, a percentage that has parallels throughout the developed world. Approximately one third of these women will not survive their fight against this malignant disease.

Nine hundred and fifty women die annually in Israel from metastatic breast cancer. This figure represents a significant improvement in the death rate compared with the death incidence 30 years ago. Early detection is a primary factor for this significant decline in death rate. Cutting-edge radiation equipment is key to early detection. Other factors include improved primary care at the diagnosis stage and improved treatment facilities. Rabin Medical Center is now focused on establishing a new centralized Breast Care facility, a focus that will help save the lives of many more women.

# RABIN MEDICAL CENTER IS PROUD TO BE A LEADER IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

Rabin Medical Center offers a full range of detection, diagnostic and treatment services for breast diseases. It is one of the largest of such facilities in the country, with breast clinics on its two campuses. Approximately 3,000 women are examined each year, of which about one third are new patients. In addition, almost 8,000 mammographies for the detection of breast diseases are performed annually.

In establishing a Breast Care facility, the hospital will centralize the different services for breast care that are currently scattered in various departments. This will facilitate faster diagnosis

and enhance integrative care. The proposed Breast Care Center will expand current services by bringing together all relevant breast cancer detection, care and research services in one state-of-the-art facility. Here, patients will have direct access to imaging and surgical services, laboratory processing, innovative treatments, and consultations designed to reduce patient anxiety and to facilitate prompt services. These integrative services will derive from the team approach that will bring together the services of surgeons, radiologists, gynecologists, plastic surgeons, geneticists, oncologists, nurse coordinators, dieticians, and psychologists.

## THREE MAIN GROUPS OF WOMEN WILL BENEFIT FROM ESTABLISHING THE BREAST CARE CLINIC

- SYMPTOMATIC WOMEN Clinicians and radiologists will work hand-in-hand to evaluate findings quickly and efficiently, enabling a "fast track diagnosis" for symptomatic women and improving survival by making immediate decisions regarding treatment. Psychosocial staff members will be available to offer counseling and emotional support.
- HEALTHY "HIGH RISK" WOMEN Women in this category will come in for periodic follow-up that will coordinate appointments for radiological testing, physician consultation, social work evaluation, dietician counseling—all within the same day!
- SCREENING MAMMOGRAPHY FOR WOMEN ABOVE AGE 50 The results of these screenings will be immediately available; clinicians and radiologists at the Center will offer immediate consultations to women with suspicious findings.

An important part of this new breast care facility will be educational outreach to the community, encouraging early detection and treatment. Furthermore, this new center will engage in cutting-edge research, including clinical studies and epidemiological trials.

To make a donation toward this \$2 million new center, contact afrmc@afrmc.org or 212.279.2522.

#### FINDING HOPE IN HAIR



Zekre underwent aggressive treatment for Lymphoma. During one of his chemotherapy sessions, he turned his attention to the young woman next to him who was crying incessantly. He asked if there was anything he could do to help. She responded: "The pain of the treatment is not as hard to handle as the pain of loosing my hair."

These words spurred Eli, a

hairdresser with 25 years of experience, to come to her rescue. Elie went out and found a wig that he cut and styled and presented to the young woman. This time when they met, she was beaming and smiling back at him. What Elie saw in that smile was hope, a will to continue and a new found purpose for his life's work.

With the help of Dr. Shlomit Peeri, the social worker at the Davidoff Center and with the enthusiastic endorsement of Professor Dan Oppenheim, CEO of Rabin Medical Center, Elie opened the first salon, and the only one of its kind in Israel. The 30 sq. meters of space is decked out with every modern amenity and hair product available, all supplied by donation. Elie, who is still recovering, dedicates his time voluntarily to run the salon. Two thousand women have come through his door, and he has met with every one of them to meet their needs and to share his own struggle and victory over cancer. His wigs and his empathy give these women hope, friendship and a new beginning.

If you are interested in contributing towards Elie's efforts or finding out more information about his work please contact: afrmc@afrmc.org.

#### DOCTOR, CAN YOU TAKE AWAY THE PAIN IN MY HEART?

pained heart often evokes romantic associations. However, for people who suffer from chronic heart conditions, a heart in pain may reflect a physiological disorder that severely impacts quality of life. Despite numerous procedures and surgeries, there are some people who remain with undiagnosable heart pain.

The pain management clinic in the Department of Anesthesiology at Rabin Medical Center has begun to use a new treatment to alleviate severe pain. An electrode is inserted between the vertebrates into the epidural space where the nerve endings that lead to the heart are

located. The patient controls the electrode by sending small electric pulses to the brain, thereby blocking pain signals that are released throughout the body.

Dr. Rita Lekar, director of the pain management clinic at Rabin Medica Center, relates that patients who have undergone this new treatment report significant improvement in their quality of life. In her words, "a pain that crippled them is now nearly eradicated."

According to Dr. Leonid Eidelman, head of the Department of Anesthesiology, heart pains are a preliminary sign of more severe heart-related conditions. The pain almost serves as a type of alarm bell that signals warning of a future heart attack. The electrode is in no way meant to replace catheterization procedures or heart surgeries, which essentially serve to replenish and recycle blood to the patient's blocked heart. However, having said that, there are instances when all the appropriate surgeries and medications still fail to improve a patient's daily routines. Hence, the use of this gadget enables patients who suffer from heart pain to get through day by day.

#### STAYING STRONG DURING CANCER

As if being stricken with cancer isn't enough, there are many cancer patients whose immune systems become so weakened by chemotherapy treatments that they become prone to life threatening infections.

Research trials at Rabin Medical Center led by Dr. Anat Gafter–Gvili, a senior physician in the Department of Medicine E together with Abagail Fraiser, Dr. Mical Paul and Prof. Leonard Leibovici, head of the department, have discovered a base for prevention, specifically in hemato-oncology patients. Their studies have shown that using common antibiotics during the period in which patients undergo chemotherapy, can reduce considerably the rate of mor-



Dr. Anat Gafter-Gvili, senoir physician, RMC

tality and the incidence of infection. These trials were done on test groups consisting mainly of patients with hematologic cancer who were undergoing chemotherapy. Ninety-five trials were

performed between 1973 and 2004. The findings were recently published in the June 2005 issue of the prestigious American Journal of Medicine "Annals of Internal Medicine" and have generated considerable interest among professionals in this field.

Following this study, new treatments are now being considered for Rabin Medical Centers hematologic cancer patients, specifically those suffering from leukemia who are also undergoing chemotherapy. There is real hope that the use of antibiotics in these patients will prevent other bacterial infections and complications that have been seen in the past. Staying strong during cancer now has an important ally.

#### BEHIND THE STETHESCOPE: PROFILE OF DR. EVGENY ABRAMSON

vgeny Abramson started his career as a budding young scientist at the age of 24, in one of the most beautiful cities in the world- St. Petersburg. By the time he was 30, he had a Ph.D. and was the Director of the Department of Epidemiology. One of his main duties was to manage public health in low-density communities in the Far North of the former USSR.

But when he moved to Israel in 1990 at the age of 41, along with his wife, 12-yearold daughter, a few suitcases and \$450 in his pocket, he began the difficult road of reentering the medical profession in Israel, going back to school and living in poverty for the first year.

In 1991, Dr. Abramson obtained work in a public hospital, thanks to a special fund earmarked to assist immigrant scientists find suitable employment (through a joint project of the Ministry of Absorption and the hospital systems in Israel). His impressive C.V. caught the eye of some of the biggest hospitals in the country. But what ultimately piqued Dr. Abramson's interest—besides Rabin Medical Center's excellent reputation, was its friendly and familial-like atmosphere, which for someone putting down roots at the age of 41, was a significant draw.

After 15 years, Dr. Abramson is the head of Data Management at Rabin Medical Center which focuses on analyzing medical activity throughout the hospital, creating data bases for physicians in various areas of medicine, including cardiology, dermatology, and neonatology.

Dr. Abramson received an award in 1996 for being the most valuable employee of Rabin Medical Center. This award was icing on the cake for choosing Rabin Medical Center as the place to practice, learn, and engage faculty in the important work of saving lives.

#### IT ONLY GETS BETTER FROM HERE: GE HEALTHCARE ARRIVES AT RABIN

A strategic collaboration was signed at the end of the 2005 calendar year between Clalit Health Services and GE Healthcare (GEHC). GE Healthcare is the world's leading medical equipment company with revenues exceding 15 billion dollars annually and 40% market share world-wide. The agreement is the first of it kinds in Israel, creating high hopes and expectations.

The multi-faceted agreement refers exclusively to Rabin Medical Center (RMC) and Schneider Children's Medical Center of Israel and includes the following:

- Installment of the most up-to-date equipment GEHC has to offer in the areas of imaging, medical informatics, diagnostics and monitoring systems at RMC
- Providing Rabin Medical Center with the most up to date equipment at the lowest possible cost
- Development, evaluation and testing of medical equipment at Rabin Medical Center
- Research fellowship offered annually for Rabin Medical Center staff members to operate at any of GEHC's Bio-Sciences Laboratories
- Membership in appropriate GEHC Customer Global Advisory Boards
- Partnering in mutual scientific medical conferences and initiatives

The negotiated deal with GE Healthcare was signed and closed mostly by Uri Rabinovitz, Deputy Director of Infrastructure and Logistics for Clalit Heath Services, who invested days and nights to bring this partnership to fruition. This agreement puts Rabin Medical Center in a select group of twenty hospitals world-wide that have agreements with GE.

Mr. Zeev Vurmbrand, CEO of Clalit Health Services, and the mastermind behind the strategic cooperation, expressed on numerous occasions that the rational behind positioning RMC at the forefront of medical technology was due largely in part to Clalit's commitment towards is patients.

"We were definitely aiming high" declares Dr. Ziv Rosenbaum, Deputy Director of RMC, who worked on the agreement from its inception. "As a leading medical center in Israel, we are committed to being at the forefront of medical technology and we are grateful that the management of Clalit Health Services share our vision. This agreement has enabled us to advance technologically in leaps and bounds while remaining within the confines of our budget. Moreover, RMC will be at the vanguard of developing trends in the area of medical equipment world-wide".

Today, one year after the agreement was signed, things are moving forward. RMC was equipped with advanced testing and imaging equipment, compulsory for a medical center regarded as a leading entity nationwide. Equipment includes: PET/CT (medical scanner capable of detecting metabolic activity and



L-R: Zeev Vurembrand and Joe Hogan with the new GE 64-Slice CT scanner at Rabin Medical Center

early stages of small metastasizing cancer cells), 64-Slice CT, angiography suite (for blood vessel catheterization), nuclear medicine cameras and more. In addition to equipment, collaborated research efforts have begun in a variety of areas, subjects and topics.

GE Healthcare's subsidiary branch is located in Haifa, Israel and employs approximately 400 people. One of their main focuses is in the area of development and production. According to Toby Bachar, Director of GE Healthcare Israel, "we are enthusiastic about the choice to include RMC as our strategic partner and we anticipate that this cooperation will set new standards of excellence."

The substance and magnitude of this agreement was clearly demonstrated on part of GE Healthcare, when the President and CEO of the GEHC International, Renaldo Garcia, traveled to Israel for the signing of the contract. No less significant, was Joseph Hogan's (President and CEO of GEHC) gesture, as he landed in his private jet at Ben Gurion airport and rushed to Rabin Medical Center for the signing of the agreement.

#### 2006 GALA: SAVING THE HEROES OF ISRAEL'S WAR

n the aftermath of the Israel-Lebanon War in August 2006, a star-studded group of 550 supporters of American Friends of Rabin Medical Center (AFRMC) arrived at Cipriani on 42nd Street on November 5, 2006 to help Israel during difficult times. AFRMC Chairman, Barry Cohen, welcomed everyone, reminding them that the evening was organized to support Israel's leading hospital, a great institution in need of on-going assistance because of constant demands made on her. Cohen urged people to be generous.

As proof of the significance of the hospital, Cohen mentioned the honored guests who saw fit to respect Rabin Medical

#### **DINA RECANATI: A GRANDE DAME**



Dina Recanati is an extraordinary artist and philanthropist. American Friends of Rabin Medical Center honors Dina Recanati, a woman of generous spirit, for her magnanimous contributions to Rabin Medical Center, establishing the Recanati Genetics Institute and the Recanati Dina Recanati with son Michael Center for Internal Medicine.

Thank you for being a true friend of Israel and the Jewish people for helping RMC to flourish with premium medical services.

#### Dina Recanati's Gala Dinner Remarks:

It is indeed an honor to be a part of this wonderful institution and to celebrate with you RMC. For those of us who have seen it grow and bloom, know that this did this not happen on its own.... It took vision and skill to harness the existing talents to make this hospital what it is today.... I would like to thank Professor Moshe Gati who opened the door for us to participate. Moshe, together with my late husband Raphael, were able to dream and look into the future. With Dan Oppenheim's backing, they created a new concept for a department of internal medicine, which has had great success. Israel has been on the forefront of medicine, a leader in both research and patient care. This comes from a long-standing tradition of caring, but also from the needs that come from wars and conflicts. Heroes come in all sorts of uniforms. Some wear white lab coats and can be found at work deep inside laboratories. The tireless work they do every day transforms our lives. To them and to the surgeons and doctors across the hospital, we are eternally grateful and in awe. My sons and my family—Udi and Michael and I—consider it a great privilege to be a part of this great institution. And specifically we are thrilled to be part of the Genetics Institute. We are grateful for this opportunity.

Center and Israel with their presence. The audience included gala honoree, Dina Recanati and her son Michael; Gala Co-Chairs Arnie Burns, and Larry and Millie Magid; Israel's United Nations Ambassador Dan Gillerman and his wife Janice; Al and Claude Mann, previous gala honorees; David Barouk, a generous friend and benefactor; a class of Hollywood and Broadway personalities, including Joseph Stein, Eli Wallach, Anne Jackson, Helen Gurley Brown, David Brown, Kitty Carlise Hart, Tovah Feldshuh, Sherill Milnes and Marvin Hamlisch.

Master of Ceremonies Larry King spoke highly of Rabin Medical Center. He mentioned having met Yitzhak Rabin, for whom he has the highest regard. Nava Barak, forever the first lady of the Rabin Medical Center, greeted the attendees as part of Israel's extended family. She had hoped to give a positive report of how the country was prospering. But then the Lebanon war began. Israel was under attack. People banned together to help others in the line of Hezbollah rockets. Nava spoke of her mother who lived in Tiberias, a place of unprecedented tranquility, which was shattered by Hezbollah rockets. Nava's mother came to live with her for one week but that grew into a month. She was far from her familiar surroundings and friends and under great pressure, worrying about her friends. She was one of the lucky ones.

The audience then viewed a video of a wounded soldier, Shai Golan, lying on a stretcher, and the Rabin Medical Center doctor who saved his life. After viewing the video, Shai's mother, Dalia, brought the house down when she came out to thank Rabin Medical Center's staff of nurses and doctors "for returning my son and life to me." Her words helped to increase the generosity of so many attendees who responded graciously to an appeal to raise money for equipment that would help bolster the emergency unit, including non-invasive blood monitors (\$2,200 each) respirators (\$10,000 each), prisma machines for liver transplants (\$30,000 each), blood-unit centrifuges for transplants (\$40,000 each), specialized beds for orthopedics (\$5000 each), and volumetric infusion pumps for chemotherapy (\$1,400 each). Jennifer Roth, Senior Vice President from Sotheby's, made the appeal, garnering 39 pieces of new vital medical equipment for Rabin Medical Center.

The highlight of the evening was the USA's United Nations Ambassador John Bolton's keynote address. Bolton spoke passionately about the United States and Israel partnership in fighting terror. Next, the Co-Chairs of the dinner, Larry and Millie Magid introduced CEO, Dr. Dan Oppenheim. Larry had visited the hospital and was treated to a wonderful tour by Dr. Openheim. He urged everyone to take such a tour on their next Israel visit. Dr. Oppenheim thanked everyone for the overwhelming response to the plea for medical equipment.

The concluding evening's entertainment was supplied by the legendary Marvin Hamlisch. He presented the AFRMC Award of Excellence to Joseph Stein, referring to him as a legend in the entertainment industry. The evening ended with Shawn King singing selections from Motown and paying tribute to her husband Larry King who so generously devotes his time to worthwhile causes, such as the Rabin Medical Center.

L-R: Daniel Cohen, Yvette and Steven Pomerantz, Barry and Yvonne Cohen and Denise Cohen and friends



L-R: Doron Cohen, Ellen David, Claude Mann, Dan Oppenheim, Nava Barak, Pinchas Cohen, Al Mann, Lynne Schneider, Martin Zeiger



L-R:Helen Gurley Brown, Dan Oppenheim, Jacki Florin, David Brown, Nava Barak, Joseph Stein, Anne Jackson, Eli Wallach



L-R: John Bolton, Arlene Strelitz, Barry Cohen, Ambassador Dan & Janice Gillerman



L-R: Larry, Jordan, Millie and Alfred Magid

#### LARRY KING QUESTIONS UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO THE UN JOHN BOLTON



#### Q: What is it like when a diplomat, such as an Ambassador, disagrees with his government?

A: The Ambassador serves at the behest of the President. I remember what Jim Baker said to me when I was trying to make a contrary point, "Look, John, the President does not want to do that." I knew, then, that I had to remain guiet. So, the honorable thing to do is to follow the President or resign, if the disagreements are about principle. What is not honorable is to leak disagreement.

#### Q: Why is America so disliked in the world?

A: The first reason is that some people don't like the values we stand for. They feel threatened by them. These values stand for a government that is too open and free. Others resent America's power. That is the one that troubles me the most because we are not an imperial power. We have no imperialistic ambitions. We believe that countries have a right to govern as they choose if they do not threaten us or others. That is what we have to explain to the world.

#### Q: In your job, is it difficult to be friendly with governments we don't like?

A: Fortunately, I don't have to speak with certain rogue governments like Iran and North Korea. But I do speak with every government that the US has diplomatic relations with. It is part of the tradecraft that you have to have equitable relations with people. You say what you think, but it does not have to be personal. But sometimes it gets personal, such as working these last few weeks to keep Venezuela off the Security Council, which I am glad to say was successful. You can add Hugo Chavez to the list of people who says unkind things about me.

#### Q: How do you take negative comments about you—not only by other countries but from or Senate?

A: When I was nominated for the job, I did not think I was running for public office. But I found out that I was. It is an unfortunate commentary on our political process that it is so personal. Policy differences are often subsumed under personal attack. You stand for your principles, and you try to rise above the fray. I speak to most representatives of other countries, and if necessary we tell them how the US feels. This worked in the case of Venezuela that became an adversary to the United States, and we were able to keep them off the Security Council.

#### Q. People often ask, "Why don't we talk to our enemies?

What is the harm? How does it hurt?
A: John Kennedy said, "We should never negotiate out of fear, but we should never fear to negotiate." We would be prepared to talk to Iran under the right circumstances. We have spoken to Iran about the liberation of Afghanistan because of their ties with the Hazari population. We also spoke to Iran about their interference in Iraq in the Shiite regions. In recent months it has been Iran who hasn't spoken to us. We had only one condition and that is that Iran suspend their uranium enrichment activity. We had put that condition in place is to support what the European community has said and that is that the Iranians were using this long process of negotiations to perfect various aspects of their nuclear cycle to build an indigenous nuclear capability. What we said was we were not going to use that period when they are marching toward nuclear weapons. We are ready to talk to them about other issues.

#### SAVING A LIFE: THE STORY OF SHAI GOLAN



Dalia Golan at the Gala

The following narration accompanied the Gala video portraying the healing of a the wounded Israeli soldier, Shai Golan)

The date is August 4, 2006. The second Lebanon War is raging. A barrage of rockets lands in Northern Israel. Two soldiers, two brothers: Shai Golan, age

28, and his brother Eden, age 18, are returning home on a short leave from the army. An alarm goes off and katusha rockets fall, land and hit the two brothers. Almost instantaneously, the news reports on the accident.

Shai's mother Dalia was called to the scene: "As I approached the bomb shelter, I saw my son bleeding and unconscious. As a mother, I felt that the world had come to an end."

Shai Golan is then evacuated to a northern hospital. The doctors succeed to stabilize his condition. Yes his injures are critical and there is little hope.

His mom commented: "Right away I realize that the small hospital in the North could not handle the severity of my son's condition. The chief Army medical officer, Chez Levi, arrived. I asked him to refer me to the best hospital. My only concern was to save my son's life."

Dalia quickly arrives at the decision to transfer her son to Rabin Medical Center. Dr. Pierre Singer noted that Shai was in a very, very unstable position and could not be transferred immediately. As soon as he was stabilized after a few days, he was admitted to the Emergency Center and treated in the trauma room.

The admitting nurse saw him and was shocked: "He was incubated and unconscious, with infected lacerations all over the body. When I saw him, it hurt me like a mother."

Dr. Michael Stein, Head of Trauma Unit, faced a formidable challenge: His systems—respiratory, gastrointestinal, and urological were failing; he had severe infectious complications. But miracles happened and he pulled through.

Dr. Pierre Singer, who first treated him, was ecstatic: "It makes me very happy that Shai Golan is smiling again. I feel so happy with the rate of his recovery because it was a real success."

The video concluded with Dalia, Shai's mother, expressing her happiness: "This is my son Shai. He came home from the hospital on Rosh Hoshana and I wouldn't have received a better gift."

Next to her was her son Shai who thanked the staff of Rabin Medical Center, his family, and his wife. His reward was to hold his son Gai and survive to see him grow up.

After five week's of intensive medical treatment at Rabin Medical Center, Shai Golan's recovery is considered a real miracle!



**SAVE THE DATE** 2007 NYC Gala Oct 30-Cipriani

the 2006 Gala Dinner

#### COCKTAIL PARTY HONORS SPECIAL FRIENDS

n Saturday night, November 4, 2006, Yvonne and Barry Cohen hosted a special cocktail party in which good friends of American Friends of Rabin Medical Center gathered to honor Dina Recanati for her family's generosity and kindness.



L-R: Asaf, Sharon, Karen and David Barouk



L-R: Dr. Bilha Fish, Raquel Ramati, Nava Barak, Amira Rotem, Dina Recanati



L-R: Larry King, Martin Zeiger, Barry Cohen



L-R: Dr. Joshua & Lori Plaut, Tibor Stern

#### A DEDICATION OF LOVE

After the tragic loss of their son Chuck Trobman to cancer at only 25 years old, Phyllis, Malcolm and their son Les became acutely aware of the struggles faced by cancer victims. As strong supporters of Israel, their journey led them to establishing the Charles E. Trobman Data Center at Rabin Medical Center in Israel in 1996. Here, vital data is collected for clinical trials in the hopes of discovering new and innovative cancer therapies and



L-R: Phyllis, Malcolm and Les Trobman with Rabin Medcial center CEO Dr. Dan Oppenheim at the dedication of the Charles E. Trobman Data Center.

cures. Data management is considered an essential tool in cancer research. The center was recently relocated to the state-of-the art Davidoff Center, a comprehensive unique facility for the treatment and research of malignant diseases, where all oncology and hemato-oncology services are now located.

In November 2006, Phyllis, Malcolm and Les visited Israel to dedicate the center's new facilities. Surrounded by Rabin Medical Center staff, they paid tribute to their son's memory and witnessed how the Data Center can help save lives. Dr. Sulkes, Chairman of Oncology at the Rabin Medical Center, highlighted the important collaboration between Rabin Medical Center and medical centers all around the world in applying sophisticated medical

treatments for their patients. Then at the end of January 2007 the Trobmans and friends participated once again in the Miami Tropical Half Marathon to raise new funds. Through their efforts the Charles E. Trobman Data Center generates true sparks of hope for cancer patients.

#### **SOLIDARITY MISSION**

special interfaith mission to Israel, of Jews and Christians from New Jersey and across the USA, was launched in November 2006 under the leadership of Mr. William Sutter, head of Friends of Israel and Alan Respler, head of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Southern New Jersey. Their primary goal in



Interfaith Mission Group from New Jersey and across the USA visits RMC and pay tribute to the Trobman Family.

Israel was to visit Rabin Medical Center and to pay tribute to the Trobman Family, who are long standing members of the Cherry Hill community and donors of the Charles E. Trobman Data Center. They were welcomed by Dr. Ziv Rosenbaum. Participating in the mission was Andy Freidman, a long time supporter of Rabin Medical Center and a close personal friend of the Trobmans'.

William Sutter's impressions of the visit appeared in "Israel My Glory" Magazine:

"We were welcomed as honored guests for a tour of Israel's largest hospital, the Rabin Medical Center. This modern facility, with its expert medical treatment and technologies, has numerous friends, supporters and advocates in the United

States, as well as in Israel." In the Bible...God's promise is made of a great nation, Israel, and a people, the Jewish people, through whom He would bring blessing to the entire world. The Davidoff Cancer Center—Rabin Medical Center, with its world-wide influence and leadership, serves as one more illustration of God's fulfillment of that promise."

# UPCOMING EVENTS

- WOMEN'S LUNCHEON NYC, May 9, 2007
- GOLF TOURNAMENT Quaker Ridge Golf Club, Scarsdale, NY, Sepember. 17, 2007
- ISRAEL BIKE RIDE: NORTH TO SOUTH (Metullah to Eilat) Sept. 29-October 2, 2007
- \* GALA DINNER NYC, Cipriani at Wall Street, October 30, 2007
- VIP ISRAEL MISSION November 1-6, 2007

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: AFRMC 212.279.2522 afrmc@afrmc.org





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# SAVE THE DATE



#### AN INTIMATE LUNCH WITH TOVAH FELDSHUH Wednesday, May 9, 2007 NYC

American Friends of Rabin Medical Center Women's Chapter invites you to an exclusive luncheon to benefit the new Breast Care Center at Rabin Medical Center

Limited Space: Contact 212.279.2522 afrmc@afrmc.org

AMERICAN FRIENDS OF RABIN MEDICAL CENTER
ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

## **QUAKER RIDGE GOLF CLUB**

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