

GROUNDBREAKING ISSUE

PATHWAY

TO A

promise



Northern LightSM

Blue Hill Hospital



Northern LightSM

Maine Coast Hospital

The future of
healthcare in our
communities
begins with you

From the President



DEAR FRIENDS,

There is no experience that rivals summer in Maine. From the ocean views and calm lakes to the crystal-clear starry skies, Maine shines. Summertime in Maine is also special as we welcome back our seasonal residents. Our Main Streets are bustling, and our restaurants are filled. I am proud that even through the busiest months of the year for our region, Northern Light Blue Hill and Maine Coast Hospitals stand ready to provide healthcare to anyone who needs it.

With an eye to the future of healthcare for our region, I am pleased to share that we recently broke ground on the new hospital in Blue Hill. The new hospital will be a comfortable environment for healing with privacy for patients and views of the water from every inpatient room. The facility will include all private patient rooms with the latest in technology and patient comfort, a full-service emergency department, and imaging services.

Construction at Maine Coast Hospital has also begun. The new birthing center and critically needed upgrades to our patient rooms are well underway. Our goal, to offer private rooms for all, will improve patient experience and provide calm, safe healing environments.

I look forward to celebrating our grand openings once our renovations are complete.

A special thank you to our staff who have stepped-up over the past couple of years throughout the pandemic and continue to ensure our patients receive the best possible care through change, facility planning, and now construction.

We appreciate each and every person who has contributed to these campaigns. All of this is made possible by you. If you have not yet made a gift to the campaign, we invite you to join the hundreds of community members who have. Your investment in these community hospitals is felt as a vote of confidence in our healthcare professionals and our communities. We are humbled to do this work with you.

Sincerely,

John Ronan, FACHE

President, Northern Light Blue Hill and Maine Coast Hospitals
Senior Vice President, Northern Light Health



Meet Lincoln and Debbie Ehrlenbach

Lincoln and Debbie Ehrlenbach were born in Bar Harbor and raised in Ellsworth, and they're proud to continue to call our beautiful region "home." They have been active supporters of Maine Coast Hospital for many years and recently made a generous gift to the *Building on a Promise* Campaign. Debbie served on the Board of Trustees, including a term as Board Chair, and is currently a member of the Capital Campaign Committee. The Ehrlenbachs are passionate about supporting Northern Light Maine Coast Hospital because their family depends on having quality healthcare available close to home.

Q: What makes Ellsworth a special place to live?

A: It's small enough that people know each other, and if you don't know someone, in conversation you likely have someone or something in common. We're known as someone's daughter, son, mom or dad, brother or sister. It's a beautiful area in which to live and raise a family.

Q: What do you enjoy most about summer in Downeast Maine?

A: We enjoy gathering with our children, grandchildren, and friends. This place is our Heaven on Earth. We enjoy waking to the sound of lobster boat engines early in the morning, the birds chirping, looking at the stars on clear nights, and sitting in our Adirondack chairs watching the fish jump out of the water when the seals are chasing them. We spend our time riding bikes, walking along the shore looking for sea glass, and kayaking in the bay.

Q: How do you choose to give back to the community?

A: Quietly and anonymously. We are very active in the Rotary Club of Ellsworth. Through Rotary we can volunteer locally at Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, Red Cross Blood Drives, read to children at the YMCA, help plant trees, and spring clean beautiful areas within the city.

Q: Why is Northern Light Maine Coast Hospital important to you?

A: Our children were born here, our parents received end-of-life care here, and 11 years ago, Lincoln had surgery here. Our friends are employed and volunteer at the hospital. Lincoln's mom was very involved in having the hospital built on Union Street. Lincoln remembers how nice it was to have the hospital so close, not having to drive long distances for care or to visit someone who was ill. It's reassuring to have a modern facility, with talented dedicated medical and support staff serving the healthcare needs of our Ellsworth community.

“Everything feels right about investing in the health and well-being of our community. As a nurse, I hear time and again our hospital patients wishing for a private room. This project will deliver more private inpatient rooms!”

*Chris Osterbauer, RN, BSN, VA-BC
Vascular Access Supervisor at
Maine Coast Hospital*



“My husband Stephan and I want to give because we believe in our hospital. This place has been so much a part of our lives, personally and professionally. We need it to be here for generations more.”

*Nan Boutin, RN, CWCA
Clinical Education, Specialty Nurse
at Blue Hill Hospital*



Why did **you** choose to **support** the Campaign?



“We are supporting the *Keeping Our Promise* campaign because we believe in the mission of Blue Hill Hospital. We have hopes that we will be here for another 100 years, with the help of dedicated staff to lead the way!”

Krisy Emerton (second from right), Patient Service Rep, and her Blue Hill Hospital Primary Care Colleagues



“Maine Coast Hospital has been such an important part of this community since its opening, and we owe it to our community to keep updating and make this hospital the best it can be, so our community can stay happy and healthy! Updating and renovating our facilities will only help keep us healthy, and keep us moving forward in the medical field!”

*Amanda Sotkiewicz (third from left), Patient Access Management Rep
and her Maine Coast Hospital Patient Access colleagues*



“I was born at Maine Coast and had both of my daughters there. I have worked for Northern Light Health for 25 years now and felt it was important to give back to our organization so my family can continue to reap the benefits of a stable yet progressive community hospital for years to come.”

Stephanie Pettegrow (center), Physical Therapist at Maine Coast Hospital, with her two daughters

**Northern Light Blue Hill and Maine Coast Hospital
Employees Support Capital Campaigns**



Local Businesses Provide Generous Support for Maine Coast Hospital's *Building on a Promise* Campaign

LOCAL BUSINESSES have long been the foundation of communities in Maine. And while the businesses themselves are important to the community, the leadership and support business leaders provide brings inspiration and strength to its citizens.

That is certainly true in Ellsworth. **Jones, Kuriloff & Sargent, LLC** and **Merrill Furniture** are not only represented on the campaign committee, but each have also committed \$25,000 to Maine Coast Hospital's *Building on a Promise* campaign.

"The strong support these two small Ellsworth businesses have shown to Maine Coast is incredible," explains hospital president John Ronan. "We truly appreciate their investment along with their steady focus and understanding of the importance of access to excellent healthcare in the region."

"Merrill Furniture has been a family-run business in Ellsworth since 1953. Our family has been well cared for by Maine Coast Hospital and it's important for us to give back," says president of Merrill Furniture, Bob Merrill.

"We felt it was important to support this critical project for our community and hope that by our small business making this commitment it will inspire others to join us. Maine Coast is truly a valued community resource and we all have an important role to play in ensuring future generations have the best healthcare available," states Rebecca Sargent, Esq., CTFA, partner at Jones, Kuriloff & Sargent, LLC.

Every gift (individual, family, and corporate gifts or pledges) made to the campaign stays in Ellsworth, supporting the creation of a brand-new birthing center and renovating patient rooms to provide our community with modern facilities and an improved patient experience.

Chuck and Belinda Lawrence Support The Next Century of Care



"Chuck and Belinda Lawrence are incredible stewards of the community. We're thankful for their continued support and look forward to the positive impact their contribution will make."

— JOHN RONAN, FACHE, PRESIDENT, NORTHERN LIGHT BLUE HILL HOSPITAL

TRADEWINDS OWNERS, Chuck and Belinda Lawrence, are well known as individuals invested in the success of the communities they serve. The Lawrences support several Northern Light Health initiatives including Eastern Maine Medical Center's oncology program at Lafayette Family Cancer Institute, and Maine Coast Hospital's Mary Dow Cancer Center through their Tradewinds Oncology Fund for patients and families.

Chuck and Belinda have once again confirmed their commitment to our community with a \$200,000 gift to Blue Hill Hospital's *Keeping Our Promise* campaign.

"Belinda and I recognize the importance of this critical access hospital for the Peninsula and beyond. We're grateful to do business in a community where everyone supports one another. It's a privilege to be able to give back in such a meaningful way. We invite other businesses in the community to join us in supporting this essential project," says Chuck Lawrence.

Breaking New Ground

This year marks a century of Northern Light Blue Hill Hospital's caring for the region. It's quite fitting that this would also be the year when Northern Light Health takes a bold step in its commitment to the future of healthcare for the region.

ON MAY 26, Northern Light Blue Hill Hospital broke ground on a new modern facility for the peninsula and beyond.

"The Keeping Our Promise campaign has provided a unique opportunity for this region to design and build a new hospital to serve this community for generations to come," says John Ronan, FACHE, president, Blue Hill Hospital. "In a time when rural hospitals across the country are closing, we are proud to assure the community that we will be here to care for them well into the future."

The \$26.5 million project will be partially funded through the *Keeping Our Promise* campaign as well as funds previously raised. To date, the campaign has raised more than \$5.8 million. Demolition of the administration building has been completed and foundation work has begun. It is expected that the building will be closed in from the elements by Thanksgiving to allow for construction to continue seamlessly over the winter.

Blue Hill Hospital *Keeping Our Promise* Committee

Nancy Hatfield, Chair
Vicki Bartholow
Edward Griffin
Liza English Nevin
Verena Stoll

Maine Coast Hospital *Building on a Promise* Committee

Edith Dixon, Honorary Chair
Debra (Debbie) Ehrlenbach
Sally Hutchins
Robert (Bob) Merrill
Rebecca (Becky) J. Sargent, Esq., CTFA
Julie Calor Vittum

Construction is now underway on the facilities projects at Northern Light Blue Hill and Maine Coast Hospital.

HOSPITAL PROJECTS MOVE AHEAD

THE NEW Blue Hill Hospital will ensure quality, compassionate, patient-centered care for generations to come. The new building will include private inpatient rooms, a full-service emergency department, primary care, specialty care services, imaging and lab services, and rehabilitation services, including cardiac rehab.

The renovations to Maine Coast Hospital will refresh our inpatient spaces to meet the needs of patients and families in Ellsworth and beyond. The project includes a completely new patient and family-friendly birthing center and renovations to existing inpatient spaces to increase the availability of modern, comfortable, private patient rooms.

"With appreciation for the generous support we've already received, we're able to confidently move forward with our hospital projects in Blue Hill and Ellsworth," says John Ronan, FACHE, president, Blue Hill and Maine Coast Hospitals. "Our capital campaigns continue to build momentum, which is important because reaching our fundraising goals will be critical to the success of both projects."

PROJECT TIMELINES

- Maine Coast Hospital
- Blue Hill Hospital

MARCH 2021

New hospital project announced

JUNE 2021

Details for campus improvements announced
Keeping Our Promise capital campaign announced

AUGUST 2021

Building on a Promise capital campaign announced; \$1 million Dixon Challenge kicks off
Donald Sussman's lead campaign gift announced

MARCH 2022

Hospital construction begins

APRIL 2022

Construction begins

MAY 2022

Groundbreaking Ceremony

DECEMBER 2022

New birthing center opens

SUMMER 2023

Renovations to inpatient rooms complete
New hospital opens

SUMMER 2024

New hospital campus and Sussman Health Center renovations complete

Philanthropists Neil and Trudie Prior commit \$1 Million to support Northern Light Blue Hill Hospital's modernization project

NEIL AND TRUDIE PRIOR are generous philanthropists with a passion for community. Over the years they have supported many organizations in education, healthcare, and the arts. As seasonal residents of Blue Hill, the Priors felt strongly about supporting Northern Light Blue Hill's *Next Century of Care: Keeping Our Promise* campaign.



"We consider Blue Hill a home away from home and are happy to be able to support this critical project for the community. We invite other seasonal residents to join us by making a gift."

Their generous \$1 million gift will name the inpatient unit of the new hospital. "We are deeply appreciative of Neil and Trudie's extraordinary generosity," shares John Ronan, president, Northern Light Blue Hill Hospital. "I'm proud that our rural hospital is so well regarded by our community who understands how essential its services are to this area. I'm grateful to Neil and Trudie for stepping forward with a gift signifying their investment in our success."

"This is truly a transformative gift, and we are grateful for Neil and Trudie's generosity," states Ruth Calas, Director of Philanthropy. "Their hope is that this gift will inspire others in the community to also support this campaign that is so essential to ensuring access to quality healthcare for this region."

To find out more about making a philanthropic commitment to help us "Keep our Promise" to our communities for the next century and beyond, call Ruth Calas at 207.374.3411 or visit northernlight.org/BlueHillPromise.

Northern LightSM
Blue Hill Hospital

Celebrating A Century of Caring

YEARS

1922 - 2022



**Northern Light
Health**

Northern Light Health
PO Box 931
Bangor, ME 04402

Pathway to a *person*



Watch a video to learn
more about our projects
and why they are so critical
for our communities at

Northernlight.org/
BlueHillPromise.org/
Northernlight.org/
MaineCoastPromise.org/