



Memorial Sloan Kettering  
Cancer Center

# Community M A T T E R S

NEWS FROM MEMORIAL SLOAN KETTERING CANCER CENTER - WEST HARRISON

## New Comprehensive Care Facility Opens

We are delighted to share that Memorial Sloan Kettering's new West Harrison outpatient facility will begin to welcome patients on October 6, 2014. Our outpatient care team includes approximately 30 doctors — many of whom live in the area — providing expert, comprehensive care for people with breast, gynecologic, gastrointestinal, lung, and prostate cancers, among others. The team includes doctors, who have trained at or are currently on staff at MSK, and an additional staff of approximately 100 administrative, nursing, and support-team personnel.

Our doctors and staff members are eager to bring convenient, MSK-quality care to patients and their family members in the community. "Patients are excited that they'll be able to be seen in Westchester County," says prostate cancer surgeon James Eastham, a resident of Tarrytown who has been chief of MSK's urology service since 2009 and will see patients at West Harrison. "They are already asking when the center will open."

### A Homegrown Team of Experts

A unique benefit to patients is access to renowned experts, including more than a dozen MSK surgeons, who will be onsite providing all of their patients' pre and post surgical needs and appointments.

"We are local doctors who happen to perform surgery in Manhattan," says Dr. Nabil Rizk, a Rye resident who has been on staff at MSK for more than 10 years. "The care we're providing is world-class but also 'locally grown.'"



Dr. Nabil Rizk (*third from left*), an MSK surgeon since 2001 and a resident of Rye, New York, pictured here with his family, will treat lung cancer patients at MSK West Harrison.

Some 'locally grown' members of the staff include:

- Plastic surgeon Babak Mehrara, who resides in Chappaqua and started at MSK in 2002
- Chief of the West Harrison Medical Oncology Service Chau T. Dang, who lives in Harrison and has been on staff since 1999
- Plastic surgeon Joseph J. Disa of Greenwich, CT, and MSK clinician since 1996
- Gynecologic oncologist Ginger J. Gardner, at MSK for 7 years, who has been commuting from her home in Scarsdale to see patients in Long Island
- Radiation oncologist Daphna Y. Gelblum, a Larchmont resident who began working at MSK in 1998

- Breast surgeon Alexandra S. Heerdt of Greenwich, CT, and a 22 year veteran of MSK
- Breast oncologist Diana Lake, residing in South Salem and an MSK doctor for more than 15 years
- Urologic surgeon Karim A. Touijer, from Rye who's been at MSK since 2002

### An Integral Part of the Community

To enhance the patient experience at the facility, Katonah resident Nancy Diamond was hired in May 2014. Nancy's strong ties to the local community and her own experience as a cancer patient and caregiver have enabled her to cultivate a team of staff members who are full of empathy and

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warmth, with good listening skills in a patient-centered facility that will also serve as a community resource. "This new location is designed to help our patients access the best care and treatment close to home and to enjoy the benefits of local amenities such as art and food services while in our care", said Ms. Diamond.

Services that MSK West Harrison will offer to the community include cancer support groups and educational events for community members and healthcare professionals, as well as quality-of-life and survivorship programs for patients and their

caregivers. Please e-mail us at [mskharrison@mskcc.org](mailto:mskharrison@mskcc.org) if you would like to request our participation in a health and wellness initiative in the community or to request an MSK guest speaker.

If you are interested in receiving care at MSK, including at our newest West Harrison location, contact our Physician Referral Service at 800-525-2225. We are in-network with most health plans.



Katonah resident Nancy Diamond will oversee operations at MSK's West Harrison site.



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## Community M A T T E R S

Fall 2014



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Please visit us online at [www.mskcc.org/westharrison](http://www.mskcc.org/westharrison).

### FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS

You are invited to attend our **Community Open House** to celebrate the opening of

**Memorial Sloan Kettering West Harrison**

500 Westchester Avenue  
West Harrison, NY 10604

**Wednesday, October 1, 2014 • 6:00 to 8:00 PM**

Please join us to:

- Tour our new facility
- Meet MSK West Harrison staff
- Experience the benefits of music therapy
- Practice meditation in our healing garden
- Learn about nutrition and healthy menu planning

For more information about MSK West Harrison, visit [www.mskcc.org/westharrison](http://www.mskcc.org/westharrison).

Please **RSVP** by Wednesday, September 24, to **646-227-7139** or [mskcc.org/westharrisonopenhouse](http://mskcc.org/westharrisonopenhouse).

**Community Lecture on  
Lung Cancer**

**Nabil Rizk, MD  
MSK Thoracic Surgeon**

Tuesday, November 18, 2014  
6:00 to 7:00 PM  
at MSK West Harrison

Light refreshments will be served.  
Please RSVP by Friday, November 7,  
to **914-367-7787**  
or [mskharrison@mskcc.org](mailto:mskharrison@mskcc.org).