



## GOLFERS RETURN TO SUPPORT THANC WITH DRIVE & GENEROSITY

*Josh Wong, photographer*

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### FEATURED

- 8 FELLOWSHIP APPROVED BY AMERICAN HEAD & NECK SOCIETY

**What a difference a year makes! Last year, the Board of Directors made the decision to cancel the THANC Invitational Golf Tournament because of the economic recession. This year, with the unwavering support of the Levy Family, our 8th Annual tournament was an outstanding success.**

Over \$610,000 and an immeasurable amount of goodwill and high spirits were raised through the combined generosity of loyal supporters and enthusiastic new donors.

Families, friends and colleagues played the course at the Glen Oaks Country Club on July 12. In attendance were more than 170 golfers from seven countries.

The move to the month of July from June was in our favor. Guests enjoyed the exceptionally nice weather and we were able to serve dinner al fresco to extend the pleasure. After dinner, guests were welcomed by Chairman Donald Levy and

Medical Director Dr. Mark Urken.

Donald Levy presented a special thank you on behalf of the entire THANC Community to Mr. J.K.Yoon to acknowledge the ongoing generosity and support of S.Y.Vina and Young Tex.

#### Personal Best

The heart of the event was embodied by two speakers: Danielle Hamarich and Anthony Parenti, each of whom shared a poignant story of their experience with cancer. It was evident in each story that the work of Dr. Urken, with the support of the THANC Foundation, was significant to their recovery.

#### Anthony Parenti

Mr. Parenti expressed his praise and appreciation to the Levy family, Dr. Urken and his staff, and to all in attendance for their generous support of the THANC Foundation. He shared the painful but victorious journey he made through cancer diagnosis, ►

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► treatments and recurrence that led him to Dr. Urken. Mr. Parenti urged everyone to always obtain and read copies of tests and reports; noting that if he had been aware of some information, his path may have been less frightening and confusing both to him and those he loved.

Mr. Parenti also stressed that no matter what the disease or how horrible the prognosis—never surrender. “Surrendering is saying, ‘I give up.’ When it comes to having cancer, one does not surrender—the cancer has to surrender.”

**Danielle Hamarich**

Danielle’s story is one of triumph over fear. Read more about it in the article on page 5: Why Marathons Matter.

**Appreciation**

We extend our deepest gratitude to the entire Levy Family for helping to make this event successful on so many levels.

We also wish to acknowledge our volunteers; Omar Almodovar, Jessica Greenberg, Ree Hartwell, Olga Kaplan, Cathy Lazarus, Joan Lehrer, Jill Mautner, J. Jay Mautner, Amy Plaut, Bonnie Spodek and Travis Wilson. Thank you all for your wonderful energy and congeniality.

**“Never give up**

**Enjoy the Photomontage**

Our photographer, Josh Wong, has created a montage of photos that captures the experience shared among those who attended. Please enjoy watching it on our website ([www.thancfoundation.org](http://www.thancfoundation.org)) or on YouTube.

**Plan for Next Year...and please tell your tennis playing friends.**  
**GOLF, CARDS AND TENNIS!**  
**Save the Date: July 11, 2011**



*Josh Wong, photographer*



*Josh Wong, photographer*



*Josh Wong, photographer*



*Josh Wong, photographer*

top: Lotta Fragola, Angela Biagioni, Sandra Nardi, and Dawn Levy  
bottom: Larry Levy, Stacy Assael, Marcia Levy, Leslie Fischer, and Jeff Fischer

top: Anthony Parenti  
bottom: WJ Lee, Donald Levy, JK Yoon, Hoang Ve Dung, and Simon Park

left: Minimally Invasive Surgery Laboratory at Montefiore Institute for Minimally Invasive Surgery  
 center: Participants in the cadaver lab at Albert Einstein College of Medicine  
 right: The Ritz Carlton, White Plains, course venue and philanthropic partner to THANC

MISSION IN ACTION **EDUCATION**

# 19TH ANNUAL COURSE EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS



The 19th Annual Course on Free Flap Reconstruction of Head and Neck Defects, and Controversies in the Management of Thyroid and Parathyroid Diseases was the most successful to date. Over 200 participants came from seven countries spanning five continents to attend the seven day marathon lecture and laboratory series which began at dawn, and continued well past dinner each evening.

The world-class faculty was made up of experts in the fields of head and neck surgery, facial plastic surgery, maxillofacial surgery, medical oncology, radiation oncology, endocrinology and internal medicine. Lectures, followed by cadaver dissections in the laboratory, and then small group discussions with faculty members helped to solidify the learning objectives and provide the attendees with the continuing

medical education credits required to maintain their licensure and to expand their understanding of treatment modalities for head and neck and thyroid cancers.

## Knowledge Gained from Course

Over 85% of participants indicated that they would change their practice based on knowledge gleaned from this seven day course.

## Looking Ahead...

The 20th Anniversary course will offer a particular focus on both the historical and innovative approaches to the management of these devastating diseases. The course will once again take place at the Ritz Carlton White Plains as well as Albert Einstein College of Medicine and the Montefiore Institute for Minimally Invasive Surgery.

The THANC Foundation is exceedingly grateful to our many corporate supporters of this educational initiative and would like

to take this opportunity to thank SYNTHES CMF for its generous support of the 20th Anniversary Course in 2011.

## We Appreciate Our Sponsors



## PARTICIPANTS' COMMENTS

*"This course...let me know what is technically possible and what to strive for... I feel more confident in what options I can offer to my patients in terms of reconstruction."*

*"I most enjoyed listening to the leaders discuss controversial issues in the area of thyroid cancer—and finding that my questions are their questions—the lectures were excellent!"*

## SAVE THE DATES

20TH ANNIVERSARY HANDS ON COURSES

**MARCH 20-23, 2011**

Free Flap Reconstruction of  
 Head & Neck Defects:  
 A Multidisciplinary Approach

**MARCH 23-26, 2011**

Controversies in the  
 Management of Thyroid  
 & Parathyroid Diseases

## MISSION IN ACTION **PATIENT SUPPORT** THANC LAUNCHES THYROID CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Thyroid cancer patients and their families attended a free lecture at the THANC Foundation headquarters on September 29. Dr. Michael Via, an Endocrinologist at Beth Israel Medical Center, an Assistant Professor of Medicine at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, and a voluntary attending at Mount Sinai School of Medicine was the presenter. He spoke on the topic of *Endocrine Issues: Living with Thyroid Cancer*. Our next lecture on January 25, 2011 entitled *Healthy Eating for Life: Portion Control & Other Diet Strategies* will be presented by Lisa Young, PhD, RD, author of *The Portionteller*. She is a nationally recognized nutritionist and an adjunct professor of nutrition at New York University. Dr. Young has been featured in the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, *Allure*, and *Fitness*.

MISSION IN ACTION **RESEARCH**

**A REPORT FROM CATHY LAZARUS, PhD**  
 RESEARCH DIRECTOR THYROID HEAD & NECK RESEARCH CENTER



**Functional Assessments**

Patients have been undergoing functional assessment of voice, speech, tongue function, swallowing and quality of life prior to beginning surgical and/or radiotherapeutic treatment for head and neck and thyroid cancer. They are also being evaluated at various time intervals after completion of treatment. A total of 162 patients receiving various treatment regimens have been followed both pre- and post-treatment (surgery & chemoradiotherapy).

**Additional Studies**

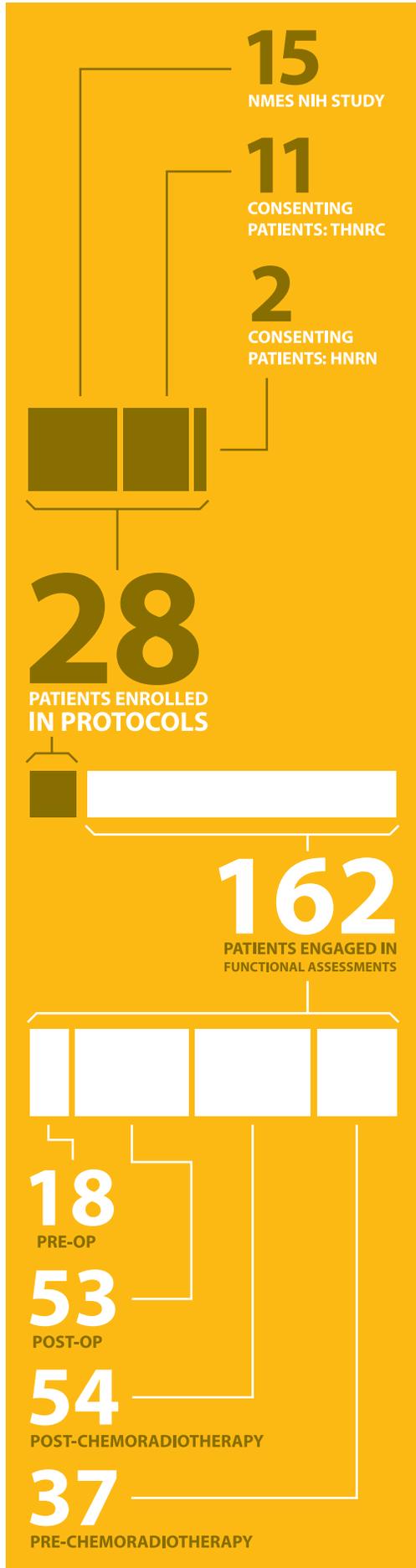
Other studies are currently being processed through the BI Institutional Review Board (IRB). One study is examining the variables that identify patients who do not require gastrostomy (stomach) tube placement before undergoing chemoradiotherapy. The other study will investigate functional outcomes in patients who have developed osteoradionecrosis of the jaw following chemoradiotherapy. Another study that has been IRB-approved examines voice in patients who have undergone total laryngectomy.

**Swallow Assessments**

The Thyroid, Head and Neck Research Center has been evaluating patients with swallowing problems since March 1, 2010. Since the inception of this program, 119 Modified Barium Swallow Studies have been performed by the THANC Speech-Language Pathologist and the Beth Israel Medical Center Radiologist using the Kay Swallow Workstation purchased through donations to the THANC Foundation.

**Clinical Trials**

An NIH/NCI-funded clinical trial is currently being conducted within the THANC Research Center. This study examines the efficacy of neuromuscular electrical stimulation paired with traditional swallow therapy on swallow functioning and quality of life in patients treated with surgery or chemoradiotherapy. To date, 28 subjects have been enrolled in this study at BIMC. This study will continue for two more years. The total number of subjects on study across several participating institutions is 78.



from left to right: (Top Row) Renee Koch, Melissa Gargulinski, Karen Grochowski, Lynn Norton, Danielle Hamarich, Erika Rauscher Markowitz, Omar Almodovar, Christine Schnorrbusch, Rich Masarik, (Bottom Row) Nicole Trombino, Mike Grochowski, Marie Hall, Lauren Lehner. *Missing from Photo:* Jessica Bammann, Cynthia Conklin-Hull, Jere Coulas, Michelle Moroney, Leah Pappalardo



PROFILES IN COURAGE  
**WHY MARATHONS MATTER**

**On Sunday, May 2nd, eighteen men and women rose before dawn to support the THANC Foundation. Their mission: to complete the Long Branch, NJ Half Marathon. For the woman who was responsible for their early morning challenge, the path to get there started almost a year earlier.**

On June 6, 2009, Danielle Hamarich and her husband, Bill, were told Danielle had thyroid cancer. On that day, the 33 year old mother of two began the journey that would change her life.

A relatively routine surgery to take out her thyroid became more complicated when all the lymph nodes in her neck needed to be removed along with a portion of her trachea and voice box.

**Facing the Unexpected with Spirit & Strength**

Danielle's treatment also involved a course of radioactive iodine. As a result, she was required to spend two weeks in isolation. During this time, Danielle kept a journal to help her focus and remain calm when faced with emotions that were both wild and unpredictable. She says, "What I've gained from how depressing that was, is how hard I'm going to push ahead in my life." She decided to run. And she decided to run

for a cause. The idea to organize a team to support the THANC Foundation in the Long Branch, NJ Half Marathon evolved.

Danielle is quick to point out that there were difficult moments. As quickly, she shares that the hardest times were eased by the outpouring of support for herself, her family and her cause. The idea became a reality and Danielle focused on her personal goal: "I hope I can at least inspire people to say 'You know, there are a lot of amazing things I can do.'"

a goal of giving something back that will help others with similar challenges. What is truly remarkable is that Danielle chose to put her reconstructed airway to the ultimate test of long distance running."

When Danielle shared her plan with Executive Director, Erika Rauscher, herself an avid runner, she immediately decided to run too. And Cynthia Conklin-Hull, whose father, John "Bud" Conklin of Rumson, a former patient of Dr. Urken who passed away two years ago, also joined the

**“ I remember turning to Danielle and saying, You did it!**

**Motivating the THANC Community**

Danielle inspired many, including her surgeon, Dr. Mark Urken. "I'm in awe of her as well as overwhelmed by her generosity of spirit", he said. "Instead of running away from something, she's running with

team to run in his memory. Eventually, a total of eighteen runners were on the THANC team and were supported by 335 donors who raised over \$25,000.

Perhaps the impact of Danielle's inspiration is best expressed



Josh Wong, photographer



A CHALLENGE FOR 2011...  
**WALK OR RUN!**

Next year's race is already scheduled—it will be on May 1st, 2011 and participants can choose to walk or run. We hope more friends and families within the New Jersey/New York area will register or support someone who does.

We encourage new and veteran teammates to sign up now. See the countdown on our website! We will be offering training programs, both online and in real life, and access to a coach to all participants.

Help us make this event an annual fundraiser for the THANC Foundation.



► by her sister, Nicole:

*"Race day is one that I will always hold close to my heart... My sister and I had promised each other that no matter what, we would cross that finish line together. We trained together from the very beginning. When we saw the finish line and crossed with 2 hours and 9 minutes behind us, the entire journey felt complete."*

*As we approached the finish line we popped on our iPods and listened to Eye of the Tiger. I remember turning to Danielle and saying, You did it!!! At that point she started to cry and she replied, 'I know, I can't believe it!'*

*To know what she had gone through almost a year ago, then being minutes away from completing 13.1 miles was a moment in time that you just never forget."*

From the entire THANC Community, we celebrate the strength and determination of Danielle as well as the love and compassion of family and friends who supported her, the Conklin family and all the members of Team THANC.



PROFILES IN **COURAGE**  
**UPDATE**

Dr. Larry Hamburg, featured in our Fall 2009 newsletter, continues to devote his time and talent to raising awareness of oral cancer and the importance of oral cancer screenings. On September 11, 2010, he sponsored a free concert in Freedom Park near Poughkeepsie, NY to continue to spread the word and inspire others. He and his sons were among the musicians and bands that entertained the crowds.

Let's say this, you rock Larry!



[oralcancerawareness.com](http://oralcancerawareness.com)

## MOTIVATED MARATHONER SUPPORTS THANC



On November 7, Ed Lee from Chicago, Illinois will be among the runners in the New York City Marathon. And the THANC Community will be cheering for him. Ed has selected THANC as his charity and has a \$4,000.00 goal to reach.

Ed is running in memory of his father-in-law who passed away this February from anaplastic thyroid cancer. Mr. Lee recalls him as a gentle and kind soul who touched many lives.

*"He was a New Yorker himself, and he loved every inch of that city. I will be thinking of him as I run on the streets of his beloved hometown."*

With the New York City Marathon not very far off, Ed has raised \$3125 of his \$4000 goal.

**You can help Ed Lee and the THANC Foundation by donating at the official Marathon fundraiser website: <http://www.crowdrise.com>. Just type "Ed Lee" in the search form, then locate and click on his page under Volunteers & Fundraisers. You can also support Ed by giving in his honor either on our website or directly by mail.**

## THANC WELCOMES

Tara Kelly  
Program & Development Manager

Jesse Fisher  
Designer & Program Associate



## WESTCHESTER OFFICE OPENED

The Institute for Head & Neck and Thyroid Cancer has opened an office in White Plains, NY. If you are a patient interested in scheduling an appointment in the new location, please call:

**212-844-8775**

The Institute for Head & Neck and Thyroid Cancer  
244 Westchester Avenue  
White Plains, NY



## WAYS TO SUPPORT THANC

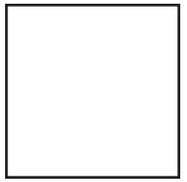
- **SIGN UP FOR VERIZON** Introducing Verizon Velocity... *see the opposite flap.*
- **DO YOU WISH TO SPONSOR AN EVENT?** Contact Executive Director, Erika Rauscher Markowitz if you have an idea or wish to sponsor an event.  
212-844-6832 or [emarkowitz@thancfoundation.org](mailto:emarkowitz@thancfoundation.org)
- **WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER?** Contact Program Manager, Tara Kelly if you are interested in volunteer opportunities.  
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- **PLANNED GIVING** There are many ways to further the mission of THANC. Please speak to your Estate Planner for details or contact THANC Foundation Executive Director, Erika Rauscher Markowitz.
- **MATCHING GIFTS** You may be able to double your donation to THANC. Please check with your company to determine if it has a Matching Gift Program. It is usually a simple process and doubles the impact of your generosity!



## PREFER EMAIL?

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**FELLOWSHIP APPROVED  
BY AMERICAN HEAD &  
NECK SOCIETY**

**THANC Sponsored Head & Neck Fellowship Awarded Accreditation by American Head and Neck Society (AHNS), the 24th Fellowship Program in the United States.**

The THANC Foundation is proud to announce the accreditation of the Head and Neck Oncologic and Microvascular Reconstructive Surgery, and Thyroid/Parathyroid Surgery Fellowship by the American Head and Neck Society. The American Head and Neck Society is the single largest organization in North America for the advancement of research and education in head and neck oncology.

AHNS accredited fellowships focus on head and neck surgery with special emphasis on ablative surgery, reconstructive surgery, endocrine surgery, and skull base surgery. Fellows are expected to gain an understanding of medical oncology and radiation oncology. A majority of the fellows who have completed training programs currently practice head & neck surgery in an academic setting. The accreditation process requires an in depth review of surgical cases performed by fellows and is a testament to the high quality of our program, volume and level of collaboration between the various disciplines which are involved in the care of both head

and neck and thyroid cancer patients—including surgery, radiation oncology, medical oncology, radiology, pathology, endocrinology, oral and maxillofacial surgery, prosthetics, and hospice and palliative care. There are 24 accredited programs within the United States.

The fellowship currently at Beth Israel started during Dr. Urken's tenure at Mount Sinai Medical Center. In the past 20 years, 21 fellows have been trained. Five have pursued careers outside of the United States (Australia, New Zealand, Israel and Canada), while the remainder of the fellowship graduates are in the midst of prestigious careers in the US. Over two-thirds of our graduates are actively involved in academic medicine. Two former fellows are currently Chairmen of academic departments, and one is presently a Vice Chairman.

*"I am honored and very pleased by the successful completion of the accreditation process with the AHNS. I believe that the fellowship program at Beth Israel has continued to strengthen with the tremendous*

*collaboration and expertise represented by the various disciplines involved in our head and neck and thyroid cancer program. In addition, the development of the outcomes research center as well as the leadership of Dr. Lazarus are extremely positive contributions to our training program."*

The current fellow is Dr. Jose Zevallos, who completed his residency in otolaryngology at Baylor College of Medicine. In addition to completing his surgical fellowship, Dr. Zevallos is pursuing graduate training in outcomes research and clinical trial design through an additional year of study. Sameet Anand, MD, a graduate of the residency training program in Montreal, is completing an initial head and neck fellowship (also accredited by the AHNS) at the University of Michigan and will complete his second fellowship at Beth Israel during the academic year, 2011-2012.



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**18 NOVEMBER // 2-4 PM**  
SPOHNC Meeting



**2010**

**23 DECEMBER // 2-4 PM**  
SPOHNC Meeting

**25 JANUARY**

Thyroid Cancer Support Group  
Healthy Eating for Life: Portion Control  
& Other Diet Strategies  
presented by Lisa Young, PhD, RD  
author of *The Portionteller*



**THANC**  
THYROID, HEAD & NECK  
CANCER FOUNDATION

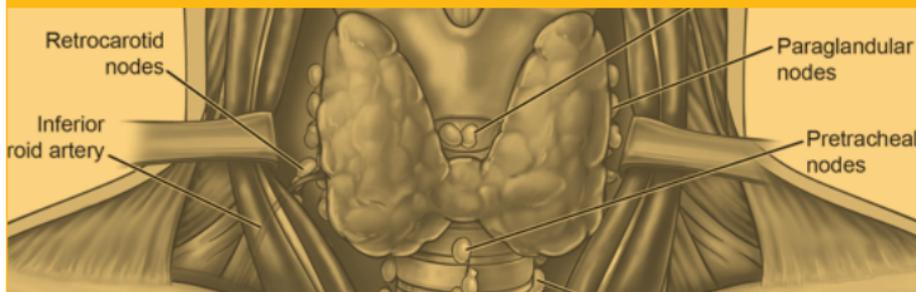
**2011**

**20-26 MARCH**  
20<sup>TH</sup> Annual Course

Controversies in the Management of  
Thyroid and Parathyroid Diseases

Free Flap Reconstruction of Head and Neck Defects:  
A Multidisciplinary Approach

**2011**



**1 MAY**

Long Branch, NJ Marathon & Half-Marathon

**2011**

**11 JULY**

9<sup>TH</sup> THANC Invitational  
Golf Tournament



**2011**



**FALL—TBA**  
Chicago Golf  
Tournament

**2011**



**7 DECEMBER**

Fairmount Country Club Holiday Luncheon

**2011**

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND UPDATES ON SCHEDULED EVENTS  
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE [WWW.THANCFUNDATION.ORG](http://WWW.THANCFUNDATION.ORG)  
OR VISIT US ON FACEBOOK

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|--|-------------------|
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#### Step 3

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for NY supporters**

**Orders placed online or through another  
phone number will not apply.**

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Participation in the Verizon Velocity program does not indicate acceptance or endorsement by Verizon of participants' views or statements.