

JULY 2025

Building Hope:

Advancing Cancer Care for Our Community



NANCY HOWELL AGEE
CEO EMERITUS

MESSAGE FROM NANCY HOWELL AGEE: REFLECTING ON AN EXTRAORDINARY MOMENT

Dear Friends,

What a moment we shared together on July 3rd. As fireworks lit up the sky, a long-held vision was illuminated as we officially launched the public campaign for the Carilion Taubman Cancer Center.

At launch, we announced that we had reached \$96 million toward our \$100 million goal. As July comes to a close, your continued generosity has brought us to \$97 million through new gifts, increased pledges and endowment contributions. But the true significance of that evening wasn't captured in dollars raised. It was found in the faces of survivors who bravely shared their stories on our stage, in the luminaries that honored and remembered those we love and in the collective voice of thousands declaring that world-class cancer care belongs right here in Southwest Virginia.

I'll be honest with you. When we first started down this road years ago, there were voices that insisted our cause was futile. I never believed that.

I've always known the heart of this community runs deep. Your response has been extraordinary and serves as a testament to the generosity and vision that defines Southwest Virginia.

Help us reach the finish line this fall with the same spirit that has carried us to this remarkable moment. Together, we're not just building a cancer center. We're creating lasting proof that when this community believes in something, we make it happen.

With heartfelt gratitude,

CEO Emeritus
Carilion Clinic

“
Together, we're not
just building a cancer
center. We're creating
lasting proof that
when this community
believes in something,
we make it happen.”

Construction continues at the new Carilion Taubman Cancer Center.
[VIEW THE LIVE STREAM PROGRESS!](#)

CELEBRATING OUR SHARED VISION



WATCH THE CELEBRATION

July 3rd transformed Roanoke's beloved annual Freedom & Fireworks Festival into something extraordinary. A meaningful collaboration between Carilion Clinic and the City of Roanoke turned this year's Independence Day celebration into a gathering focused on transforming cancer care in Southwest Virginia.

The festival, filled with families, survivors and neighbors, united around a shared purpose. Throughout the evening, luminaries glowed in honor of those affected by cancer while stories of resilience were shared from the stage. The atmosphere reflected both celebration and determination—a community ready to act.

The public launch of the Carilion Taubman Cancer Center campaign represented more than fundraising. It marked Southwest Virginia's commitment to ensuring that advanced treatment remains accessible without long journeys from home. With an extra \$1 million raised in just 10 days, the overwhelming response demonstrated what happens when a region invests in its own future.

The fireworks marked the beginning, not the end. Now, the real work continues as the community champions a bold vision: keeping world-class care home, so patients don't have to leave their world behind.



PROVIDER SPOTLIGHT: ERIC MARVIN, DO

July marks Sarcoma Awareness Month, highlighting a diverse family of rare cancers that develop from connective tissues throughout the body. With more than 100 different sarcoma subtypes identified by medical experts, these cancers present unique challenges—particularly the 15% that occur in head and neck regions, where Eric Marvin's, DO, specialized expertise becomes essential.

As a skull-based neurosurgeon at Carilion Clinic, Dr. Marvin treats sarcomas that affect the brain, spine and peripheral nerves. “Neurosurgery offers a unique opportunity to be involved in multiple aspects of a patient's care,” he explains. “Having the skills to treat tumors in these critical areas allows for a more comprehensive approach to complicated conditions like sarcomas.”

The challenge with sarcomas lies partly in their ability to grow unnoticed within deeper body tissues. Dr. Marvin's expertise in advanced diagnostic techniques and surgical approaches proves vital when these rare cancers are discovered in complex neurological locations. His research background helps him stay current with advancing treatments and understanding disease processes when discussing outcomes with patients.



ERIC MARVIN, DO

NEUROSURGERY
CARILION CLINIC

At Carilion's skull base center, Dr. Marvin collaborates with medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, neuro-radiologists, pathologists and other specialists through regular tumor boards. This multidisciplinary approach becomes particularly important for sarcoma patients given the complexity of these rare cancers and the need for coordinated specialty care.

Recent advances in sarcoma treatment excite Dr. Marvin, particularly fluorescence-guided surgery, stereotactic navigation and minimally invasive endoscopic approaches that access difficult-to-reach tumors through natural corridors like the nasal cavity. These innovations prove especially valuable for head and neck sarcomas where precision becomes paramount.

“When I was hired in 2015, I questioned whether a community hospital needed a subspecialist such as a skull-based neurosurgeon,” Dr. Marvin reflects. “Now, in 2025, we are a thriving academic medical center that provides care rivaling any hospital.” The upcoming Carilion Taubman Cancer Center represents a continued commitment to bringing advanced sarcoma care to Southwest Virginia.