With $1M gift, LI hospital opens cardiac imaging center

Long Island Business News

October 26, 2026 Monday

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Section: NEWS

Length: 431 words

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Glen Cove Hospital, part of Northwell Health, has opened an 875-square-foot cardiac imaging center designed to expand access to advanced imaging and cardiovascular care.

The hospital's R.H. Cushman Cardiac Imaging Center was established with support from Rod and Verena Cushman, including a posthumous $1 million gift from Rod Cushman's estate to purchase a cardiac CT scanner. The scanner produces detailed images of the heart and coronary arteries, helping physicians diagnose coronary artery disease, arterial blockages and other cardiac conditions. On-site imaging may also reduce the need to transfer patients to outside facilities, expediting diagnosis and treatment.

"The ability to perform advanced cardiac imaging right here at Glen Cove Hospital is a significant benefit for our patients and our clinical teams," Dr. Amar Shah, a cardiothoracic radiologist at Glen Cove Hospital, said in a news release about the new center.

"When a patient presents with symptoms that may indicate a serious cardiac condition, having sophisticated imaging technology immediately available can help our physicians make informed decisions more efficiently and determine the appropriate next steps in care."

That hospital was a familiar source of care for the Cushmans. After Rod Cushman experienced several heart attacks, his wife, Verena, watched for signs of a worsening condition, including slurred speech or changes in his balance, and brought him to the hospital when symptoms arose. Over time, the Cushmans developed a 50-year relationship with the hospital, which inspired the post-humous gift to bring advanced cardiac imaging to the community.

"This center is an important investment in the future of health care in Glen Cove and across Nassau County," Dr. Andrew Galmer, chief of cardiology at Glen Cove Hospital, said in the news release about the center.

"Our goal is to make high-quality, comprehensive care increasingly accessible in the communities we serve," he said.

The project also received a $250,000 New York state grant, secured with the assistance of New York State Assemblymember Charles Lavine.

"Our community deserves access to the same advanced medical technology available at major medical centers, and this investment helps make that possible," Lavine said in the news release.

"The opening of the R.H. Cushman Cardiac Imaging Center demonstrates what is possible when clinical expertise, innovation and philanthropy come together," Dr. Maria Torroella Carney, president of Glen Cove Hospital, said in the news release.

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Load-Date: October 30, 2026

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