

SPIRIT

O F G I V I N G

A publication of the St. John Hospital Foundation

MARCH 2007

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St. John Hospital receives \$1 million Kresge challenge grant

St. John Hospital and Medical Center (SJH&MC) has received a \$1 million challenge grant toward its \$30 million capital campaign from the Kresge Foundation. This campaign supports the expansion and renovation of the hospital including the renovation of the Emergency department.

The \$30 million campaign launched in January 2006 and has raised \$24.2 million toward its goal. The Kresge Foundation has challenged St. John Hospital to raise an additional \$4.8 million by June 1, 2008, to receive the \$1 million grant.

"We are very, very pleased," said James B. Nicholson, President and CEO of PVS Chemicals and Chair of the St. John Hospital capital campaign. "This challenge grant will be pivotal in the final phase of the campaign. We are confident that it will motivate the community to help us meet our goal."

The \$163 million expansion is the largest in the history of the hospital and includes a doubled-in-size Emergency department featuring all private treatment rooms, a six-floor tower with 144 private patient rooms, an upgraded and consolidated heart and circulatory center, a diagnostic imaging center, and easier access

with a new main entrance connected to a three-story atrium lobby located adjacent to the main surface parking lot.

"This challenge grant is a vote of confidence from the Kresge Foundation," said R. Glen Smiley, President, St. John Hospital Foundation. "Through this grant, the Kresge Foundation acknowledges that this project will enable St. John Hospital and Medical Center to improve care for thousands of patients on Detroit's east side. We hope the community will be inspired to help the St. John Hospital Foundation meet the challenge."

The Kresge Foundation is a \$3 billion national foundation that builds stronger nonprofit organizations that advance the well-being of humanity—catalyzing their growth, helping them connect with stake-

continued on next page...



Aerial view of new Van Elslander Pavilion under construction (large white portion behind steeple in middle). (Photo by Gerald Donnelly)

Kresge challenge grant...continued



Future home of the Cardiac Catheterization and EP labs on the third floor of the new Van Elslander Pavilion.

(Photo by Gerald Donnelly)

holders and challenging them with grants that leverage greater support. It concentrates its programming on capital campaigns as a key opportunity for nonprofit growth. The \$1 million grant to SJH&MC is St. John Health's first grant from the Kresge Foundation.

Foundation web site updated

The St. John Hospital Foundation web site has been updated and is now easier for you to find and navigate. Go to www.stjohn.org, click on the "Donate" button on the blue banner at the top of the page. The St. John Health Foundation main page will appear. There you will find easy links to St. John Hospital Foundation fundraising information, ways to give, an online donation form, events, the Guild and Fontbonne, and more. You can also access the Foundation pages by going to stjohn.org/foundation. If you have questions, please call 313-343-7480.

Message from the President

Dear Friends,

I just received word that a national study conducted by Harvard University indicates that the Birthing Center at St. John Hospital and Medical Center (SJH&MC) is one of the safest places in the United States to have a baby. This is wonderful news!

The award is the result of continually implementing best practices through our team of physicians, nurses and other caregivers. And what's more, this national recognition again sets us apart as a health care leader in our community.

SJH&MC is accustomed to diligently pursuing a goal through hard work. For the St. John Hospital Foundation's expansion campaign, the past couple of years have been very busy. We have diligently shared our plans with donors and given you opportunities to support our \$163 million expansion, the largest in the history of the hospital. And now we are pleased to have received an extremely prestigious recognition of the importance of our project.

As you see featured on the front page, the St. John Hospital Foundation has received a \$1 million challenge grant from the Kresge Foundation. They applauded the \$24.2 million raised thus far, and have challenged us to raise an additional \$4.8 million by June 1, 2008. When we do, we will receive their \$1 million grant.

Our associates will soon have their annual opportunity to participate in the campaign, and many physicians have already committed. Please consider a gift to the campaign to help us reach our \$30 million goal.

Together, our desire to provide a greatly enhanced health care facility for our community will drive us to make SJH&MC the destination hospital for southeast Michigan.

Warmly,



Dave Stephens
Interim President, SJH&MC



Dave Stephens

Kudos

Thelma Czubak, Joan S. Gehrke and **Debra Van Elslander** were honored

as Distinguished Volunteers by the Greater Detroit Chapter of the Association of



Thelma Czubak and Dr. William J. Rice, Holley Ear Institute Vice President

Fundraising Professionals at the annual National Philanthropy Day Recognition Dinner in November.

Thelma was honored for her volunteer efforts for the Holley Ear Institute. She began volunteering in 1994 while coping with personal hearing loss. She assisted at programs for families with deaf and hard-of-hearing children and later screened newborns for hearing loss at St. John Hospital and Medical Center (SJH&MC). Thelma's dedication to the hearing-impaired continues as founder and President of the Macomb chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America.

Joan was recognized for her commitment to SJH&MC. Her dedication and work led to the



Bill and Joan S. Gehrke

2005 development of a new St. John Hospital Foundation, which has raised

more than \$23 million. As Chair of the St. John Hospital Foundation Board, her strategic insights, community connections and love of "the ask" have set a great example for other board members.

Debbie was honored for her thoughtful commitment to SJH&MC. She



Debbie Van Elslander

joined the St. John Hospital Foundation Board in 2005 as Chair of the nominating committee. She has been very supportive in board development and assisting with fundraising. Debbie's commitment was also illustrated by bringing forward a leadership gift from the Van Elslander Family Foundation for the St. John Hospital expansion campaign. As a result, the new 144-bed patient tower will be named the Van Elslander Pavilion.

Genevieve Piper, also known as the "ring leader of the sewing ladies" at SJH&MC, was among the top 10 "Outstanding Volunteer" honorees at metro Detroit's annual Thanks for Giving luncheon. She has contributed her talents and supervised more than 80,000 sewing projects. Since 1978, Genevieve has provided SJH&MC with over 21,000 volunteer hours. **Jackie Thomas**, a junior volunteer with patient care on 5-East at SJH&MC, was recognized with Honorable Mention at the event.

Jim F. Orosz, MD, is the new Chief Medical Officer for SJH&MC. Dr. Orosz comes from Akron City Hospital in Ohio where he was Chairman of the Department of Family Medicine since 1990.

Mitchell Dombrowski, MD, Chief of OB/GYN, SJH&MC, traveled to Washington, DC, to represent the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology on a panel convened by the Food and Drug Administration to assist in the implementation of a national registry to obtain data about asthma medications during pregnancy.

Julius Gardin, MD, Chief of the Division of Cardiology, SJH&MC, and St. John Guild Distinguished Chair in Cardiovascular Medicine, was appointed Associate Editor of the *Journal of the American Society of Echocardiography*, the most prominent medical publication in the field of cardiac ultrasound.

Charles Pankratz, DPM, retired honorary member of the medical/surgical staff at St. John North Shores Hospital (SJNSH), and **Joseph Jeannette**, SJNSH Advisory Board member, were honored at the hospital's 19th Annual Spring Dinner Dance on March 10, at Mac and Ray's Banquet Center, Harrison Township.

Sister Verenice McQuade retires

After 35 incredible years of service to St. John Hospital and Medical Center (SJH&MC), **Sister Verenice McQuade** retired from her daily activities on Dec. 31, 2006. She has been a Sister of St. Joseph for nearly 70 years, dedicating her life to helping others and serving as a role model to many for her community service. Most recently in the role of Director of Community/Patient Services, Sr. Verenice has provided comfort and support to many patients and their families.

Sr. Verenice was perhaps best known for her personal notes to patients, friends and donors, and making daily calls to associates and leaders to make sure all was well in the hospital. Her visits and prayers to countless patients endeared her to everyone she met.

In 2005, the Foundation established the McQuade Society, a donor relations program that assists our benefactors with access and service when they need medical care. "When we decided to establish a recognition society for our most loyal friends and donors, we knew it was important to select a name that carried meaning and significance for our members. It didn't take long to understand that Sr. Verenice McQuade was that person, and thus the McQuade Society was created," said R. Glen Smiley, President, St. John Hospital Foundation.

We acknowledge Sr. Verenice for her years of service and certainly plan to keep in touch!



Dr. Louis Saravolatz, Chief of Internal Medicine, with Sr. Verenice.

How do seniors stay on track?

Seniors often struggle with the legal issues concerning trusts, wills, patient advocate forms, beneficiary designations and other concerns like probate and joint tenancy. The question is, "How do they keep it all straight and stay on track?"

The St. John Hospital Foundation is sponsoring free and informative seminars on "Legal Issues for Seniors and Their Adult Children" in May and June at the Country Club of Detroit.

The speaker, Elizabeth L. Brown, JD, is well regarded and was praised by previous attendees for removing the legal mystery and really answering their questions.

Call Nancy Krause, 586-582-7595, to place your name on the invitation list or schedule a complimentary consultation.

Guild update

The 47th Annual Guild Dinner will be held on June 6 at Penna's of Sterling. Nationally known comedian and actor Kevin Pollack will provide the entertainment. Proceeds will benefit the St. John Hospital and Medical Center expansion and renovation project and add a cardiovascular suite.

John Adamo is the Chair for the event. **Marlene and John Boll Sr.** will be recognized with the Philanthropic Services award; **Raymond Christensen, MD**, will receive the Physician of the Year award; and **Benjamin Capp** will be honored with the Lifetime Achievement award.

Tickets for the event are \$150 for attendees 30 years and under and \$250 for attendees over 30. Call Kathy Taranto, 313-343-3674, for tickets and sponsorship opportunities.



Kevin Pollack

Spine Center offers new way to treat back pain

St. John Hospital and Medical Center has adopted a new treatment protocol that streamlines the treatment process for those suffering from back pain. The new Spine Center eliminates the extended wait between diagnosis and treatment for those suffering from chronic back pain.

Patients in pain can request a physician referral or call the center themselves. The Spine Center staff will obtain a detailed history, inputting the information into a special software package that organizes the information for a surgeon to review.

The surgeon can then recommend appropriate testing and referrals for treatment. Tests may include X-rays, MRI or CT scan. Treatments may range from physical therapy, rehabilitation or pain management to an appointment to see a surgeon. All this can be completed within 48 to 72 hours, and the initial consultation and care assessment with the Spine Center is free.

The Spine Center maintains contact with patients, helping keep treatment plans organized and advising next steps. If a patient needs a neurosurgeon or orthopedic spine surgeon, that appointment can be made quickly.

To obtain services with the Spine Center, call 313-343-4405. Participating physicians include: Neurosurgeons Daniel Elskens, MD; Devon Hoover, MD; and Vittorio Morreale, MD; and Orthopedic Spine Surgeons Glenn Minster, MD, and Ken Sidhu, MD.

Fontbonne news

White Christmas Ball a “sparkling” success

The Fontbonne Auxiliary raised approximately \$100,000 at the 2006 White Christmas Ball held Dec. 8 at the Ritz-Carlton, Dearborn. Proceeds will be used to complete the Sr. Verenice McQuade Corridor of private rooms in the St. John Hospital Van Elslander Pavilion. **Debra McCarty** was Chair of the “Sparkle of the Big Apple” event; **Victoria Liggett** was Honorary Chairperson.



(Standing) Linda Lloyd, (sitting) Victoria Liggett and Debra McCarty at ball kickoff.

“Girls Night Out” is new spring event

“Girls Night Out,” replacing the annual Fontbonne Fashion Show, will be held on April 25 at Andiamo Italia, Warren. The evening will feature the comedic play, “Late Night Catechism,” dinner, door prizes and a raffle. Proceeds will assist the Cardiology department in purchasing two endoscopic cameras. Tickets are \$75. For more details or tickets, call Raegan Haglund, 313-343-3675.

Accomplishments abound

Among 98 entries nationwide, St. John Health was the winner of the Spirit of Excellence Team Award by *Modern Healthcare*, a national health care business news magazine, for its commitment to employee retention and recruitment.

St. John Hospital and Medical Center (SJH&MC) was awarded the Organ Donation Medal of Honor by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for achieving outstanding organ donation rates, in conjunction with Gift of Life Michigan. Only 16 hospitals in Michigan received this award, which signifies that SJH&MC has converted at least 75 percent of potential donors to actual organ donors. In 2006, those 17 donors saved the lives of 41 people.

SJH&MC has been recognized as a 2006 CareScience Select Practice Customer Quality Leader in the Medically Managed Acute Myocardial Infarction category. CareScience works with health care organizations to improve quality, patient outcomes and operational performance, increase staff efficiency and reduce costs.

Events support patient services

Champions event celebrates "cancer climb," supports VECC

The St. John Hospital and Medical Center Van Elslander Cancer Center (VECC) Champions for Life committee hosted the Champions Reach New Heights event at the VECC on March 2. The event celebrated Francesco Lucarelli's successful climb of Mt. Kilimanjaro in February and raised funds for the center's Adolescent and Young Adult Oncology Program. Francesco also raised money for this program by accepting donations and pledges for every foot of Mt. Kilimanjaro he climbed in memory of his mother, Maria, who passed away from breast cancer in 2001. His father, Alphonse Lucarelli, is Chair of the St. John Health Board of Trustees. The Champions event included a silent auction, wine tasting and strolling dinner. Proceeds from the event and Francesco's climb are still being totalled.

Hospice Oktoberfest helps sick children

The fourth annual Hospice Oktoberfest, held at the Grosse Pointe Club, raised nearly \$85,000 for the St. John Hospice program. Proceeds will benefit the Pediatric Palliative Care program, which helps children with cancer and other chronic illnesses. A special thanks to Chair **Susan Kirchner** and her committee for their efforts.



Susan Kirchner, Oktoberfest Chair, with committee members Sr. Georgianna Simon and Mary Ellen Dakmak.

Liggett Breast Center receives donation



Back row: Dori Daskas and Elena Kerasiotis, Festival of Tables Co-chairs; Dorothea Williams, Thamyris Chapter President; and Mary Ruhana, Manager of the VECC. Front row: Bernadine Sherwood and Sandy Moisesides, Event Chairperson.

The Daughters of Penelope, Thamyris Chapter, Grosse Pointe Woods, donated \$5,000 to the Liggett Breast Center. The donation was from the proceeds of the group's annual fall fundraiser, Festival of Tables, held at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial.

Spirit is a quarterly publication of St. John Hospital Foundation.

If you would like to learn more about giving opportunities at St. John Hospital, please call 313-343-7483.

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