

SPIRIT

O F G I V I N G

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June 2009

The best just got better

Van Elslander gift advances neuroscience program

Art Van Elslander believes that if you are fortunate enough to be successful, you have a responsibility to give back to the community. Founding his furniture business in 1959 with just one store, 50 years later the successful businessman has 30 Art Van Furniture stores in 29 cities.

While Mr. Van Elslander celebrates this golden anniversary with his family, associates and the community, he is also helping St. John Health System (SJHS) reach a milestone with an unprecedented gift from the Van Elslander Family Foundation to enhance the neuroscience program at Providence Park Hospital.

A dedication ceremony honored Mr. Van Elslander and unveiled the new Van Elslander Neurosciences Center on May 13. More than 340 community friends, supporters and

physicians celebrated the largest contribution to SJHS and learned about future plans for the neuroscience program.

The program has one of the most comprehensive teams of specialists in the region, is world-renowned for its craniofacial and reconstructive surgery, and was the first in the region to earn advanced certification through the Joint Commission as a Primary Stroke Center. It also performed one of America's first liquid aneurysm treatments and has built a center of excellence for endoscopic brain surgery, minimally invasive and complex spine programs, leading-edge treatment of complex skull-base tumors, and much more.

"And now... the best just got better," expressed Michael Wiemann, MD, President, Providence Hospital, and Executive Vice President, Providence (west) region. "Our exceptional physicians, who already

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Dr. Pat Maryland and Mr. Van Elslander



Mr. Van Elslander (center) with four of his daughters



Dr. Blaise Audet, retired Providence neurosurgeon, Dr. Bruce Silverman and Dr. Michael Wiemann



**ST. JOHN
HEALTH
FOUNDATION**

Providence Hospital

Providence Park Hospital

St. John Hospital and Medical
Center

St. John Macomb-Oakland
Hospital

St. John North Shores Hospital

St. John River District Hospital

Guild Emergency Center opens; dedication event honors donors

The newly expanded and renovated Guild Emergency Center at St. John Hospital and Medical Center (SJH&MC) was celebrated when more than 125 friends of SJH&MC gathered for a dedication of the center and to honor those who made it possible.

Joan Gehrke, Chair of the St. John Hospital Foundation, thanked the donors, including physicians, associates and community members, and especially the St. John Guild for its generous gift and long-standing commitment to the hospital. "Our patients will now have a health care experience second to none," she said.



Dr. Robert Takla, Chief of Emergency Medicine, with his predecessor Dr. Anthony Southall



The pediatrics treatment and waiting area has a wildlife theme painted by a local artist.

"We're proud and grateful to be able to do this for the hospital and the community," said Alex Lucido, Guild President. "It's a pleasure for us to be able to support the world-class medical care that is provided right here."

Joan also paid special tribute to Marlene and John Boll, who have been loyal, generous friends of SJH&MC for over 30 years. "From the bottom of our hearts, we thank the Bolls, who have supported many projects including the cancer center and the suites. Their recent \$5 million gift was made to honor the Guild to assist with the Emergency Center expansion, and the Fontbonne to support the new Fontbonne Diagnostic Imaging Center and McQuade Floor in the Van Elslander Pavilion."

SJH&MC has enhanced the leading-edge care it provides to patients with the new Guild Emergency Center. "We provided nearly 100,000 patients with life-saving care in the Emergency Center last year," said Robert Takla, MD, Chief of Emergency Medicine. "With our new center, we continue to provide the best care possible but with greater comfort, privacy and convenience for patients and their families. We've doubled the size of the area so all treatment rooms are private."



Dr. James Fox; Alex Lucido, Guild President; and Tony Ferlito

"The renovated area provides a new model of care with all enhancements designed with patients in mind," said Diane Radloff, SJH&MC President. "All those who use our new Guild Emergency Center will notice a significant difference."

Enhancements include:

- more than 70 private treatment rooms
- 24/7 valet service
- greater assistance from guest relations associates
- separate walk-in and ambulance entrances
- dedicated CT and X-Ray services for emergency patients
- specialized pediatrics area, decorated with a wildlife theme
- four large resuscitation rooms with space for all the equipment and specialists needed during a critical situation
- process improvements, which are significantly improving turn-around times

Message from the Foundation President

Over the past several months, I've enjoyed meeting you at all of the fundraising and dedication events for St. John Health System. Getting to know you better has been both a priority and a pleasure. Your support, especially amidst these challenging economic times, has truly encouraged me.

I'd especially like to recognize Art Van Elslander and the Van Elslander Family Foundation for the unprecedented gift we received for the Providence Neuroscience Center. It has been a wonderful experience and an honor getting to know Mr. Van Elslander, and we are truly fortunate to have such a visionary, inspiring and generous man among our closest friends. We are able to launch a multi-million dollar enhancement of our renowned neuroscience program because together we share a vision of creating a Center of Excellence unparalleled in the Midwest.

This extraordinary gift advances our health system's strategic, operational and financial long-range plans to build on our strengths and offer a coordinated patient experience across the entire continuum of care. Our efforts are currently focused on four Centers of Excellence including Cardiovascular, Neurosciences, Oncology and Bariatrics.

In addition to Neurosciences, our philanthropic efforts are playing a major role in enhancing our Centers of Excellence. The Champions for Life and Hospice events provide funds for cancer services, and the Providence Friends' Ball and Golf Classic support the cardiology program. Fundraising for St. John River District Hospital has acquired a 64-slice CT scanner to enhance capabilities for diagnosing many health problems including heart ailments, and efforts for St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital support the stroke program and women's services.

Throughout the year, much of our success is due to the commitment of generous individuals like you. Thank you for helping to enhance the health of our community through your continued dedication.

Sincerely,



Susan Burns
President, St. John Health Foundation



Susan Burns

Volunteers give generously

The Our Lady of Providence League (OLPL) presented \$100,000 to Providence Hospital toward the volunteer group's new pledge of \$750,000 for capital construction of a new OLPL gift shop.



Betty McLaughlin, President, OLPL; Michael Wiemann, MD, FACP, President, Providence Hospital, and Executive Vice President, West Region; and Jim Hynes, Treasurer, OLPL, at the OLPL luncheon where the check was presented.

In addition, the Providence Park League (PPL) of volunteers recently gave \$60,000 toward their \$1.2 million pledge for the Providence Park capital campaign.



Pictured at the check presentation are: Lou Grieshaber, PPL Treasurer; Marty Lawmaster, President, PPL; Jean Meyer, RN, MSN, recently named President of Providence Park Hospital; Michael Wiemann, MD, FACP, Executive Vice President, West Region; Sr. Xavier Ballance, Chair, Providence Region Board of Directors; and Kathy Zaguroli, Manager, Volunteer Services, Providence and Providence Park Hospitals.

Collaboration creates Healthy Neighborhoods Detroit

St. John Health System (SJHS) has been a catalyst for bringing together area leaders to create Healthy Neighborhoods Detroit, a collaborative initiative involving several community partners to enhance economic development and revitalize neighborhoods on Detroit's east side.

The new nonprofit corporation is moving forward with further development of three former hospital campuses in Detroit—Conner Creek Village, Samaritan Center and Riverview Center. The goal is to bring together resources for accessible health care, career training and education, and safe,

affordable housing to transform these campuses and surrounding neighborhoods. Although the campuses already offer existing services in varying degrees, the initiative establishes a new avenue for allowing the overall concept to move quickly and broadly.

While SJHS has been a key driver in creating Healthy Neighborhoods Detroit, it has not acted alone. SJHS provided seed funding to engage the Greater Detroit Area Health Council in an environmental and needs assessment and engaged Dynamis Advisors to interview hundreds of community leaders as part of the needs assessment and

foundation work. Other key partners are: the Detroit Community Initiative, which has already built senior housing at Conner Creek Village and is adding a new phase of apartments, town homes and a nonprofit community center; Oakland University and its nursing education programs that use the Riverview and Conner Creek Village campuses and will be expanding their health care programs; and health resources provided by SJHS, Holy Cross Children's Services, Federally Qualified Health Centers and other health providers at all three sites.

SJHS recently hosted a VIP reception to unveil Healthy Neighborhoods Detroit. More than 100 community leaders, elected officials and safety net partners learned about the plans to develop the campuses.

"I am proud of the role St. John Health System has played to bring together dozens of partners to create Healthy Neighborhoods that may become models for revitalizing other urban neighborhoods," said Patricia Maryland, Dr.P.H., President, SJHS.

For more information on supporting this initiative, call Laticia Nelson, 586-582-7508.



Mike Fisher, President, Detroit Community Initiative, and Dr. Patricia Maryland, President, SJHS, look over campus plans for the Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative at Conner Creek Village.

Associates, physicians give generously

St. John Health System (SJHS) associates and physicians showed their giving spirit in the recent Annual Giving Campaign, which supports a multitude of programs and services for patients and the community. Pledges and donations from 1,290 individuals raised a total of \$207,469 (as of May 27). This generous support demonstrates that these individuals believe in the SJHS mission and live the values by supporting those in need.

Van Elslander Continued from page 1

put Providence on the map, will use the state-of-the-art tools and technology made possible by this gift to provide patients with new hope at a time when they are placing their lives in our hands.”

“How fortunate for this community that along with your success came a generous spirit of giving back,” said Patricia Maryland, Dr.P.H., President, SJHS, to Mr. Van Elslander at the dedication. “There are countless

worthy organizations in financial need, and you chose St. John Health System for this gift, a fact that humbles all of us.”

Investing in Michigan’s health and future is a priority for Mr. Van Elslander. “Supporting Michigan communities has always been an important part of the culture of Art Van Furniture,” he said. “Michigan is becoming a leader in the health care industry, and St. John Health

System is at the forefront of medical advances. To help make this level of care available to our communities is an honor.”

Van Elslander Family Foundation gifts have helped build the Van Elslander Cancer Center and Van Elslander Pavilion at St. John Hospital and Medical Center (SJH&MC) and expand the Van Elslander Infusion Center at St. John River District Hospital.



Many guests were in attendance at the celebration.



Sr. Felicia Mazzola, DC; Sr. Sharon Hagen, DC; Ken Van Elslander; Art Van Elslander; Sr. Xavier Ballance; David Van Elslander; and Rabbi Bunny Freedman



Andria Bojrab, Mr. Van Elslander and Dr. Dennis Bojrab

Foundation announces new staff

Scott Smith has joined St. John Hospital Foundation as Chief Development



Officer. With more than 20 years of experience in fundraising, he most recently served as vice president of development and external relations for HELP USA in New York City.

Patrick Schulte has joined Providence Health Foundation as Major Gifts Officer for Providence Park Hospital. He has over 15 years of fundraising experience. Most recently, Patrick managed his own independent consulting business, providing major gift philanthropy



counsel to nonprofits in health care, education and social service sectors.

Lawrence Ghannam is the new Planned Giving Consultant for St. John



Health Foundation. He is continuing part-time as director of development for the University of Michigan’s Department of Radiation Oncology, which operates nine radiation oncology clinics, two in partnership with Providence and Providence Park Hospitals.

Sharon Werthmann joined Providence Health Foundation as Donor Relations Coordinator for Providence and Providence Park Hospitals. She provides support to members of the



Thomas P. Moore II Society. Most recently, Sharon was an assistant in the Emergency Center at St. John Hospital and Medical Center, where she supported patients and families, providing comfort and care.

Successful events enhance patient care

St. John Hospice Oktoberfest, Oct. 18, 2008. The 6th annual event raised \$65,000 for the Walk With ME pediatric hospice and palliative care program, which provides comfort care to children with life-limiting or chronic illnesses and support for families.



The Walk With ME program assisted tiny Charlotte and her family throughout her short, precious life.

St. John North Shores Hospital Dinner Dance, Mar. 21. The 21st annual event raised \$25,000 to renovate the patient lounge, used for patient interaction and recreational and physical therapy activities.



Dr. Vincent Maribao, pictured with his wife, Aireen, was honored at the event.

Providence Friends' Ball, Apr. 18. Proceeds of \$102,000 will be used to renovate the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit in Southfield and the Cardiac Rehabilitation Center in Novi.



Dr. Shukri David, left, who received the Order of Charity Award, is pictured with wife Dunia, Andria Bojrab and Dr. Dennis Bojrab, who was honored as the Caduceus Society's Physician of the Year.

Fontbonne White Christmas Ball, Dec. 12, 2008. The 55th annual event raised approximately \$43,000 for the Lymphoma Clinic and Research Center at SJH&MC.



Dr. Kim K. Lie and Mado Lie, both honored at the event, and Victoria Keys, Event Chair



Donald Torline, President of Baker College and a member of the hospital's Development Committee, was also recognized. He is pictured here with his wife, Carol.

Fontbonne Girls Night Out, Apr. 29. The event honored nurses at SJH&MC and raised approximately \$17,000 for the Holistic Nursing Education Program.



Debra Arnone, Event Chair, with Diane Radloff, SJH&MC President

St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital Taste Fest, May 20. Proceeds are supporting the purchase of high-precision surgical equipment that will keep the hospital on the cutting-edge of quality surgical care.



Participating restaurants for the Taste Fest included Pei Wei Asian Diner.

Mark your calendar

14th Annual Frank E. Jeannette Memorial Golf Outing for St. John North Shores Hospital, July 20
Gowanie Golf Club, Harrison Township

“FORE” the benefit of St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital Golf Outing, Aug. 17
Plum Hollow Country Club, Southfield
Call 586-582-7509.

St. John Medical Staff/Guild Golf Outing, Sept. 21
Lochmoor Club, Grosse Pointe Woods
Call 313-343-3674.

St. John Hospice Oktoberfest, TBD
Call 586-582-7509.

St. John River District Hospital Dinner Dance, TBD
Call 586-582-7509.

Fontbonne White Christmas Ball, Dec. 11
Ritz-Carlton, Dearborn
Call 313-343-3675.

Champions for Life challenge supports cancer center

Challenging themselves physically and mentally appeals to the adventurous side of the individuals who have formed a team that is making a real difference in the fight against breast cancer. The **Champions for Life Climb to Beat Breast Cancer ~ Rocky Mountain Challenge** team will attempt to reach the summit of Pikes Peak in Colorado Springs on June 27 to raise funds for the Van Elslander Cancer Center's (VECC) Liggett Breast Center at St. John Hospital and Medical Center. The team includes: Francesco Lucarelli, who lost his mother to breast cancer, and who has participated in past climbs to support the VECC; John Castro, Jessica Isbrecht, Alice Kopecky, Patrick McMahon, Danielle Nappi, Paul Nappi, Amy Owczarek, Lorraine Owczarek and Dave Roberts.

The Champion for Life, a group dedicated to increasing awareness and funds for the VECC, sponsored a kick-off event for the climb on Feb. 27. Event proceeds will be combined with funds raised from pledges for the climb. For more information on making a pledge for the climbers, go to www.stjohn.org/champions.



Francesco Lucarelli, Dr. Robert Riccardi, Al Lucarelli and Beth Carter at the Champions event



Teresa and Alex Lucido with Connie and John Ahee. Teresa and Erica Scott were event co-chairs.

Kudos

Jean Meyer, RN, MSN, has been named President of Providence Park Hospital. Most recently, she was senior vice president and chief nursing officer for St. John Health System (SJHS), chief operating officer for the Providence (west) region of SJHS and interim Providence Park administrator. Prior to that, she was senior vice president of operations and chief nursing officer for St. Vincent Hospital, in Indianapolis.



Jean Meyer

Providence Hospital and St. John Hospital and Medical Center were once again ranked as top 100 hospitals



in the United States for heart care, according to Thomson Reuters, one of the country's leading sources of health care information and research that recognizes hospitals that achieve or exceed national benchmark performance scores. Providence is the only hospital in southeast Michigan to receive this recognition eight years in a row; SJH&MC has appeared on the list six times.

Providence Hospital has again been recognized as one of the nation's top major teaching hospitals by Thomson Reuters. It was one of 15

hospitals nationally and the only one in Oakland County to be selected in the Major Teaching Hospital category of the 100 Top Hospital's list.

Thank you to Concord EMS for donating an isolette stretcher base to Providence Hospital for use with treating infants. The company is also a generous supporter of SJHS fundraising events.

Thanks to the Fontbonne Auxiliary for donating funds to purchase a Luminetx VeinViewer for the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at SJH&MC. This equipment allows nurses to clearly see veins beneath the skin's surface, allowing for easier placement of IVs on sick children.

Spirit is a publication of St. John Health Foundation.

If you would like to learn more about giving opportunities at St. John Health System hospitals and entities, please call 586-582-7500.

www.stjohn.org/Foundation

Editor: Kathy Torick

Designer: Debbie Hoban



ST. JOHN HEALTH FOUNDATION

1471 E. Twelve Mile Road
Madison Heights, MI 48071

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