

SPIRIT

O F G I V I N G

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DECEMBER 2006

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SAVE THE DATE

2007 Friends' Ball
To benefit
Providence Hospital
Saturday, April 21
The Ritz-Carlton,
Dearborn


ST JOHN
HEALTH
PROVIDENCE
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Providence first to treat patients for aneurysm coil study

Neurosurgeons at Providence Hospital were the first in the United States to treat patients as part of a study to determine whether a specially designed coil can prevent recurrent brain aneurysms. The hospital is one of only 15 centers nationwide taking part in the study. (As of press time) 32 patients have been treated at Providence, more than at any other center in the U.S.

While platinum aneurysm coils have been in use for about 10 years, the new coil is coated with absorbable polymer fibers, which promote clotting and scar formation in the aneurysm sac and promote healing.

"About 20 percent of all patients will experience a recurrence of their aneurysm following initial coiling," said Richard Fessler, MD, Providence neurosurgeon. "We are hopeful this coil will be a breakthrough to lessen the number of patients needing additional treatment."

A brain aneurysm is caused by weakness



Brain coiling treatment for aneurysms being performed by Dr. Fessler.

in an artery wall or blood vessel that provides blood to the brain. As the artery wall weakens, it bulges and stretches. The thinned wall can burst, causing bleeding that can lead to a stroke or death.

The neuro-endovascular equipment used for the coil procedure was made possible through the generous support of \$750,000 from the Our Lady of Providence League volunteer auxiliary. **RM**

"Sanctuary" room comforts patients, fulfills dream

Patients on the 7-West Inpatient Rehab Unit at Providence Hospital are benefiting from "Dr. Carroll's Sanctuary," a redesigned patient lounge transformed into a meditation room.

The room was created in memory of Dr. Alison Carroll, a neuropsychologist and program manager of Inpatient Rehabilitation before her death from a brain tumor in 2005.



A view of the seaside mural in "Dr. Carroll's Sanctuary."

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REAL MEDICINE™

Sanctuary...continued

It was Dr. Carroll's dream to have a peaceful, calming space where patients on the unit could relax and heal in mind, spirit and body. Dr. Carroll's interest in yoga, relaxation techniques and spiritual practices, and the fact that her favorite times were spent on a Florida beach led to decorating the room around a beach motif. The room features a seaside mural, light blue walls, palm tree lamps and comfortable seating.

To help patients find tranquility, relaxation videos of fireside or seaside themes are available to view as a sound machine plays soothing sounds. A plaque with Dr. Carroll's photo and a special letter she wrote to her staff is also on display.

Room renovations were funded by generous donations from friends and co-workers of Dr. Carroll. Gloria Esse, Delise Gibbons, Claudia Marchildon, and Karen Zylman coordinated the renovation and a dedication/ blessing ceremony in Dr. Carroll's memory. **RM**

Message from the Hospital President

Dear Friends:

The end of the year is a traditional time for looking back and ahead, and in this issue, we do a little of each. I'm very pleased to tell you that Providence Hospital and St. John Health continue to be recognized for clinical excellence through programs such as the Governor's Award of Excellence for Improving Care, which you can read about in this issue, and our designation as a Blue Cross and Blue Shield Cardiac Center of Excellence, which we mentioned last time.

While clinical excellence is a vital part of our Vision of delivering the highest quality patient care experience, every day, everywhere, for everyone, service excellence is another key component. I'm proud to say that the measures we have in place to track our customer service show we are meeting or exceeding our goals in areas like Emergency Department turnaround time. Because of the hard work of many individuals, patients who come into the hospital through Emergency are giving us high marks in overall rating of care, up 7.7% over FY06, and we are making excellent progress in getting patients admitted or discharged efficiently. Time from triage to discharge improved by three tenths of an hour over FY06, and the average score on surveys went up from 79.8 to 83. It's a trend we intend to continue throughout the hospital.

Thanks to your very generous support, we know you believe in Providence, and we appreciate your confidence. Please help spread the word about our successes as we continue to serve the needs of our – and your – communities. Your support is an important part of our clinical and service excellence, and we thank you.



Diane M. Radloff

Sincerely,

Diane M. Radloff
President, Providence Hospital

Novi hospital celebrates “topping off”

St. John Providence Park Hospital in Novi celebrated a construction milestone with a “topping off” event, which included putting the final steel beam in place for the new facility. The beam was signed by associates, physicians, volunteers and construction workers and included a live evergreen tree and American flag.

Construction is on schedule, with plans to open the state-of-the-art facility in July 2008. Along with ongoing work to form the physical hospital structure, preparation for clinical processes, technology, medical education and staffing is taking place behind the scenes. A Novi Hospital Core Team, led by Rob Casalou, President of the Novi hospital, is overseeing the project. **RM**



The final steel beam is lifted into place. “Topping off” dates back to 700 A.D., when Scandinavians topped off construction of new halls with grain. Over the years, grain was replaced with evergreen trees and, in America, the addition of a U.S. flag. The tree symbolizes new life and growth, a job well done and a new beginning.

Novi events benefit pediatric patients

Proceeds from events at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi will benefit the St. John Providence Park Hospital's Pediatric Unit.

A **Special Michigan Christmas Show Evening Extravaganza** on Nov. 30, from 6-10 p.m., will feature live entertainment, cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction, and holiday highlights including photos with Santa and more. The show is presented by *The Detroit News* and sponsored by Fox 2 and Rock Financial. Tickets for the Extravaganza are \$100; call Lorraine Owczarek, 586-582-7507. The Michigan Christmas Show runs through Dec 3. For more information about general admission to the show, visit www.rockfinancialshowplace.com.

The **Novi Town Hall Lecture Series** including lunch, lectures and book signings will be held:

Dec. 7 – featuring Michigan author/artist Mary Blocksma, whose work reflects her passion for the Great Lakes.

Jan. 11 – featuring well-known heart specialist Vicky Savas, MD, presenting “Little Known Medical Facts.”

March 8 – featuring professional storyteller Yvonne Healey, sharing inspiring Celtic stories and Ireland history.

Tickets are \$120 for three lectures/lunch, \$50 for one lecture/lunch or \$35 for one lecture only. For reservations, call Kathy Crawford, 248-349-5079, or Diana Canup, 248-348-1822. **RM**

Campaign update

A total of \$6.1 in gifts and pledges has been committed to The Campaign for St. John Providence Park Hospital in Novi. This is nearly 25 percent of the \$25 million goal. The Physician Steering Committee for the campaign has reached \$3.2 million toward its \$5 million goal for physician contributions. For giving opportunities, call John Lewandowski, 248-465-4502. **RM**

Accomplishments abound

Six St. John Health (SJH) hospitals, including Providence, received the 2005 Governor's Award of Excellence for Improving Care in Hospital and Emergency Department Settings. The Michigan Peer Review Organization and Gov. Jennifer Granholm honor hospitals that are leaders in quality improvement for adult care. Providence was honored for improving care for acute myocardial infarction and pneumonia.

SJH has been named one of metro Detroit's “101 Best and Brightest Companies to Work For” by the Michigan Business and Professional Association and the National Association for Business Resources.

SJH's Community Health Division received the 2006 Eagle Award for Visionary Leadership by the Greater Detroit Area Health Council for its community health programs through the School-Based Health Centers. **RM**

Grants enhance patient services

The Caduceus Society approved two grants to assist with services to enhance medical staff education, access to care, efficiency and patient satisfaction.

A \$10,000 grant was awarded to assist in funding the Geriatric Review Curriculum for the Family Medicine Residency. Geriatric review information and a Palliative Care guide will be provided to residents and faculty members to assist in improving services to elderly patients.

A grant of \$8,700 was awarded to help fund the Deighton Family Medicine Online Customer Service Initiative in cooperation with RelayHealth Corporation and St. John Health. This program will enable physicians to allow online access to services like E-visits, prescription refills, appointment requests, etc., and help analyze customer receptiveness to accessing medical services via the Web. **RM**

Kudos

Helene Lacoste, MD; Bruce Silverman, DO; Brian Kim, MD; Michael Jacobs, MD; and Mario DeMeireles, MD, received Providence Hospital's 2006 Nursing Staff Physician Excellence Awards.

More than 190 St. John Health (SJH) physicians made the 2006 "Top Docs" list published by *HOUR Detroit* magazine. SJH doctors were named in nearly every one of the 70 medical specialties highlighted.

The Providence Health Foundation appointed the following staff members who have philanthropic responsibilities for Providence Hospital and St. John Providence Park Hospital: **Karen D. Williams**, Chief Development Officer; **Ida Warshay**, Senior Development Officer; and **Lisa Burry, RN**, Donor Relations Manager. **Donna Broderick-Narva** was promoted to Major Gifts Officer. **RM**

Spirit is a quarterly publication of Providence Health Foundation.

If you would like to learn more about giving opportunities at Providence Hospital, please call 248-849-5744.

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Volunteers needed

Adults and teens ages 15-18 are needed to volunteer at the Providence Hospital and Providence Park facilities in Novi, Southfield, Farmington Hills and South Lyon. Only four hours a week are required. Volunteers receive free meals and parking, with the opportunity to help others. Teens may apply for scholarships and school credit. Call Volunteer Services, 248-849-8806. **RM**

Planned giving

Did you know . . .

President Bush has "unlocked" IRA funds for seniors that are charitably inclined?

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 permits tax-free IRA distributions to charity of up to \$100,000 per year by donors age 70½ or older. . . but only for donations in 2006 and 2007.

This is very good news for seniors. The qualified charitable distribution is not included in the donor's income but counts toward the donor's required minimum distribution. Since it is not taxable income, it does not impact any other deductions or limitations on your tax return.

For technical reasons, the IRA check should be made payable to St. John Health Foundation. You should also call to advise us about which hospital or program you wish to benefit. Please call T. Joseph McKay, 586-582-7506, if you are considering a gift to us from your IRA.

What can you do to help? Share this opportunity with age-qualified friends and family who value our health care mission. **RM**



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