

SPIRIT

O F G I V I N G

A publication of St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital Foundation

April 2008

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St. John Weight Loss Center on track to be Bariatric Center of Excellence

In 2006, St. John Health centralized its bariatric surgery program at St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital, Oakland Center, in order to become a Center of Excellence, a designation that requires performing a minimum of 125 bariatric surgeries annually at one hospital. The program expects to be named a Bariatric Center of Excellence by the American Society of Metabolic and Surgery later this spring or early summer.

Obese patients have a higher risk of numerous diseases, such as heart disease, cancer, type II diabetes mellitus, sleep apnea and degenerative arthritis, among many others. Treating obesity requires a multifaceted program.

"Our surgeons are board certified and experienced in all bariatric surgical methods, and we also address lifestyle changes related to nutrition, behavioral and psychosocial issues. All these factors must work together with the effects of the surgery to achieve the desired outcomes," said Gary Katz, DO, Medical Director, St. John Weight Loss Center. "Meeting all the needs of bariatric surgical patients is complex and challenging. The most important factor is having an experienced, compassionate team who knows the physical and emotional needs of morbidly obese patients. We have it all at the St. John Weight Loss Center."

The St. John Weight Loss Center offers free seminars led by its surgeons for patients considering bariatric surgery. To refer a patient or schedule a consultation, call 1-866-823-4458. For more information, go to www.stjohnweightloss.com.



Dr. Gary Katz

How to make a gift

Your continued support makes a difference! Making a gift to St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital Foundation is easy. Go to www.stjohn.org/Foundation. There you'll find easy links to Macomb-Oakland fundraising information and an online donation form. If you have questions, call 586-582-7500.



ST. JOHN MACOMB-OAKLAND
HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

Message from the President

Greetings! Spring is arriving nicely, and with it comes a sense of excitement at St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital. Since merging hospitals last year, physicians and associates at our Macomb and Oakland Centers, as well as at St. John Detroit Riverview Center and St. John Conner Creek Village in Detroit, have achieved some great things. Instead of just changing *with* the times, we're working hard to stay one step *ahead* of them to begin to reinvent the future.

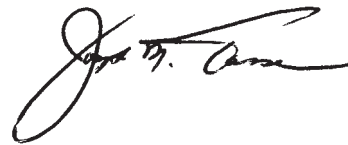
Most recently, after an unannounced four-day visit by surveyors from the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, we were reaccredited for three years. The surveyors commented that although we had merged multiple sites and corporate cultures, we came across as one team, focused on wanting to do the best we can for the patients and families we serve. This was reassuring and a testament to our health care staff working together as a successful team.

At Oakland, the St. John Weight Loss Center is well on its way to being named a Bariatric Center of Excellence (see page 1). There are several criteria for this designation, but most importantly it means that our patients are in the best hands when struggling with weight loss to improve their health.

In heart care, our Medical Director of Cardiovascular Surgery recently joined an elite club. James Martin, MD, joined a group of only 66 surgeons across the country who have performed more than 1,000 beating-heart or "off-pump" Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting surgeries. This experience once again means that our patients are in the best hands.

Lastly, I want to take this opportunity to thank you, our donors, for helping make these accomplishments possible. On behalf of our Board of Trustees, leadership team and medical staff, I want to extend our deepest appreciation for your generosity.

Best of good health,



Joseph M. Tasse, FACHE
President, St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital



Joseph M. Tasse

Accomplishments

St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital (SJMOH) earned the Governor's Award of Excellence for Improving Care in the Hospital Setting, presented in partnership with the Michigan Peer Review Organization. Macomb Center received recognition for its Surgical Care Improvement Project (SCIP); Oakland Center was recognized for Appropriate Care Measure and SCIP.

For the 14th straight year, Internal Medicine residents who trained at St. John Detroit Riverview Hospital and are now based at SJMOH passed the American Osteopathic Board of Internal Medicine exam with an unprecedented 100 percent pass rate.

The SJMOH joint replacement program is receiving patient satisfaction scores above the 90th percentile nationwide and is ranked among the nation's top 10 percent of programs.

SJMOH received the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Medal of Honor for its success in raising organ donation rates in collaboration with Gift of Life Michigan.

Taste Fest in May

The seventh annual "Hands Around the Table" Taste Fest is **May 21** at Bella Banquets, Warren. Last year's event raised more than \$60,000 from over 600 attendees and advertising supporters. Proceeds from this year's event will benefit Cardiovascular Services and Special Procedures at the Macomb and Oakland Centers. The \$20 admission fee (\$15 for seniors and youth) includes 15 food tickets. There is also a silent auction, cash bar and entertainment. Call 248-967-7607 for details and sponsorship opportunities.

Save the date

St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital Golf Outing
Monday, Aug. 18
Plum Hollow Golf and Country Club, Southfield
Call Lorraine Owczarek, 586-582-7509, for details.

Kudos

Joseph M. Tasse, FACHE, President, St. John Macomb Oakland Hospital (SJMOH), has been elected to the American



Joseph M. Tasse

College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) regent for Michigan for a three-year term, representing the entire state as part of ACHE's national governance structure. Joe is a past president of the local ACHE Chapter, the Michigan Healthcare Executives Group and Associates, and has served as a member of the Regent's Advisory Council for several years.

James Martin, MD, Cardiovascular Surgeon, was honored as one of only 66 surgeons throughout the United States who have performed



Dr. James Martin

more than 1,000 beating-heart or "off-pump" Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting surgeries. Beating-heart bypass surgery differs from traditional bypass surgery in that it is performed while the heart is still beating. The surgeon does not use the heart-lung machine to stop the patient's heart during the procedure.

Barbara McConville, Macomb Center Volunteer, and **Carl Schmuhl**, Oakland Center Volunteer, were recognized at metro Detroit's *Thanks for Giving*

ceremony, a collaborative effort to honor volunteerism. Both have been volunteering for 17 years.

Barbara has contributed more than 3,700 hours of clerical support to the Spiritual Support Services department, while Carl has contributed over 4,300

hours of service visiting patients with the gift cart offering magazines, candy and small gift items—always with a smile and a joke or words of encouragement.

Patricia Maryland, Dr.PH, is the new President and CEO of St. John Health. She also serves as Ministry Market Leader for Michigan, for Ascension Health.



Barbara McConville



Carl Schmuhl



Dr. Patricia Maryland

Debbie Condino, Vice President, Customer Services, St. John Hospital and Medical Center, was named Interim President of St. John Health Foundation.



Debbie Condino

Volunteer news

Volunteer Week is celebrated April 28-May 2. A big "thank you" to all hospital volunteers for the outstanding service they provide.

If you love people and can spare a few hours each week, St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital would like to train you to become a volunteer. Volunteers work in many areas—currently, individuals are needed in the gift shop and coffee shop at Macomb and the gift shop at Oakland. For more information, please call 586-573-5112, weekdays.

Beneficiary tips

A simple way to pass assets to your heirs or favorite charity is to name them as a beneficiary on a life insurance policy, annuity contract or retirement plan. Many bank and brokerage accounts also permit a "paid on death" designation by you.

Important points to consider – The death benefits from life insurance, annuities, retirement plans and "paid on death" accounts will pass directly to the individual beneficiaries named. They are not controlled by your will and do not pass through probate court. The funds will be distributed directly to your beneficiaries once a claim is filed. While this is good for your beneficiaries, it also means that you must keep your beneficiary designations up to date when circumstances change.

Do you have a favorite St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital program or wish to honor a special person with a "beneficiary designation gift" to the hospital? If so, please call Heidi Crisman, 586-582-7538, so you can be included in the Legacy Society for estate gift donors.

Volunteers make afghans for patients one stitch at a time

For over four years, dedicated volunteers and associates have made hundreds of afghans to provide comfort and warmth for patients at St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital (SJMOH), Oakland Center.

"I really enjoy giving our patients comfort – especially those who don't have family members," said an "anonymous" volunteer who prefers heavenly rewards to earthly recognition. "I don't usually see the recipients, but I often hear their feedback." For example, she recently heard one patient express that she wasn't leaving the hospital without her blanket! "That made me feel good, because each afghan is made with a circle of love and compassion," she added.

The crocheted or knitted afghans are generally four feet long and three feet wide – just long enough to cover from the foot of the bed to the patient's arms. Temperatures can be cooler in hospitals (to help kill germs) so afghans are great for keeping patients warm and can also be used when patients are escorted in wheelchairs for a procedure.

When volunteers take the gift and book carts to patient rooms, they also offer afghans free of charge. Patients are encouraged to take their afghans home, compliments of Volunteer Services.

For information on joining the "Keeping You in Stitches" volunteers, getting afghan patterns, making a square or sewing completed squares together, please call Sue Davis, 248-967-7721.



Volunteer Judy Schafer (right) and Samira Duliman, Patient Care Technician (left), deliver a colorful afghan to patient Robert Wright.

"Tree" programs help patients, hospital

For the 2007 holiday season, St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital offered special opportunities for associates, patients and families to honor or memorialize someone special or commemorate a special occasion through gifts of \$5 or more to the Remembrance Tree of Lights at the Macomb Center and the Tree of HOPE at the Oakland Center. At Macomb, a total of \$5,411 was collected to support the Medical Library. At the Oakland Center, \$8,641 benefitted the HOPE (Helping Our Patients in Emergencies) Fund.

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If you would like to learn more about giving opportunities at St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital, please call 586-582-7500.

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