Sparrow celebrates grand opening of two new facilities

Sparrow is celebrating the grand opening of Sparrow Medical Group (SMG) Holt, a new family practice, and Sparrow East Lansing. The latter is a new site that will provide urgent care services previously offered at the Okemos Urgent Care as well as lab services to Patients in East Lansing and surrounding areas.

“We’re proactively locating services in communities to ensure that residents and their families have access to the care necessary to safeguard their health,” said Joe Ruth, Sparrow Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.

These facilities are part of Sparrow’s goal to change the way it delivers care. All new Sparrow buildings reflect design elements from the Sparrow Tower on the main campus in Lansing and extend Sparrow’s brand into the region.

“Our goal is to make the Sparrow brand as recognizable as the quality of our care,” Ruth said. “We will continue to work to meet the health care needs of mid-Michigan in the future.”

Sparrow makes big commitment to care for our smallest Patients

Sparrow Children’s Center was recently selected as a member of the C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital Network, allowing our organizations to work more closely together to provide expanded care in pediatric specialties right here, close to home.

Sparrow Children’s Center providers will now have access to Mott specialists and best practices, including electronic collaboration tools, consults, and joint development of education programs, to name a few.

This move strengthens a longstanding referral relationship between our organizations. Mott Children’s Hospital currently provides highly specialized care for Sparrow Children’s Center Patients and its pediatric surgeons provide local services at Sparrow.

Nominations sought for Founders’ Day Award by Feb. 11

The Women’s Board of Managers is seeking nominations for the 2013 Founders’ Day Award.

The Founders’ Day Award is Sparrow’s highest honor given a Sparrow Caregiver, Physician, Volunteer, Board Member, community member or retiree who has made a significant contribution to Sparrow.

This year’s celebration is noteworthy as we mark 100 years of caring for Patients in our location on Michigan Avenue.

To request applications, call the Volunteer Office at 517.364.3606 and select option 5, or visit sparrow.org/foundersday. The deadline for applications is Feb. 11.
**TCI Shows off new look in New Year**

What better way to start the New Year than with a fresh new look! Thoracic and Cardiovascular Institute (TCI) has launched a new brand identity that updates the heart graphic in its logo and incorporates a green color palette to more accurately reflect its affiliation with Sparrow.

You’ll find the new look immediately on lab coats and a new website at tciheart.com, and it will spread over the next few months on new supplies.

The move affirms Sparrow’s commitment to partnering with TCI as we collectively prepare for a future related to the health of the population, accountable care and healthcare reform.

TCI and Sparrow are committed to providing the best heart care in mid-Michigan.

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**ICU Nurses bring home the gold for Patient care**

Sparrow Intensive Care Nurses were recently awarded the prestigious Beacon Award for Excellence by the American Association of Critical Care Nurses. Our team brought home the highest level for the three-year award, with a gold for their exceptional Patient Care.

To earn the award, Caregivers must demonstrate excellent and sustained performance and meet evidence-based criteria in six categories: leadership, staffing, communication, learning, use of best-practices and patient outcomes.

“Sparrow Health System salutes our nurses on receiving this recognition, as they now serve as a national model in which others will emulate,” said Carol Dwyer, Vice President of Nursing.

The team will be recognized at the National Teaching Institute and Critical Care Exposition in May.

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**Speedway and CMN refuel Pediatric Rehab**

Sparrow’s Pediatric Rehabilitation Unit has recently completed the first of a three-phase renovation, giving the floor a bright tune-up.

Speedway LLC is directing all Children’s Miracle Network Hospital donations in 2012 and 2013 to the project, which will overhaul the rehab gym, update private treatment rooms, redesign the waiting area and construct a new adolescent gym for teens.

Even the hallway has been redecorated to incorporate Speedway “race tracks” with roadwork patterns on the floor doing double service as clinical assessment tools measuring kids’ mobility and function.

“Many of our kids come to therapy for long periods of time, even years. We’re thrilled to be able to take a bland, clinical environment and transform it into a much more kid-friendly space,” said Nesha Hill, Sparrow Pediatric Rehabilitation Manager.

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**2012 Annual Report features Caregiver videos**

The 2012 Sparrow Annual Report, featuring videos of seven outstanding Sparrow Caregivers and how they are transforming health care, is now available online at www.sparrowannualreport.org.

The Report provides key highlights of the numerous achievements of our Caregivers and includes our Nursing Annual Report and Sparrow Foundation Annual Report.

The Report also focuses on Sparrow’s commitment to ensuring that Patient care is delivered through Patient-centered, evidence-based best practices. Highlights include profiles on Sparrow’s new iSparrow Electronic Medical Record system, our national recognitions, innovative programs, outstanding affiliates, and our Nursing Caregivers.

The Report is once again only being published online this year as another step in ensuring that Sparrow continues to be a good steward of our resources.
Marti Samsel, RN, BSN, is the new Clinical Manager at Sparrow Specialty Hospital.

Samsel began her nursing career at Sparrow and has served in many roles at Sparrow, most recently as the Director of Patient & Guest Services/Patient Relations Manager.

**Trio of volunteers honored by Hospice Services**

Sparrow Hospice Services has honored three volunteers for outstanding service during 2012. Geralyn Teszlewicz of Lansing received the Hospice House Volunteer of the Year award for the extraordinary compassion and energy she brings to Hospice House, a 21-bed facility on Sparrow’s St. Lawrence campus. W. Thomas Woodward of Haslett was recipient of the Home Hospice Volunteer of the Year honors for the exceptional rapport he establishes with Patients and Caregivers.

Nancy Martling of Lansing was given the Betty Geller Award Celebrating the Spirit of Hospice Care. Martling’s devotion to the hospice program over six years has earned the respect of staff and volunteers alike. Sparrow appreciates these incredible volunteers.

**Critical Care Transport team first in nation to use Epic software in an ambulance**

As part of our efforts to launch iSparrow EMR, Sparrow’s Critical Care Transport team was recently the first ambulance team to use Epic’s software platform in the U.S. Epic is the highly regarded software used by hospitals nationwide that powers iSparrow EMR.

“Sparrow’s innovation in implementing EMR use to document Patient care in an ambulance directly into the Patient’s medical record is a big win for continuity of care,” said Tom Bres, Sparrow Vice President and Chief Information Officer. “This allows Caregivers in the hospital to see the Patient’s vital signs and any medications that were administered in the ambulance in real-time, before the Patient is even in the building.”

This also allows the CCT team access to the Patient's real-time medical record on its way to the hospital. This gives them information such as lab results while the Patient is being transported.

The CCT team transports Patients from other facilities to Sparrow or within the hospital, bringing the ICU to the Patient. To contact the CCT for assistance with a critical Patient, call 517.364.0166.

(Left to right) Sparrow Caregiver Sharon Lake, RN, CCEMT-P, CEN, and Lansing/Mason Ambulance crew members Jen Schwartz, EMT, and Carter Anderson, EMT-P, were on the team that first used Epic during a transport.

**Lansing Internal Medicine Associates Joins Sparrow**

Lansing Internal Medicine Associates (LIMA), a medical practice that has been highly respected for more than 40 years, has joined Sparrow Medical Group (SMG). This partnership represents an ongoing movement toward stronger ties between Hospitals and Physicians.

“Adding LIMA to our Sparrow Medical Group family helps to improve Patient care and offers new services to LIMA patients,” said David Kruger, Sparrow Vice President of Physician Practice Administration. “This new partnership also helps to better meet the health care needs of the community.”

The practice, now called SMG Lansing Internal Medicine, includes Alan Neiberg, M.D.; John C. Siano, M.D.; Bo Wu, M.D.; and Grace Kulhanek, M.D. and is located in the Sparrow Professional Building Suite 500.

**GET MORE CONTENT ONLINE**

For more Sparrow News content, visit sparrow.org/mysparrowassociates. Scroll down to “Sparrow News” and click on “Additional online content.” You’ll see stories and photos on:

» Margaret Stevens of Haslett is named January Volunteer of the Month.

» Epilepsy Monitoring Unit expands hours, adds physician

» Leaders honored by Capital Area Health Alliance

« Marti Samsel, RN, BSN, is the new Clinical Manager at Sparrow Specialty Hospital. Samsel began her nursing career at Sparrow and has served in many roles at Sparrow, most recently as the Director of Patient & Guest Services/Patient Relations Manager.
Caregivers shower longtime Patient with holiday cheer

A team of Respiratory Therapists helped make one long-time Patient’s room more festive over the holidays, putting up a Christmas tree, decorating windows and creating “snowflakes” falling from the ceiling.

The Caregivers – Diane Gibbs, Paty Kaldor, Iris Larmor and Tammy Young – even reached out to friends, family, school children and other Caregivers to deliver more than 300 holiday cards to the Patient’s room to make his holidays at Sparrow a little brighter.

The Respiratory Therapists have developed an attachment to the Patient, who has been at Sparrow for more than seven months. He’s gained a reputation for delivering regular morning pep talks in return.

Their kind acts during the holidays reflect the “radical loving care” we value at Sparrow.

TCI Caregiver trains at Sparrow MAC to compete in National Senior Olympics

Sparrow’s generosity is helping a Charlotte woman (and new Sparrow Caregiver) realize her goal of participating in this year’s National Senior Olympics after surmounting obstacles that would have defeated most people.

Dianna Laverdiere, 52, overcame breast cancer, obesity and other health issues to lose more than 100 pounds and set her sights on competing in the cycling event in this summer’s Senior Olympics in Cleveland, Ohio.

Laverdiere has received a scholarship through the Sparrow Foundation to train at the Sparrow Michigan Athletic Club after telling her story to system leaders.

“In my search for the right exercise facility to help me achieve my training goals, I knew the MAC was the place for me,” she said. “I am so very grateful for the complimentary membership that was awarded me through the Sparrow Foundation.”

Laverdiere is also now officially part of the Sparrow family; she began work this month as a scheduling assistant at the Thoracic and Cardiovascular Institute.