Sparrow celebrates opening of Lansing Neurosurgery Learning Center

Neuroscience leaders from Sparrow, Lansing Neurosurgical Associates, and Michigan State University celebrated the opening of the Lansing Neurosurgery Learning Center, an educational hub for Physicians, Residents, Patients and the community, located on the 9th Floor of the Sparrow Tower.

The Learning Center will offer educational opportunities in the latest techniques, clinical advances and research for Physicians and the entire Neuroscience care team through a visiting lecturer program coordinated with MSU.

This project was generously supported with a commitment of $250,000 from Lansing Neurosurgical Associates, which has been treating brain and spinal disorders and trauma for Patients in our region since 1964.

“By supporting the Lansing Neurosurgery Learning Center, we are helping to advance education, research, and foster teamwork which has a direct impact on Patient care and the quality of life in the greater Lansing community,” said Christopher Abood, M.D., Lansing Neurosurgical Associates and Assistant Clinical Professor, Department of Surgery at Michigan State University.
Proceeds from the Gala will support our efforts to further enhance the best neuroscience care for the people of our region.

Courtney Huff hasn't been at Sparrow for two years yet, but her impact in that short time is helping to improve Nursing communications and enhance Patient care. It's why her colleagues have honored her in the RN Caregiver Spotlight.

Sparrow's RN Caregiver Spotlight recognizes one Nurse each month and highlights his/her accomplishments.

Huff has taken the initiative to help educate Nurses on Patient skin treatment and preventing pressure ulcers through the use of flyers, direct conversations and team huddles.

"We’re on the front lines of Patient care and we all do our best to advocate for Patient needs,” she said. “It’s an amazing feeling to be appreciated and recognized, truly an honor.”

RN Caregiver Spotlight: Courtney Huff

Visit the Black History 101 Mobile Museum Feb. 4 in the Sparrow Professional Building

As part of Black History Month celebrations, Sparrow will host a traveling exhibit that highlights the 15 people of African descent who have received the Nobel Peace Prize.

The Black History 101 Mobile Museum is curated by Michigan native Khalid el-Hakim and will be open to the public from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 4 in the Sparrow Professional Building 3rd floor atrium.

The Mobile Museum’s Peacemakers exhibit includes more than 150 original artifacts and is in celebration of the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr. receiving the Nobel Peace Prize.

For more information about the Black History 101 Mobile Museum, visit www.blackhistory101mobilemuseum.com.

Great Gala to be a night of roaring 20s fun

The annual Sparrow Gala – known this year as the Great Gala – will be held Feb. 22 at the University Club of Michigan State University, and will support the Sparrow Neurosciences Center.

The Great Gala promises to be an elegant evening you will not forget with entertainment, casino-style gaming, and countless hors d’oeuvre and dessert selections.

Sparrow recently opened its new Neurosciences Center, featuring 60 all-private Patient rooms and leading-edge technology to better support the critical needs of our Neurosciences Patients and their families.

For tickets and more information, visit SparrowFoundation.org/Gala.

Sparrow Nurse cares for typhoon victims in Philippines

Our Caregivers' dedication to helping those in need extends beyond our walls, as shown by Ashley Forsberg, a Sparrow Nurse and MNA Board member.

Forsberg recently returned from a two-week trip to help care for survivors of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines.

Haiyan, the most violent tropical cyclone to ever make landfall, hit in early November, killing more than 5,000 people. Ashley went with RNRN, the National Nurses United’s Registered Nurses Response Network, to care for the hundreds of thousands left homeless and vulnerable.

Thank you for your hard work to care for those who need it most!
Wellness Ambassador program seeks volunteers

Sparrow Caregivers spend every day taking care of others – but it's also important that they take care of themselves! This is why Sparrow kicked off the Wellness Ambassador program, where Caregivers promote wellness among their peers by disseminating information and encouraging a healthy lifestyle. Wellness Ambassadors staff wellness information tables, spread healthy living information and are leaders in changing the culture at Sparrow to one of wellness.

Caregivers need not be in perfect health to participate in the program, they just need to be striving to live a life of wellness.

Are you interested in promoting wellness at Sparrow? Contact Sara Glees at x48822 or sglees@themac.org.

Finding Sparrow locations is easier with improved mobile site

To make finding Sparrow locations more convenient for our Patients and visitors, Sparrow has launched a new mobile site with improved functionality.

To access the site, users just need to go to sparrow.org from a mobile device.

The updated mobile version of Sparrow’s website helps smartphone users easily find nearby public Sparrow locations – such as Pharmacy Plus, laboratories and emergency departments.

The mobile site is part of Sparrow’s efforts to meet the public’s evolving preferences for sharing and receiving information, and is one example of using innovative technology to help improve the Patient experience at Sparrow.

State of Nursing celebrates unique workforce

The annual State of Nursing celebration was held this month and focused on the individual and diverse roles of Sparrow Nurses. This year’s theme was, “Sparrow, where every Nurse is unique.”

The hall was decorated with snowflakes to symbolize the diversity of Sparrow Nurses and how they each play a part in helping to deliver quality, compassionate care at Sparrow.

The event also highlighted the accomplishments of 2013, the memorable work of Sparrow Nurses, a presentation by new SVP and CNO Mary Lou Wesley on the vision for Sparrow Nurses, and goals for the future. The Nursing Council leadership also honored the preceptor of the year and both the Emergency Department and the Mother Baby Center for their quality and innovative work in 2013.

Sparrow making strides in cleanliness but more work needed

Patient surveys show Sparrow has made great strides in improving cleanliness in Patient rooms and around the hospital, but there’s more to do.

The HCAHPS survey results reflect a sizable increase in cleanliness scores from the first quarter of 2013 through the end of the year. That’s in part due to initiatives such as evening turndown service as well as the rounding on Patients by the Women’s Board of Managers representatives to get Patients’ input about cleanliness and service.

Improving cleanliness means picking up loose paper, moving carts from hallways, and overall keeping the hospital neat and tidy. Patients’ view of the hospital's cleanliness directly affects how they perceive overall quality, said Timothy Hodge, D.O., Executive Medical Director of Emergency Services.

“We have to continue working at this. Every Caregiver should keep an eye out for clutter and take a personal role in keeping Sparrow clean for our Patients and their fellow Caregivers,” Dr. Hodge said.

PEOPLE NEWS

» Janet DeSantis, RN, a Sparrow nurse on 5 West, was recently honored by Capital Area Michigan Works! as their Alumna of the Year. She was chosen from eight nominees for the honor, which recognizes individuals who have made a courageous career change in their lives.

» Paul Sturgis has been named Sparrow’s new Vice President-Chief Human Resources Officer. Sturgis previously served as the Detroit Medical Center’s Vice President for Human Resources and Organizational Effectiveness, and has served as a Human Resources leader at Detroit Public Schools and DTE Energy.
Sparrow’s 2014 New Year’s Baby couldn’t wait to arrive

A New Year’s birthday was not in the plan for Lily Zofia McLane, Sparrow’s first baby of 2014. The baby girl was expected to arrive Jan. 20, but she couldn’t wait to make her appearance. The healthy girl was born to parents Kay and Andy McLane of Jackson at 1 a.m. on New Year’s Day, weighing in at 7 pounds 1 ounce.

Lily is the couple’s first child. She was delivered by James Barton, M.D., resident Ryan Luellwitz, D.O., nurses Heidi Gyomory and Erin Gilbert-Eyres, anesthesiologist Gertrude Hawkins, D.O., and nurse anesthetist Laurie Schively.

“Everybody is doing well and we’re just excited to have her,” said Andy McLane.

As Sparrow’s 2014 New Year’s Baby, Lily and her parents received an infant car seat along with a teddy bear and gifts from Sparrow.

At age 80, Sparrow Nurse retires again

Sparrow Nurse Glenna Miller celebrated her retirement last month and the end of a long career caring for Sparrow Patients – just weeks after marking her 80th birthday.

Miller started at Sparrow as a Nurse in 1969 and after her 1992 retirement, she was asked to come back on a per diem basis for six weeks. She ended up serving 18 years at Sparrow Bariatric & Weight Management Services.

“I’m very proud of Sparrow,” she said. “I have been here so long – I have been pleased and impressed with the growth of our wonderful facility and its reputation.”

She plans to spend her retirement playing tennis, vacationing in Florida, singing in her church choir, volunteering in the community, and enjoying her 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.