Getting ready for takeoff!

iSparrow EMR will launch Saturday, Dec. 1, throughout inpatient and outpatient areas at Sparrow Hospital, Sparrow Specialty Hospital, Sparrow Clinton and Sparrow Ionia.

There are many resources available to support Caregivers during Go-Live, including the Help Desk, Super Users and iSparrow Central. Check out the enclosed iSparrow EMR insert for more information about Go-Live.

Sparrow launches new MySparrow mobile app for smartphones

Sparrow is excited to announce the launch of a new smartphone app that will allow Sparrow Medical Group Family Practice Patients the ability to access their medical records, send messages to their doctors, schedule appointments, and request prescription renewals.

The MySparrow App is a key aspect of our iSparrow Electronic Medical Record (EMR) project and is designed to empower Patients to be more active participants in the care process. The new MySparrow App is available through your cell phone provider’s app store under MyChart.

You will first need to get a MySparrow login from your physician’s office. Then download the app and choose Sparrow as your health system. Download the MySparrow Mobile App today.

Celebrating 100 years at Michigan Avenue location

Sparrow leaders, Caregivers, local elected officials, and members of the Edward W. Sparrow family, recently gathered to honor the man who 100 years ago donated the land and monies to build the hospital on Michigan Avenue.

The Sparrow Women’s Hospital Association spent countless hours of research to put on the event highlighting key moments in Sparrow’s history and recognizing the hospital’s connection to our community.

“Edward W. Sparrow’s gifts have allowed us to be an essential contributor to the quality of life in mid-Michigan. We pledge to honor him and his family by tirelessly working to meet our Patients’ health care needs and expectations for the next 100 years,” said Dennis Swan, Sparrow President and CEO.

» Mary Jane Wilson, Sparrow Women’s Board of Managers, speaking at the 100 year celebration.
CMN pediatric patients to perform in “The Nutcracker”

Former Sparrow pediatric Patients will take center stage as part of the Children’s Ballet Theatre (CBT) production of “The Nutcracker” at the MSU Wharton Center on Nov. 23-25. These Children’s Miracle Network Patients with physical limitations have benefited from a variety of pediatric services through Sparrow, which allows the children to perform in activities, such as this ballet production.

“It takes courage for anyone to perform in front of hundreds of audience members, as the CMN guest dancers will do by the end of Thanksgiving weekend. Please come give them support by being there and cheering for them,” said Nadine Mehtner, a speech pathologist for Sparrow’s Pediatric Rehabilitation Services. Mehtner is a volunteer for CMN and coordinates “The Nutcracker” collaboration.

Performances are Friday, Nov. 23 and Saturday, Nov. 24 at 7:30 p.m. and again on Sunday, Nov. 25 at 8 p.m. A special performance will be offered on Monday, Nov. 26. Tickets are on sale online at www.cbtdance.org, by calling 1.800.Whotman, or by calling SPA at 517.364.4772.

Patient Care Tech Rene Crowe donates new clothes to homeless patient

As a Patient Care Tech at Sparrow, Rene Crowe has always lived her life to try to help others. That’s why she recently raided her husband’s closet to find clothes for a Sparrow homeless patient.

“She is always working to make patients feel better,” said Marcie Scranton, Assistant Department Manager of Medical/Surgical Pavilion. “This is not the first time she’s encountered a Patient in need, gone home and come back with clothes or gift cards. She does it discreetly. It’s just who she is and I’m so thankful to work with her.”

Crowe brought the Patient shoes, socks, pants, shirts, and even a jacket. But if you ask her, she didn’t feel as if she did anything else wouldn’t have done.

“We all need to help each other when we get the opportunity,” she said. “He was very grateful, but that’s not why I did it. We can all use a helping hand every now and then and then.”

Sparrow and MSU launch call center

A new referral service for Physicians, CareMatch for Kids, was announced this month as the latest step in the consolidation of children’s health care services between Sparrow and MSU.

CareMatch for Kids, staffed by uniquely trained referral coordinators, serves as a single point of contact between clinicians and pediatric subspecialty care for their Patients. It reduces wait times, makes it easier for Physicians and families to navigate the health care system, and ensures proper testing and paperwork is completed and forwarded between Physicians.

MSU Credit Union coming to Sparrow Professional Building

MSU Federal Credit Union will be moving into the 300 suite in the Sparrow Professional Building, taking over space currently leased by Option 1 Credit Union, in the next few months.

MSUFCU’s mission is to provide superior service while assisting members to achieve financial security, their goals and ultimately their dreams. MSUFCU has partnered with Sparrow in a variety of community programs and many Sparrow Caregivers currently hold MSUFCU accounts. We appreciate the many years of service provided by Option 1 Credit Union to caregivers at that location over the years, and look forward to offering MSUFCU’s services going forward.

Sparrow Caregivers team up to donate food to mid-Michigan’s hungry

More than 13,255 pounds of food are on their way to the Greater Lansing Food Bank thanks to the generosity of Sparrow Caregivers. The Michigan Harvest Gathering helps to feed mid-Michigan’s hungry.

This year, Surgical Services took a different approach. Rather than working as individuals to buy food, they teamed up and pooled their money — allowing them to buy bulk food at a cheaper rate.

The result? More than 8,000 pounds of food purchased by the department itself — up from 8,800 pounds last year.

“This exemplifies how much more effective and stronger we can be when we work together as one team,” said Mary Pride, Surgery Department Manager. “We are all very proud of our community and love Lansing. It’s with great honor that we are given the opportunity to give back.”

People News

Louise Smith, Engineering Director, celebrated her retirement at a tea on Nov. 1 at the SPB Atrium after 35 years of dedicated service to Sparrow. Smith started as a carpenter, and later as a leader was instrumental in supporting Sparrow’s growth, especially the Sparrow tower, SPB and the parking garages. We wish her the best of luck in a well-earned retirement.

Gary McMillan, Patient Safety Officer, is retiring from Sparrow this month. McMillan began his career with Sparrow in 1973 as the Cardiopulmonary Department Education Coordinator. During his 33-year career at Sparrow, he was involved in the development of the first interventional cardiac cath lab, electrophysiology cardiology lab and the asthma treatment center.

Sparrow Caregiver/ former Miss USA inspires community

She hasn’t worn her Miss USA crown in 25 years, but that doesn’t mean Michelle Jefferson has stopped serving as a role model to people all over the country.

Jefferson has now dedicated her life to helping others as an Occupational Therapist at Sparrow after her daughter had a stroke in 2004 at just nine years old. She’s been working at Sparrow since May.

“My daughter received great care at Sparrow during her recovery that I was inspired to give something back,” Jefferson said. “I know how much those therapists made a difference in my daughter’s life and I wanted to be able to do the same for other families.”

Her daughter has since fully recovered and is enjoying her freshman year at Michigan State University. Jefferson shared her story at the keynote speaker at the “Women Who Inspire” conference in Lansing on Nov. 14.
Sparrow gives thanks this season

Watch your mailboxes for Seasons Greetings from Sparrow!
Sparrow is once again sending out Meijer gift cards to all Caregivers as a token of appreciation, and especially your dedication day in and day out to providing quality, compassionate care to everyone, every time.
At Sparrow Caregivers celebrate many diverse holidays over the coming months and we wish all to share in the spirit of peace and hope during this time of year.

Caregiver enjoying third season as Pistons cheerleader

By day, she works in Sparrow’s Department of Learning and Organizational Development. In her off hours, Renee Verscheure has begun her third season as a Detroit Pistons team cheerleader.

“I never actually thought I’d get to this point,” she said. “It’s very surreal. Cheering has always been such a big part of my life but I never expected to be cheering on the Pistons.”

Verscheure beat out dozens of other hopefuls to earn a spot on the 22-person team two years ago. She first found out about the opportunity from her college cheerleading coach and figured she’d give it a shot. She said Sparrow and cheering really aren’t that different.

“The jobs are very similar in that I’m a part of a close-knit team,” she said. “Both have this family-like atmosphere that really make them stand out from other organizations.”

New social media policy implemented

Sparrow has implemented a new social media policy that provides guidance to Caregivers who are active on social media and identify themselves as a Sparrow Caregiver online.

The policy can be found on Marketing’s Social Media Guide page on the Sparrow Intranet, and it covers acceptable use of social media, including Facebook and Twitter. Important highlights include:

» Caregivers must always maintain Patient privacy and confidential information when posting on any website.

» If you choose to identify yourself as a Sparrow Caregiver on a social media site we request that you uphold the I-CARE values in your interactions.

Contact Marketing at sparrownews@sparrow.org for more information.
Make sure to “like” Sparrow at facebook.com/sparrowhealthsystem and follow us at twitter.com/sparrowhealth.