Greg Brogan to lead Sparrow Board

Greg Brogan has been elected as the new chair of the Sparrow Board of Directors of Sparrow Health System. Brogan will assume the role held for the last two years by James Butler III. Don Kuiper, M.D., was elected to serve as the new vice-chair.

Brogan has served as vice-chair since 2009. He is a graduate of Western Michigan University and a managing partner of East Lansing-based Brogan, Reed, Van Gorder and Associates (BRV). BRV specializes in employee benefits and retirement plans.

Butler was elected chair-emeritus and will remain on the Sparrow Board.

Since its inception in 1896, all the people who have served on Sparrow’s governing boards have been volunteers, people who donate time and expertise to help guide the future course of the organization. Today, Sparrow continues to be governed by people from our region who volunteer their service for the benefit of others.

Special Delivery!

Sparrow nears 250,000th birth

Sparrow Hospital has been in the business of delivering babies for more than 114 years, and sometime in the middle of March, the hospital will celebrate its 250,000th baby delivery, a milestone unmatched in mid-Michigan.

This extraordinary achievement is a tribute to Sparrow offering the finest birthing services in the region for as long as anyone can remember. Sparrow has been and remains the premier birthing hospital in mid-Michigan. In fact, if you grew up in mid-Michigan, odds are you were born at Sparrow.

So, get ready Sparrow family, there’s a special delivery on the way. Beginning in March, you will be able to follow the countdown on our website, sparrow.org, or follow us on Facebook which will feature other ways to celebrate and to win prizes. So, as we near this exciting milestone, we invite you to celebrate along with us!

Win a Prize!

Guess the exact time of day of the milestone delivery. Go to facebook.com/sparrowbabymilestone beginning Mar. 1
Sparrow Specialty reaches no VAP milestone. Sparrow Specialty Hospital (SSH) staff members from left, Stephanie Smedley, RN, Peet Peeters, RRT, Char Riggs, RN, and Ron White, RRT, celebrate the 24-month milestone of zero cases of ventilator-associated pneumonia (VAP) at the long-term acute care facility. Congratulations to the SSH team led by medical director Paul Entler, MD, and respiratory director Michael Burnett, DO, for this indicator of consistent, high quality patient care.

Your check mark can help support CMN

It’s tax season again. The Michigan income tax filing is once again offering a check-off box that allows charitable contributions to Children’s Miracle Network (CMN) hospitals in our state — including Sparrow.

On the 2010 Michigan Voluntary Contributions Schedule form (Form 4642) you can choose to donate $5, $10, or more of your refund to a number of organizations including CMN. By checking off the CMN fund, your donation is directed to the CMN hospital in your region. It’s a great way to support pediatric care, education and research at Sparrow — and it’s tax deductible!

To view the form, go to http://www.michigan.gov/documents/taxes/4642_305375_7.pdf

people news

Amy Brown, RN, is the new department manager of the 6-Tower Orthopedics Unit. Most recently Amy served as the interim department manager and has also served on the unit as assistant department manager, staff nurse and nurse educator.

Kevin Sharp is the new Director of Revenue Cycle. Kevin and his patient financial services team were recently recognized for their efforts in decreasing the hospital accounts receivable days by eight in 2010. Kevin will retain his responsibilities as director of Patient Financial Services.

Heidi Pearson is the new administrative assistant for Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs, Larry Rawsthorne, M.D. Most recently, Heidi served as administrative assistant for Sparrow’s Risk Management Department.
**Neuro care stars.** From left, Tonia Erlenbeck, RN, Ledya Harris, RN, Marci Stier, RN, Bryan Wilson, PCT, Bob Ehnis, RN, Christina Norder, RN, Anna Doutree, RN and Yolanda Ausborn, PCT, were treated by their managers to a catered lunch in January after they were consistently recognized by post-discharge phone call recipients for providing outstanding service. Post-discharge phone calls have proven to be an effective tool to increase patient satisfaction.

**Boiled out.** After more than 60 years of service, the old brick-lined boilers that provided steam to Sparrow Hospital are now being dismantled, replaced by more hi-tech versions inside Sparrow’s ultra-modern Central Utility Plant. Demolition will continue in the space on the far east end of the first floor through February. Once demolition is complete, planners will begin to decide a new purpose for the space.

**brief mentions**

**Safeguard your ID badge**
Beginning in February, associates are responsible for the $10 cost of replacing ID badges that are lost, forgotten at home, or damaged as a result of unauthorized alterations. The new ID badges are more costly due to smart card technology which works with the new proximity card readers. Security will continue to replace ID badges free of charge for legitimate reasons such as changes in a person’s name, department, title/job classification or damage due to normal wear. So, safeguard your ID badge and don’t forget to bring it to work. It could be costly if you do.

**Care for the Caregivers Variety Show**
The annual Care for the Caregivers Variety Show is scheduled for Saturday, Mar. 26, at East Lansing’s Hannah Community Center. The show will begin at 7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door and will also be available on Thursday, Mar. 24, from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. in the hospital cafeteria. Care for the Caregivers is Sparrow’s internal fund to assist associates who have experienced misfortune.

**Asher Court Rehab site to close**
The Sparrow Asher Court Outpatient Rehabilitation site in East Lansing will close at the end of February. Sparrow will continue to provide outpatient rehabilitation services at eight locations throughout the Greater Lansing area. The physical therapists and support staff at Asher Court will be relocated to other Sparrow clinics.

**New program helps teens rehab knee injuries.** Athletic trainer Heather Kleiman watches carefully as a young athlete works to build strength after surgery to repair a torn anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in the knee. A new Sparrow Sports Medicine training program led by orthopedic surgeon and sports medicine expert Patrick Noud, M.D., works to help transition young athletes back to the basketball court and playing field after suffering ACL injuries. The six-week training program held at Sparrow’s Michigan Athletic Club concentrates on balance and strengthening exercises to help prevent re-injury. To learn more about the program, call Sparrow Sports Medicine at 517.364.8070.

**Brief mentions**

**Tootsie Lambo** is the February Volunteer of the Month as selected by Sparrow’s Women’s Board of Managers. Tootsie has served as a Sparrow Volunteer since 1981 and is the originator of the Neuro Navigators group whose volunteers staff the neurology lounge on 6-Neumann.

**Marti Samsel** was recently selected to become a member of the American Hospital Association, Society for Healthcare Consumer Advocacy (SHCA) Board of Directors. Marti, who is director of Sparrow’s Service Excellence Department, will serve a two-year term on SHCA Board.
Opening Remarks. Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer Elizabeth Henry, RN, thanked Sparrow nurses for achieving Magnet recognition, our nation’s most important endorsement for high quality nursing care.

Preceptor of the Year. Intensive Care Unit Nurse Diane Birkmire, RN, CCRN was recognized for being an outstanding role model and mentor for young nurses.

Excellence in Practice. Four members of the 7-Foster Medical Intermediate Care Unit celebrate their excellence in practice award with Quality Council member Debbie Lopez, RN (second from left). From left, Kathi Coss RN, Lopez, Brian McArthur RN, assistant department manager Jessica Devereaux RN, and Kristi Finney RN, and the 7-Foster team were recognized for their outstanding pneumonia and influenza vaccination rates.

Most Improved Practice. From left, manager Amy Brown, RN, and Kris Tzumakas, RN, accepted the award for the 6-Tower Orthopedics Unit, recognized for their outstanding pneumonia assessments.

8th annual State of Nursing event highlights Magnet quality