Race for the health of it with Team Sparrow

Team Sparrow is a new way to get active and get involved in the community.

Caregivers and their family members can participate by registering for Team Sparrow and then walking, wheeling or running in Sparrow-sponsored charity races this year. Participants will receive Team Sparrow gear, including T-shirts, water bottles and hats, for each race they participate in, up to four items per person.

The eight Team Sparrow races in 2012 include the Komen Mid-Michigan Race for the Cure, March of Dimes March for Babies, Ele’s Race, Hike for Hospice and the inaugural Lansing Marathon.

Details on how to join are at sparrow.org/teamsparrow.

Sparrow Physicians celebrated on national Doctors’ Day

As a thank you to the unyielding commitment and tireless dedication of each Sparrow Physician, the medical staff was recently treated to a deluxe continental breakfast and special gift on national Doctors’ Day.

Our Physicians inspire our Caregivers to ensure that the needs of our Patients always come first. That was evident in the many personal messages displayed at sparrow.org/physiciansinspire, on our Facebook page, and at various locations throughout the Health System.

Thank you Sparrow Physicians for improving the health of the people in our region by providing quality, compassionate care to everyone, every time.
Sparrow Breast Clinic receives national honor

The Sparrow Breast Clinic has been designated a Breast Imaging Center of Excellence by the American College of Radiology. The designation recognizes breast imaging centers that have achieved a high level of quality and earned accreditation in the ACR’s voluntary breast imaging programs.

The ACR, based in Reston, Va., conducted peer-review evaluations to determine Sparrow has achieved high practice standards in a variety of breast programs.

Annual IronMAC triathlon a success

Sparrow Michigan Athletic Club (MAC) members and guests recently competed in the 2012 IronMAC event. The indoor triathlon consists of a 20-minute swim, 20-minute bike and 20-minute run. Prizes were awarded for each group and to the overall male and female winner. For details on scores and top finishers check themac.org.

Sparrow celebrates nurses

Sparrow nurses are leading the way, every Patient, every time. They will be honored with a number of events and activities during National Nurses Week, May 6-12.

The celebration will include a basket raffle fundraiser, vendor fair, massages by appointment for nurses, special food deliveries and tea services on both the main campus and St. Lawrence campus. On May 10, the Nurses of the Year, Jean Granger award and Life Time Achievement award will be presented at a special ceremony in the auditorium of the main hospital.

To find out more information or view a complete calendar of events, visit sparrow.org/inspiredbynurses.

Ira Ginsburg receives Founders’ Award

Ira Ginsburg, Sparrow’s recently retired Senior Vice President of Operations, was given Sparrow’s highest honor, the 2012 Sparrow Founders’ Award.

“He richly deserves and has clearly earned the Founders’ Award,” said Dennis Swan, President and CEO, Sparrow Health System.

The celebration marks Sparrow’s 116th year of service to the mid-Michigan community.

Ira Ginsburg poses with the 2012 Sparrow Founders’ Award.

Caregiver Variety show brings down the house

By all accounts the annual Variety Show presented by the Sparrow Care for the Caregivers Committee was a phenomenal success.

Funds raised by the event benefit the Care for the Caregivers Fund, which provides assistance to Caregivers who have experienced a major loss, catastrophe, illness, or medical condition affecting their well-being.

The two-hour show featured a Broadway-style theme and included 16 different acts of performers who sang, danced, and juggled.

The performance concluded with a grand finale featuring all the performers singing “Don’t Stop Believin’” by rock band Journey.

“Everybody loved it, they said it was the best show that we’ve done,” said organizer Pauline Stebbins, a Sparrow phlebotomist.

Caregivers who missed the show can purchase a DVD of the event for $15 by contacting Stebbins at 517.882.4602.

Jean Weygandt sings a song during the annual Caregiver Variety Show.

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Patient safety survey coming

Sparrow is kicking off a Culture of Safety initiative that aims to increase awareness about Patient and Caregiver safety.

The overall goal is to reduce serious safety events by 40 percent to 80 percent by the end of 2013.

As part of the effort, more than 2,000 Caregivers will be asked to participate in a safety survey from April 16 to May 11. Completing the survey is also a requirement for our Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations accreditation.

Selected Caregivers will soon receive details about completing the brief online survey. For more information, contact Safety Officer Gary McMillan at 517.364.5233.

Annual Caregiver mandatory training set to begin

Annual mandatory training is underway for all Caregivers with a Sparrow Health System identification number. Mandatory training will be located on the intranet under My Learning – LMS icon.

Please be aware there are six different categories of mandatory tests in 2012: Safety; Information Security; Compliance; Diversity & Inclusion; HIPAA Privacy; and Patient Rights.

Our goal is to have every Caregiver complete their training by the end of June. Details will be forthcoming to each Caregiver via email. Caregivers without email will receive additional communication from their leader.

Dapper Dads 2012 is right around the corner!

The 2012 annual Dapper Dads challenge recently kicked off at Kositchek’s in Lansing.

The annual event is organized by a committee of the Sparrow Foundation: Women Working Wonders (W3) and raises money to support women’s health in the community.

The winner receives a trophy and the top three winners earn gift certificates from Kositchek’s. The 13 gentlemen with the most votes will be featured in the 2013 Dapper Dads calendar. To find out more visit sparrow.org/dapperdads.

Becky Paalman, Sparrow Hospital Orthopedics Program Coordinator, has been elected president of the Junior League of Lansing 2012-13 Board of Directors. Paalman, RN, begins her term in May. Paalman is serving her fourth term on the board and has been active with the organization for seven years. The non-profit organization of women is committed to promoting volunteerism and developing the potential of women.

Ronald Melaragni, administrative director of Sparrow Pharmacy Plus Pharmacies, has received Michigan’s highest honor in the pharmacy profession. Melaragni was named the Michigan Pharmacist of the Year by the Michigan Pharmacists Association (MPA). The MPA Pharmacist of the Year Award is given to a pharmacist who demonstrates professional excellence and exemplary service to the profession in advancing public health at either the state or local level.

Lucy Vail is the new Human Resources Director-Partner Relations, responsible for Sparrow affiliates. In her new role, Vail will also support corporate HR strategic projects. Vail has previously served as vice president of human resources at a community hospital in upstate New York and in various human resources-related positions at several health systems in the Detroit area. She is a Registered Nurse by training and also has a law degree.

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:

> Greater Lansing Building Trades Council
> Run for the House
Sparrow and Hayes Green Beach Memorial Hospital in Charlotte formalize affiliation

Sparrow and Hayes Green Beach Memorial Hospital in Charlotte have formalized an affiliation agreement to work together to support operational, clinical and programmatic services.

Teams of care providers have collaborated on identifying initiatives that leverage the strength of each organization to better meet the needs of our patients and our communities.

This affiliation is not a merger or acquisition and builds on an already-strong relationship between Sparrow and Hayes Green Beach.

The affiliation will contribute to our mission of improving the health of the people in our communities by providing quality, compassionate care to everyone, every time.

Bring your child to Sparrow day

Sparrow is offering the opportunity for Caregivers to bring their child to work on June 11.

The day will feature activities designed for children between 10 and 14 intended to expose them to healthcare occupations. Children will receive lunch and tour departments, patient care units and have the opportunity to take part in a CSI-type program on forensic science.

Caregivers must pre-register their child because space is limited and will be filled on a first come-first serve basis. Registration forms will be available starting April 23 in Human Resources and on the Intranet under Human Resources-forms.

Caregivers will receive confirmation of their child’s attendance and a schedule of activities for reference. Please contact Ridge Boedeker at 517.364.5829 if you have any questions.

Got a story you’d like to share? E-mail your news tip to us at sparrownews@sparrow.org and we may include it in future editions.