Eaton Rapids family’s second child marks hospital milestone

Isaac Lee Denison’s arrival on St. Patrick’s Day was celebrated not only by his parents, but by the staff of Sparrow Hospital and people throughout mid-Michigan. That’s because Isaac is the 250,000th delivery in the hospital’s history, born just one day shy of Sparrow’s 115th anniversary.

Isaac is the second child of Lisa and Richard Denison of Eaton Rapids. Their first child, nine-year-old Joshua, was also born at Sparrow. Isaac arrived at 2:44 a.m. on March 17. He weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces. Clara Regal, M.D., delivered Isaac, assisted by resident physician Susrap Song, M.D., and Sparrow’s nursing staff.

“Every baby at Sparrow is special, but Isaac’s milestone birth is extra special because it draws attention to Sparrow’s long history of providing the finest care for expectant mothers and their babies,” said Maude Guerin, M.D., chair of the Ob-Gyn Department.

As Sparrow’s 250,000th baby, Isaac and his parents received a $2,500 U.S. Savings Bond in Isaac’s name. Capital Area Safe Kids Coalition donated an infant car seat and Sparrow filled the car seat with comfort items and gifts for mom, dad and baby. The Sparrow Gift Shop contributed a Teddy Bear and the Sparrow Auxiliary supplied a specially embroidered flannel sleep sack for Isaac to go home in.

A Mid-Michigan Milestone. The Denison family, Richard, Lisa and Joshua celebrate the birth of Isaac Lee Denison, Sparrow’s 250,000th baby. Lansing Ob-Gyn Associates physician Clara Regal, M.D. (background) was the attending physician for the historic birth.

Be an Everyday Hero

As caregivers, we dedicate our time and talents to make a difference in the lives of our patients. But there is another way to add to your hero status. Your gift to the Sparrow Foundation during our annual family campaign helps shape Sparrow’s future and sends a powerful message to our community about our commitment and dedication.

Become an Everyday Hero today. Turn in your commitment form by May 13 to be eligible for prizes. Visit ourfuture.sparrow.org or call the Sparrow Foundation, 364-5680.

Tell others what inspires you to give!

Sparrow Foundation
**My last edition**

It was February, 1991, when I wrote and edited my first *Sparrow News*. That edition’s lead story recognized Sparrow associates who had been called to duty to serve our nation in Desert Storm. Now, more than 20 years and 225 editions later, I write and edit my last *Sparrow News*, heralding the delivery of our 250,000th baby. In between, I’ve written thousands of stories and taken countless photos about the achievements of individuals and groups who make up our Sparrow team. Yet, all of those stories are but a small fraction of events, both large and small, that go on every day at Sparrow.

As I leave Sparrow for retirement, I want to thank everyone for sharing with me your thoughts, your feelings, your ideas, and for helping me tell the Sparrow story. It has been an honor to recognize the people here for the important work we do.

With sincere thanks,

*John Lux*

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**First DAISY nurse honored.** From left, Pediatrics Intensive Care Unit Manager Katie Sefton, RN, presents Courtney Miller, RN, with Sparrow’s first DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses. DAISY is an acronym for Diseases Attacking the Immune System. The DAISY Foundation was formed in January, 2000, by the family of J. Patrick Barnes who died at age 33 of complications of an immune system disease. Nominations for the award are written by fellow RNs, patients, family members, physicians, and staff. Miller, who serves as a staff nurse in the PICU, is the first Sparrow nurse to be honored with the DAISY award.

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**Ballet features Sparrow patients, benefits CMN**

Several children who receive pediatric services at Sparrow will take the stage as part of the Children’s Ballet Theatre (CBT) of Michigan’s spring production of Gaite Parisienne at Holt High School, May 6-8. The production is part of a unique partnership that enables children with physical limitations to practice and perform dance while helping to raise funds for pediatric services at Sparrow through the Children’s Miracle Network campaign.

For more information, or to purchase tickets, go to cbtdance.org.

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**SPA recycles batteries**

Beginning in April, Sparrow Professional Assistants (SPA) began offering a battery recycling station in their office in the main lobby. No car or industrial size batteries are accepted.

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**Carson City Hospital partners with CMU College of Medicine**

Sparrow-affiliated Carson City Hospital (CCH) and Central Michigan University’s (CMU) College of Medicine recently developed a partnership to provide clinical training to the university’s medical students. As part of the college’s clinical experience, students will have access to CCH facilities, physicians and patients. The CMU College of Medicine will enroll its first class of students in 2013. The seven-year agreement between CMU and CCH provides students with clinical privileges and supervision during their education.

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**Generating goodwill.** Representatives from the coalition that helped make the donation possible gathered at the generator before it is shipped to Haiti. Front row, from left: Explorer School fourth graders Erin Bowling, Alyx Wicks, Matthew Baker, Sean Cobb and Conor Meldrum with teacher Kellie O’Toole. Back row, from left: State of Michigan Regulation Specialist, OFIS J.R. Beauboeuf; Sparrow Vice President of Professional Services Tom Ostrander; Director of MSU’s Institute of International Health Dr. Reza Nassiri; Sparrow Chief or the Medical Staff Michael Clark, M.D.; GreenStone FCS CEO Dave Armstrong; GreenStone Vice President of Marketing and Public Relations Jim Nowak; and Sparrow Engineering Director Louie Smith.
Kathryn MacLaren, RN, BSN, has been promoted to manager of the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. Kathy began her career at Sparrow in 1990. Most recently she served as a nursing supervisor.

Alieu Nyassi has joined the Sparrow team as senior diversity and inclusion specialist. Most recently, Alieu served in a similar role at Cincinnati Children's Hospital.

Procter & Gamble gift funds nursing education. From left, Mother Baby Unit leaders Colleen Barry, MD, Stephenie Brummette, RN, and Linda Connor, RN, accept a check for $20,000 from Jack Buchan, senior manager of Procter & Gamble (P&G) the manufacturer of Pampers disposable diapers. Sparrow was one of ten birthing hospitals in the nation chosen by random to receive a monetary award to celebrate P&G’s expanded new supplier agreement with Premier Health Care Alliance, of which Sparrow is a member. The funds will be used for continuing education programs for Sparrow nurses in the Mother Baby Unit and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

Backstage tune-up. Synchronizing their harmony before they take the stage at the annual Care for the Caregivers Variety Show at East Lansing’s Hannah Community Center were the Belle Chords, Sparrow volunteers Kathryn Summers, Paula Hoffman, Sandy Clark and Elizabeth Johnson. The melodious quartet was among 18 acts at the annual show which raises money for Sparrow’s internal fund that aids associates who have experienced misfortune.

Sparrow and MSU join with community partners to provide generator for hospital in Haiti

Justinien Hospital in earthquake-stricken Haiti will soon have the light and electrical power to provide a higher quality of medical care, thanks to the gift of a generator donated through a partnership between Sparrow Hospital, Michigan State University, Williamston’s Explorer Elementary School and GreenStone Farm Credit Services (FCS).

“The need for dependable sources of electricity in Haiti is still great, and nowhere is that need greater than in hospitals,” said Dr. Reza Nassiri, director of MSU’s Institute of International Health. “This generator will literally save lives.”

Sparrow and GreenStone FCS shared the $12,000 cost of the Cummins 150 kilowatt diesel-powered generator helped by a $1,500 donation raised by fourth graders at Explorer Elementary School. MSU added a $2,000 donation to help ship the 1.5 ton generator from Lansing to Justinien Hospital in Cap-Haitien, Haiti.

Since early 2010, Sparrow Hospital and Michigan State University have coordinated efforts and resources to provide medical assistance to the people of Haiti. Last year, an advance team from Sparrow and MSU formed a relationship with Justinien Hospital to provide continuing aid.

“By coordinating the efforts and resources of MSU and Sparrow, and enlisting community partners we believe we can better provide much-needed medical assistance to the people of Haiti,” said Michael R. Clark, MD, Sparrow’s Chief of the Medical Staff.

With deepest regrets we announce the death of Mendel E. Ford, MD, 44, who died March 19. A graduate of Wayne State University School of Medicine. Dr. Ford joined the Sparrow Medical Staff in 1999 as an anesthesiologist.

On behalf of the entire Sparrow family, the Sparrow News offers our condolences to Dr. Ford’s family, friends and colleagues.
Kevin A. Kelly posthumously honored with 2011 Sparrow Founders’ Award

Kevin A. Kelly, former executive director of the Michigan Medical Society and former chair of the Sparrow Foundation Board of Directors was posthumously recognized with Sparrow Health System’s highest honor, the 2011 Sparrow Founders’ Award.

Accepting the award for Kelly, who died in 2008, was his wife, Jamie.

"Kevin Kelly was one of the giants of healthcare in mid-Michigan," said Greg Brogan, chair of the Sparrow Board of Directors. "His many contributions to healthcare and to community organizations throughout our community set a standard for excellence that remains in place today."

Kelly served the 16,000-member MSMS his entire career, beginning shortly after graduating from Michigan State University in 1979 in economics. He started as a legislative coordinator in 1979. In 1987, Mr. Kelly became managing director and in 2005, was named executive director.

Over the course of his career, Kelly received many awards and accolades including: The Michigan State University Distinguished Alumni Award; The American Medical Association’s Medical Executive Achievement Award; The Michigan Society of Association Executives Strategic Association Leader Award; and, the Vernice Davis Anthony Ele’s Place Award for his leadership of that agency’s efforts to counsel grieving children.

“He was a very special person,” Brogan said. “He had tremendous energy and vision combined with an unsurpassed dedication and commitment to providing quality healthcare in our community.”