Thank a Nurse ahead of Nurses Week

Nurses Week 2013 will be celebrated May 6-12 with special events for our Nurses. You can participate by personally thanking the Sparrow Nurses who have made a positive impact on you at Sparrow.org/nursesleadingtheway.

During Nurses Week, these messages will appear on this website, on our Facebook page and in various locations throughout the health system.

By consistently going above and beyond, our Nurses have helped Sparrow become part of the 6 percent of nationwide hospitals to receive Magnet Recognition for nursing achievement and excellence. Their contributions also helped Sparrow become the first in Michigan to be selected to join the prestigious Mayo Clinic Care Network.

First iSparrow EMR upgrade a success

Our first iSparrow EMR System upgrade and downtime was a huge success thanks to our Caregivers, Providers and iSparrow EMR Team.

During the April 17 downtime, Caregivers and Providers were requested to call the HelpDesk with concerns and questions; we received about 40 calls. The issues reported centered on printing, faxing and scanning. IT and Super Users will meet to discuss lessons learned.

During the upgrade, we installed more than 1,000 changes to the iSparrow EMR – both Ambulatory and Hospital-Based. These enhancements will improve the functionality of the EMR for our Caregivers and Providers.

Caregivers are encouraged to provide feedback regarding the downtime by emailing John McLeod, john.mcleod@sparrow.org. Our next upgrade is tentatively scheduled for June 12.

Sign up for Walk with the CEO

Lace up those sneakers! Join Sparrow President and CEO Dennis Swan and members of leadership for a fun 30-minute walk at noon on Wednesday, May 15. Sign up before May 1 and get your free pedometer to track your steps and be entered to win prizes.

For more information and to sign up, email Sara Glees at sglees@themac.org or visit the wellness tables in the SPB.
Chris Brown, Director of Security, comes to Sparrow after serving as the Director of Security at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick, N.J., and Assistant Director of Protective Services for Albert Einstein Healthcare Network in Philadelphia, Pa. Brown holds a master’s degree in Public Administration and certified by the International Association for Healthcare Security and Safety as a Certified Healthcare Protection Administrator. Please welcome Chris, his wife Camille, and his three children to the Sparrow family!

Dan Phillips has been appointed as the Administrative Director of the Sparrow Cancer Center. Phillips came to Sparrow in 1990 and has held a number of leadership roles, most recently as the Director of Rehabilitation and Respiratory Services. We want to thank Theresa Pruder for serving as the Interim Director. Her energy and passion for oncology Patients led to many process improvements under her leadership.

RNICU Department Manager Kathy Marble, MSN, RNC-NIC, will be recognized at the 25th Annual Nightingale Awards for Nursing Excellence from Oakland University. Nightingale Awards are given to nine winners and nine runners-up statewide. Marble is the runner up in the Education and Research Category. The Nightingale Awards will be held on Thursday, May 9, at The Mirage in Clinton Township.

Muhammad Hamdan, MD, FACP, has received a three-year appointment as Cancer Center Liaison Physician for the cancer program at Sparrow. He will join a network of more than 1,500 volunteer physicians nationally who are responsible for providing leadership and direction to establish, maintain and support their facilities’ cancer programs.

Sparrow Children’s Center celebrates 25 years of miracles

There have been 25 years of miracles and more than $20 million raised for the Sparrow Children’s Center through the annual Children’s Miracle Network Telethon. This year’s event will take place Friday, May 31 and Saturday, June 1.

This year’s Miracle Child is Bella Fakih, 5, of Okemos. She spent three months at Sparrow with a life-threatening bowel obstruction, overcoming great odds to fulfill her goal of being at school for the first day of kindergarten.

Megan Fakih, Bella’s mother, said of the recognition, “We were just so honored to fulfill that role. For me, it’s closure. Now, we can give back and be done with this part of our life. I know for a lot of families that’s not the case.”

The Sparrow Children’s Center became a Children’s Miracle Network Hospital in 1988. The telethon will air on WILX-TV 10 from 8:30 – 11 p.m. on May 31 and noon – 6 p.m. on June 1. All money raised benefits the Sparrow Children’s Center.

Sparrow Pharmacy Plus locations have just rolled out new bottle labels that include a QR code to make it easier than ever to get your prescriptions refilled. Simply download a QR barcode reader from your smartphone’s app store, scan the QR code, and follow instructions on the Pharmacy Plus app.

Sparrow Outpatient Pharmacy and Sparrow Clinton Pharmacy will be implementing the new labels soon, too. And remember, Sparrow Medical Group Patients can use the MySparrow app to access medical records, message their Physicians, schedule appointments, and more.

Submit ideas to revamp the Grand River Corridor

If you have a vision to improve the Grand River Corridor, come share your ideas with the public at the Lansing Center from 6-9:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 1.

The Mid-Michigan Program for Greater Sustainability is working to create a regional vision for the Greater Lansing Region’s busiest corridor – from Webberville to downtown Lansing. Like many organizations along the Corridor, Sparrow has a stake in this event.

This is your opportunity to find out how community planning works and to have your voice be heard.

A design studio open house and work-in-progress presentation are open to the public as well. Visit migrand-charrette.com for more information or call 517.393.0342 ext. 10.

Prescription refills at your fingertips

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Bella Fakih, 2013 Miracle Child »
Sparrow policies and procedures go digital

Notice a new icon in the “Sparrow Applications” folder on your computer desktop?

Policy and Procedure Manager (PPM), a new Internet-based portal to access official Sparrow policies, written procedures, forms, protocols and work instructions, went live on April 1.

To login, use your Caregiver Number for your Username, and your 4-digit Sparrow PIN as your Password.

A PPM User Guide can be found within PPM in the “Policy and Procedure Manager” folder. For technical login questions, call the HelpDesk at 517.364.4357. For questions on using the PPM program itself, contact Linda Butler, Audit and Compliance Services, at 517.364.2552, or Bill Papanikolas at 517.364.2134.

CMN guest dancers featured in ballet

Pediatric Patients from the Children’s Miracle Network/Sparrow Children’s Center will be guest dancers at a spring production of the ballet Sleeping Beauty at the Holt High School Theater on May 3-5.

The performance, presented by the Children’s Ballet Theatre of Michigan, is always touching and a wonderful way to benefit both CMN and the ballet company. Showtimes are 7 p.m. on May 3-4 and 2 p.m. on May 5. Tickets are available at cbtdance.org.

Sparrow affiliates earn national recognition among Top 100 Critical Access Hospitals in the U.S.

Sparrow Clinton Hospital in St. Johns, and Sparrow affiliate Hayes Green Beach Memorial Hospital in Charlotte both earned a national ranking in the Top 100 Critical Access Hospitals by iVantage Health Analytics.

Rural, safety-net hospitals are evaluated on clinical and operational performance, financial, and qualitative outcomes, with those in the Top 100 shown as providing “Benchmark Performance for Critical Access Hospitals.”

Congratulations to both hospitals for providing nationally recognized Patient care.

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:

» St. Lawrence Mural dedication
» MQC Award Presentation
» CPS-3 Cancer Study Kickoff
Caregiver proposes during variety show

When Sparrow Caregiver Wil Slone decided to propose to his girlfriend Rose Van Schoick, he chose to surprise her in front of hundreds of friends, family and colleagues during the recent Caregiver Variety Show.

“It was fun to do that at the Variety Show,” said Slone, a plumber in the Engineering Department who performed with his band during the show. “Sparrow feels like my family.”

Van Schoick, who serves as the financial secretary for Sparrow’s UAW local 4911, said Slone is “forever a jokester” and she thought he was joking — until she saw the ring.

To watch a video of the proposal, visit SparrowTV.org and click on “Caregivers.”

All Caregivers in pursuit of best practices

Every morning at 9 a.m. Sparrow leaders conduct a Safety Moment to spot check the Health System. This brief exchange is a chance to acknowledge and fix issues that could put our Patients, our Caregivers, or the hospital at risk.

Sparrow’s commitment to attaining safe quality care includes receiving accreditation by The Joint Commission. To receive TJC accreditation, Sparrow undergoes a thorough onsite accreditation survey every three years. Sparrow’s next survey could happen any day.

In the first weeks of the TJC Scavenger Hunt, Caregivers have helped us to identify, and more importantly fix, some 400 issues that could cause problems during our upcoming TJC survey.

The Hunt, which runs through April, is good practice for what all Caregivers should be doing every day - being vigilant, speaking up, and taking action when something isn’t right.

Keep your eyes on the prize and maybe you can win one of these great prizes: an Ipad, Garmin GPS, ipod touch, netbook and kindle, tickets to Lugnuts, Wharton Center and Common Ground or gift cards to Amazon, itunes, or for home improvement or a massage, just to name a few.

Go to the Accreditation Readiness page on the Sparrow Intranet to submit your “find.”