“And the winner is…”
IT holds Oscar ceremony

There was glitz, glamour and even 8 a.m. red carpet interviews as more than 200 Caregivers from Information Technology recently attended a special awards ceremony, “A Morning at the Oscars.”

During the event, some 20 Caregivers were nominated in six “Oscar” categories for extraordinary work in 2012. It was a particularly busy year for IT with the launch of iSparrow EMR and numerous other projects.

Nominees even tested their acting skills by portraying famous movie characters, such as Dirty Harry, in video satires. Winners were treated to a short shopping spree at Best Buy.

There was a more serious purpose, too: Caregivers learned about strategic priorities for 2013.

Sparrow, Mayo Clinic Care Network team up for Patients

Sparrow’s membership in the prestigious Mayo Clinic Care Network is helping Sparrow Physicians provide some of the most advanced care in the nation, right here in mid-Michigan.

Resources will soon be available to help Caregivers answer questions you may get from Patients. Watch for new Patient brochures, Caregiver Information Cards and Communication Board flyers.

Talk to your Leader for more information or visit Sparrow.org/Mayo.
Sparrow Nurses were honored during National Nurses Week, May 6-12. The celebration featured special events, including a presentation from nationally renowned speaker Liz Jazwiec, RN, and the Sparrow Nurses Tea and Awards Ceremony.

To read hundreds of special comments thanking Sparrow Nurses, visit sparrow.org/inspiredbynurses.

Questions about healthcare? PHP has answers

Furthering a commitment to customer service, PHP launched a new website in May dedicated to helping individuals, employers, healthcare providers and insurance agents prepare for Michigan’s health insurance exchange and other aspects of federal healthcare reform.

The site, phphealthanswers.com, offers question and answer sections, employer penalty calculators, and webinars to help keep the public up-to-date as new details about healthcare reform emerge.

“We’re happy to share our expertise with the goal of helping mid-Michigan employers and consumers make informed decisions about health coverage,” said PHP President and CEO Scott Wilkerson.

The federal Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires each state to develop a health insurance exchange on which small businesses and individuals can compare plans and shop for coverage.

Sparrow celebrates Nurses

Sparrow Nurses were honored during National Nurses Week, May 6-12. The celebration featured special events, including a presentation from nationally renowned speaker Liz Jazwiec, RN, and the Sparrow Nurses Tea and Awards Ceremony.

To read hundreds of special comments thanking Sparrow Nurses, visit sparrow.org/inspiredbynurses.

See our insert on the award winners.

Pain Management Center receives prestigious three-year accreditation

The Sparrow Pain Management Center has received a three-year accreditation by the Commission for Accreditation of Rehab Facilities, and is one of only two programs in Michigan with the designation.

CARF is a very outcomes-focused program, concentrating on how programs track Patient data relating to their chronic pain care and how the information is shared or made available.

This is the third full accreditation received by the Pain Management Center since 2007.
Sparrow honors ‘Physician of the Year,’ names new Hall of Fame members

Joseph K. Meunier, DO, a renowned Gynecological Oncology Specialist, is Sparrow’s 2013 Physician of the Year, while Karen Kent-Van Gorder, MD, was given the Sparrow Physician Leadership award.

They, along with five others inducted into Sparrow’s Physician Hall of Fame, were recently honored during the annual Physician Recognition Dinner at the Country Club of Lansing. The ceremony is hosted by the Sparrow Women’s Board of Managers and sponsored by PNC Bank.

Dr. Meunier helped develop the gynecology robotics program at Sparrow in 2006, while Dr. Kent-Van Gorder helped develop a Peer Review and Credentialing System based on standards of medical performance and professionalism that raise the quality of Patient care.

Mark Douglas Ensberg, MD, William P Gifford, MD, James Herman, MD, and Carol R. Rapson, MD, were inducted into Sparrow’s Physician Hall of Fame. Milton Shaw, MD, was also inducted, posthumously.

Super Users available to support Caregivers with EMR

The iSparrow EMR Super User Program is now called Team Yellow Jackets. The team of close to 150 Yellow Jackets meet on a monthly basis to gather updated information on complex workflows, statistics and metrics to evaluate our progress and receive information to share with their colleagues.

At these meetings, Yellow Jackets are encouraged to discuss issues and concerns about EMR and work together with the EMR team to identify solutions. The Yellow Jackets are leaders who are able to educate/communicate with their peers, and willing to be the go-to person for their area.

Yellow Jackets are available in most Departments/Nursing Units to provide hands-on assistance to our Caregivers. Caregivers are encouraged to reach out to these individuals for support; however, the HelpDesk can always be contacted when questions/issues arise at 517.364.4387 or 44387.

EMS technicians honored during special week

The recent bombings in Boston highlighted the extraordinary work of Emergency Medical Services technicians. National EMS Week was held this month to honor the dedication of those who provide day-to-day lifesaving services on medicine’s front lines.

Sparrow’s EMS Director John Dery, DO, led activities to recognize top area EMS staff with annual recognition awards.

Sparrow releases Community Health Assessments

Sparrow is proud to release its Community Health Needs Assessments for Sparrow Hospital, Sparrow Specialty Hospital, Sparrow Clinton Hospital and Sparrow Ionia Hospital.

Assessing community health needs and adopting a strategy to address those needs supports Sparrow’s mission to improve the health of the people in the communities we serve.

Many people provided time and assistance in helping us to identify the most important health needs, issues, and concerns throughout this region. The Healthy! Capital Counties collaborative conducted the underlying community health needs assessment work upon which this report is based.

To view the assessments, visit sparrow.org/CommunityHealthAssessment.

Everett students kick for Sparrow kids

38 Everett High School students. 2 hours. 2,700 kicks.

The students recently held their annual Kickathon to raise money to benefit pediatric Patients at Sparrow.

Special thanks to Frank Seminski, Everett teacher and Tae Kwon Do instructor, for all the work he does...for the health of his kids and ours!
Tickled pink!

With all the rain in April, it was still a surprise to find it raining multiples (and girls, no less) in the Sparrow Mother/Baby unit. In one 12-hour shift, 20 babies were born, including two sets of twin girls, and one set of triplet girls.

We caught up with the triplets two weeks later and just had to share these sweethearts with you!

Best of luck to parents Ryan and Erin Chippewa of Beal City, Mich., and big brothers Blake, 8, and Bradden, 5, as they welcome Caylee and identical twins Kiley and Kelsey to their adorable family.

Feeding time is an "all hands on deck" affair for the Chippewa family with the help of Bonnie Roth, RN, (right).

Attention! We're building better care

At Sparrow, our commitment to providing the best Patient care means providing facilities that meet the needs of our community.

Over the next few years a series of new construction and renovation projects will allow us to deliver the best care when and where our Patients need it.

In June, the Emergency Department entrance will be temporarily relocated to inside the Sparrow Main lobby as we begin replacing our current operating rooms with some of the most advanced ORs in Michigan.

Be on the lookout for special signage and communications keeping Patients and Caregivers up to date on our projects as we work to build a healthy future for our community.