Evvie overwhelmed. Evelyn Bochenek, RN, director of surgical services at Sparrow, was overcome with emotion when she was surprised with the Sparrow Nursing Lifetime Achievement Award at the annual Nurses Week Tea on May 12. Bochenek was honored for her 41 years of exemplary service. Although she was a member of the awards selection committee, the honor was a well-kept secret, as was the appearance of her family, who were waiting in the wings until the award was announced. The emotion of the moment touched many, including Sparrow Nursing Vice President Carol Dwyer (background).

High stepping toward fitness. Michigan Athletic Club personal training manager Jermaine Alexander leads a group of students from East Lansing’s Donley Elementary School in group exercises during the annual ACES (All Children Exercise Simultaneously) Fitness Day on May 5. ACES Day provides education, motivation and an overall sense of enjoyment for exercising and this year, more than 400,000 Michigan students participated in the event joining millions of children from all 50 states and more than 50 countries.
**Local kids support Sparrow-MSU aid to Haiti.** Williamston Explorer Elementary School third-graders present a $1,500 check to from far left, Dr. Reza Nassiri, director of MSU’s Institute of International Health and assistant dean in the College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Michael Clark, Sparrow’s Chief of the Medical Staff and Tom Ostrander, Sparrow Vice President of Human Resources. The 114 third-graders raised the money through an economics fair in which they manufactured and sold their own products, including pet rocks and stress balls. The youngsters decided themselves to donate the money to help the people of Haiti.

Donations for Sparrow’s efforts in Haiti may be made by calling the Sparrow Foundation at 517.364.5680 – or gifts may be sent to the Haiti Heal Project Fund, c/o Michigan State University, Office of University Advancement, 300 Spartan Way, East Lansing, MI 48824.

**Safety threshold.** From left, Alicia Zacek, RN, and Sally Ross, RN, kneel behind the new doorsill signs they devised to remind those entering patient rooms of the importance of hand hygiene. The new reminder signs have been installed as a pilot program on Sparrow Hospital’s Neuro Intensive Care and Neuro Stepdown Units.

**Bangles, baubles and beads.** Nutrition associate Debbie McCain browses bins of bracelets, necklaces and other bling-things at the $5 Jewelry Sale sponsored by Sparrow’s Mary Magdelen League volunteers. The always popular sale was held at both the Sparrow and St. Lawrence campuses in April, with proceeds benefitting Sparrow’s Behavioral Health Services.

**Correction:** With sincerest apologies, the Sparrow News regrets an error we made in our May 3, issue in the story entitled Helping Haiti. In that story we mistakenly identified one of the physicians who has provided humanitarian aid to the Haitian people as David Porter. To correct our error, that physician is Donald Porter, MD, a member of the Sparrow Clinton Hospital staff. Once again, our apologies to Dr. Porter and our readers.
Pregnancy expert begins 100-hospital crusade at Sparrow.

From left, Sparrow Director of Women and Children Services Sue Godfrey, RN, chats with Tori Kropp, RN, an internationally known figure in the field of women's health, pregnancy and early parenting and author of the book “The Joy of Pregnancy.” Kropp visited Sparrow on May 4, to kick off her 100-hospital nationwide crusade to raise awareness to the safety of hospital births and toured Sparrow’s Mother Baby Center, Labor & Delivery and Neonatal Intensive Care Units. Over the next several months she plans on carrying her message to hospitals throughout the Midwest, South and Atlantic Coast.

Tiffany Wiggins has been selected by the Sparrow Women’s Board of Managers and the Volunteer Services Department as the May Volunteer of the Month. Tiffany serves as a Teen Volunteer and is also an honor student at Lansing’s Sexton High School.

We say goodbye to Marian Guillen who retired after 20 years of service in Environmental Services. Marian was treated to a tea in her honor on April 30.

**Flu restrictions lifted**

In May, Sparrow lifted visiting restrictions in effect since late 2009 to protect patients and staff from the H1N1 influenza virus (swine flu). During 2010, H1N1 illness and flu-like illness in our region has been much less than our experience last fall.

“I want to thank everyone who contributed their time and energy to preventing the spread of H1N1 at Sparrow and in our community,” said Robin Roach, RN, director of Sparrow Infection Prevention and Epidemiology.

Influenza and public health experts expect to see H1N1 flu illness reemerge this fall. H1N1 vaccine is still available in Occupational Health. Seasonal flu shots for 2010-11 will contain H1N1 vaccine as well as other flu A and flu B components.

Look for announcements on flu vaccination clinics later this year.

**Stress building up? Try a chair massage**

Sparrow Personal Assistants (SPA) has begun a new trial program to offer chair massages by appointment, the Friday after paydays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All massages are scheduled through SPA on a first-come-first-served basis. Appointments should occur during your scheduled break time. The cost is $8 for a 10-minute chair massage. Payment must be made at time of scheduling appointment, cash or check only. There are no refunds for missed appointments.

For more information, call SPA at x44772.

**LDI scheduled**

Sparrow’s Leadership Development Institute (LDI) will hold their next session on Wednesday, June 9 at the Lansing Center. The program will begin at 8 a.m. For the most up to date information, please refer to the LOD Intranet page for a schedule of events.

**Summer Dance Party benefits CCH and CMN**

Get ready to shake it up! The 11th annual Summer Dance Party is scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 29, at 7 p.m., on the main stage of the Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort in Mt. Pleasant. This year’s event will benefit several hospitals including Sparrow affiliate Carson City Hospital and the Sparrow Foundation’s Children’s Miracle Network campaign.

This year’s event will headline the legendary Paul Revere and the Raiders. This year’s general admission tickets are $30. Cash bars and two dance floors will be available during the entire event. Please forward your check (payable to Carson City Hospital) Attn: Bruce L. Traverse, CEO, 406 E. Elm Street, P.O. Box 879, Carson City, Michigan 48811. Get your tickets early. Hotel reservations at the Soaring Eagle Resort Hotel can be made by calling 877.232.4532.

Carson City, Sparrow sponsor Frontier Days

The 38th annual Carson City Frontier Days will be “a weekend to celebrate” according to event organizers. The festival is June 3-6 in Carson City with most activities at Carson City-Crystal High School. Carson Health Network/Carson City Hospital and Sparrow are sponsors of the event.

For a full schedule of events and more information check out Frontier Days online at www.carsoncityfrontierdays.com.
Little amigos. Students from neighboring Bingham Elementary School entertained Sparrow family members in the Sparrow Professional Building atrium with Mexican songs and dancing to celebrate Cinco de Mayo Day. The event, sponsored by Sparrow Diversity, featured Mexican food and decorations handmade by the students.

Elizabeth Henry receives first Nursing Executive Award. Also honored at the annual Nursing Week Tea was Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer Elizabeth Henry, RN, who was surprised with the very first Sparrow Nursing Executive Award. Sparrow President Dennis Swan presented the award to Henry, citing her outstanding leadership in achieving Magnet Nursing recognition for Sparrow Hospital.