Thank you, mid-Michigan! Sparrow notables and friends joined with our partners from WILX-TV-10 at the wrap-up of the 22nd annual Sparrow Children’s Miracle Network (CMN) Giveathon on June 5. The Sparrow Foundation’s Joy Wiseman, who coordinated the event, said more than $670,000 has been raised to support pediatric services at Sparrow and more donations are still pouring in. “I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the mid-Michigan community and all the Sparrow associates who gave of their time and expertise to make this event a great success,” Wiseman said. Sparrow is one of only 170 CMN hospitals in the country. The giveathon which was broadcast from the Sparrow Professional Building, featured vignettes of local children who have benefitted from the care they received at Sparrow.

Health Policy Committee visits NICU. Neonatal Intensive care Unit (NICU) Manager Sandy Geller, RN, explains some of the equipment and techniques used to care for premature infants to, from left, Rep. Marc Corriveau (D-Northville), Rep. Roy Schmidt (D-Grand Rapids), Rep. Richard Ball (R-Laingsburg), and Rep. Mary Valentine (D-Norton Shores), all members of the Michigan House Health Policy Committee. The committee visited Sparrow in June to gather information about the role of a NICU in a hospital and heard testimony from Geller on the types of patients cared for at Sparrow.
Coming soon: New ID badges
An important component of our rebranding is providing ID badges with the new brand identity to all members of the Sparrow team. Sparrow’s Security Department is anticipating they will begin issuing the new ID badges the week of July 6 and continue through early August.

The new badges will have advanced “smart card” technology that provides ease of access for authorized individuals, while enhancing security throughout Sparrow. The new ID badges also will have the ability to be programmed for potential uses such as computer sign-on and log-in, and payroll deduction for purchases for certain Sparrow services and products. While these applications will not be immediately available, Information Services is working to install these new applications.

Look for upcoming announcements on the issuing of Sparrow’s new ID badges.

Cancer Center receives national quality award
Sparrow’s Cancer Center was selected as one of 16 practices nationwide to achieve Quality Oncology Practice Initiative (QOPI) certification from the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) at their annual meeting in June.

“Having a national certification program that acknowledges the highest standards of cancer care delivery is a major milestone for health care in America,” said Douglas W. Blayney, ASCO President. “Not only should these community oncology practices feel tremendous pride in their QOPI certification, but their patients can be confident in the quality of care they are receiving.”

QOPI is a voluntary, self-assessment and improvement program launched by ASCO in 2006 to help oncology practices assess the quality of care they provide to patients. ASCO is the world’s leading professional organization representing physicians who care for people with cancer.

Information network earns state honors
The Michigan Health Information Technology (HIT) Commission recently honored the Capital Area Regional Health Information Organization (CARHIO) in Lansing, for creating a digital health information strategy and system for a three county area that would promote the secure exchange of clinical patient information across organizational boundaries. Sparrow is a founding member of CARHIO, which began in January 2005.
F.I.T. Kids wellness program receives MHA’s Ludwig Award

Sparrow’s Fitness Initiative Targeting Kids, or F.I.T Kids program, has received the prestigious 2010 Ludwig Award from the Michigan Health & Hospital Association (MHA)

The community-based F.I.T. Kids program debuted in 2008 and is currently being piloted with Lansing’s Pleasant View Magnet School and C.W. Otto Middle School. The program is designed to encourage students to increase physical activity and to make healthier food choices. The program has received positive reviews by administration, teachers, staff, parents and students.

“We’re living at a time when, on average, students spend four or more hours a day just sitting — whether it’s in front of a TV set, video game monitor or computer,” said Beth Spyke, director of Sparrow Health and Wellness. “F.I.T. Kids brings together a community-based wellness team focused on getting our students to make healthy lifestyle choices.”

F.I.T. Kids was initiated by Sparrow and is supported by the Lansing School District, the MAC, Michigan State University, Lansing Community College, Ingham County Health Department, Playmakers, Capital Area Health Alliance, Accident Fund, Michigan State Medical Society, Ingham County Medical Society, Blue Cross Blue Shield and Ingham Regional Medical Center.

The MHA’s Ludwig Award is presented annually to health care organizations that demonstrate community benefit by improving the health and well-being of their communities through health care, economic or social initiatives. Sparrow also will receive a $2,500 cash award to help sustain the program.

For more information on F.I.T. Kids, go online to www.lansingfitkids.com.

Sparrow hosting Farmer’s Market

The Allen Street Farmer’s market will visit the Sparrow campus again on Wednesday, July 21, from 2:30 – 7 p.m. The market, which will be in the Sparrow Foundation parking lot on Michigan Avenue, features fresh fruits and vegetables from local vendors.
Michigan Mile. More than 2,100 children and 170 adult volunteers spill on to the outfield warning track at Lansing’s Cooley Law School Stadium for the beginning of the 2010 Kohl’s Michigan Mile/KIDSPRINT on June 5. This fun, non-competitive event, presented by Sparrow, is the capstone event of Kohl’s Feelin’ Good Mileage Club, a program that enlists students to walk on the school playground and rewards them when they reach specific milestones. This year, more than 40,000 K-6 students in eight Michigan counties participated in the program.

(Photo courtesy of Dan Carey)

Boys of summer. Along with barbecues and fresh-mowed lawns, softball games are a sure sign that summer is finally here. Representing the Sparrow team on the diamonds this year is the Sparrow Security Softball Team. Front row, left to right, Joe Becker, Joe Szafranski, Jason Ossoff, James Horowitz and Chris Buffa. Back row, left to right, Tung Vu-Nguyen, Anthony Lopez, Jason Koller, Ryan Lewis, Joe Douglas, Dan Porter, Ricky Artibee and Alex Hawkins.

All the games are at the East Lansing Softball Complex on Abbott Road, half a mile north of Lansing Road. The next three games are on June 30 at 6:15 p.m., July 7 at 6:15 p.m., and July 14 at 6:15 p.m. Go get ‘em Sparrow!