Mother Baby Center dedication honors Dr. Sheets

Paying tribute to the legacy of a beloved physician, Sparrow President and CEO Dennis Swan dedicated the Dr. Joseph L. Sheets Stork Express and the Dr. Joseph L. Sheets Mother Baby Center inside Sparrow Hospital during a private ceremony in May.

“Dr. Sheets was respected by his patients and colleagues alike, and his legacy continues to inspire us all,” Swan said. “This dedication honors his professional and personal contributions to Sparrow and our communities. Every time a baby is born at the Dr. Joseph L. Sheets Mother Baby Center, the legacy of caring created by this important figure in the community will be strengthened.”

The Sheets Mother Baby Center, located on the third floor of the hospital’s Neumann Wing, is designed to make the birthing experience more gratifying. The center is also a complete training center for first-time mothers seeking to familiarize themselves with the latest techniques of child care. The Sheets Stork Express refers to elevator No. 6 – a special call elevator reserved for expectant mothers.

Dr. Sheets, who died in 2009, received the 2004 Sparrow Founders’ Award and was inducted into the Physicians Hall of Fame in 2006. His distinguished career included more than 5,000 major surgeries and 10,000 deliveries.
Knowing that you will be visiting a hospital for medical treatment can make you feel very anxious. Knowing more about your health problem and how others have fared before you can help ease that anxiety.

To that end, Sparrow has launched a free, new website, Sparrow Smart Health, a consumer-friendly guide that offers health information, hospital measurements, answers to health questions and links to programs and services to help consumers make informed decisions on where to find the best care. The site can be found at Sparrow.org/smarthealth.

Due to slower news volume in the summer months, the Sparrow News will take a short break. Our next edition will appear on Aug. 16.

Health Classic raises $140,000
The 2010 Sparrow Health Classic golf outing in June welcomed 200 golfers for an afternoon of fun at two of the Lansing area’s best golf venues — Eagle Eye and Hawk Hollow. The annual fundraising event generously sponsored by SEI featured contest holes, giveaways, prizes and great food. Special thanks to all the sponsors, golfers and volunteers who contributed to the event’s success. Mark your calendar — the next Heath Classic is scheduled for June 29, 2011.

Day at the Ballpark
All Sparrow associates, retirees, volunteers, and medical staff are invited to the 3rd Annual Sparrow Day at Cooley Law School Stadium, Sunday, Aug. 29, to watch the hometown Lansing Lugnuts versus the Dayton Dragons at 2 p.m. Sparrow is providing up to 4,000 tickets on a first come, first serve basis. Watch for upcoming announcements on how to register.

Farmer’s Market dates
The Allen Street Farmer’s Market is set to visit the Sparrow campus twice more this summer. The market, which offers fresh fruits and vegetables from local vendors, will be located in the Sparrow Foundation parking lot on Michigan Avenue on Aug. 25 and Sept. 22 from 2:30 – 7 p.m. Buy local. Eat well.

Associate engagement survey
The 2010 Sparrow Associate Engagement Survey will take place Aug. 9-23. This is an opportunity for all associates to make their voice heard! This year’s survey will only be offered online. Each department will be assigned a unique password with which associates can access the survey.

Contact Learning and Organizational Development with questions. Bill Parsons ext. 47498, Melissa Nufer ext. 47884 or Elizabeth Simon ext. 47291.
Getting an inside look. Security Officer Dan Ray is surrounded by youthful enthusiasm as he explains the hospital’s closed-circuit television monitoring system to a group of children of Sparrow associates on “Bring Your Child to Sparrow Day” on June 17. Dozens of children ages 10-14 participated in the program, getting a chance to see the work-a-day world of their parents — not to mention the closed circuit view of hospital stairwells.

Pain Management Team earns quality endorsement. Congratulations to the Sparrow Pain Management Center (SPMC) for attaining full, three-year accreditation from the Commission for the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). SPMC is one of only two pain management programs in the state of Michigan to achieve this accreditation.

We say goodbye to two legendary physicians who are also husband and wife. Fereshteh Fahimi, MD, and Mohammad Mohsenian, MD, retired from the Sparrow Medical Staff in late April after 34 and 26 years, respectively. Drs. Fahimi and Mohsenian, who were board certified in both Ob-Gyn and reproductive endocrinology, are responsible for helping thousands of mid-Michigan couples become parents.

“The legacy of these two gifted and compassionate physicians lives today in thousands of happy parents and families they have helped during their remarkable careers,” said Sparrow Chief of the Medical Staff, Michael R. Clark, MD. “The positive impact they have had on our community has been profound. We all wish them the best. They will be greatly missed.”

At Sparrow, we believe quality reporting serves to increase transparency and enhance public accountability in health care,” said Larry Rawsthorne, MD, Sparrow’s senior vice president of medical affairs. “We hope this website will serve as a valuable source of information to begin a dialogue between patient and doctor and result in helping mid-Michigan families have the best possible outcomes.”

Sparrow Smart Health website offers:

» Hospital Compare, quality measures created through the efforts of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the Department of Health and Human Services and other members of the Hospital Quality Alliance
» Health information through Medline, the National Library of Medicine’s premier database
» Articles and information about quality measures
» Free Sparrow services and programs

“There is no better source of information for a consumer than a frank and honest discussion with their personal physician,” Rawsthorne said. “Hopefully, Sparrow Smart Health can lead consumers to useful information they can use to enhance this dialogue and lead to a healthier mid-Michigan.”
All Stars meet All Stars.

Both East and West teams of the Michigan High School All Star Football Game visited Sparrow's Outpatient Dialysis Unit on the St. Lawrence campus in June. The East team got a chance to pose with some of the dialysis staff members and then went on to defeat the West squad, 20-16 at Spartan Stadium. Westland John Glenn running back and future Michigan State Spartan Jeremy Langford, (second row, far left) scored the winning touchdown with only 14 seconds remaining.

A handshake to remember.

Sparrow Children’s Miracle Network (CMN) Champion Child Landon Whitaker shakes hands with President Barack Obama at a special reception at the White House in June. Last fall, Whitaker survived an accidental gunshot wound to his face near his home. He was treated and recovered at Sparrow Children's Center and was selected as Michigan’s Champion Child, an honor that enabled Whitaker to meet the president and also visit Disney World. One of the state’s premier children’s hospitals. Sparrow is one of only four CMN affiliates in Michigan.