Sparrow Hospital receives highest state honor for performance excellence

Sparrow Hospital has earned the Michigan Quality Council’s 2012 Quality Leadership Award. This is the highest honor for organizational performance excellence in Michigan, and Sparrow Hospital is only the eighth hospital to earn this recognition.

This recognition would not have been possible without your commitment to the Sparrow Way and ensuring the needs of the Patient always come first. This is a team achievement and a reflection of all of our Caregivers and your dedication to providing quality, compassionate care to every Patient, every time.

The MQC’s Leadership award program is modeled after the national Baldrige Performance Excellence Program. “We can now apply for the prestigious Baldrige National Quality Award, which reflects our ongoing commitment to achieve organizational excellence. Since we began our Baldrige journey in 2005, all of the improvements we have undertaken have been for the benefit of our Patients,” said Dennis Swan, Sparrow President and CEO.

Sparrow named top healthcare technology innovator nationwide

Sparrow has been ranked first for technology innovation in the healthcare industry and 16th among all U.S. companies on the 2012 InformationWeek 500 list of the most innovative users of technology nationwide.

The announcement was made during a gala ceremony on Sept. 11 in California. This ranking places Sparrow above companies such as Toyota, FedEx and IBM, and marks the second time Sparrow has made the list, having placed 22nd nationwide in 2010.

The InformationWeek 500 list has recognized business technology innovators for the last 24 years, and tracks the technology, strategies, investments and administrative practices of America’s best-known companies.

This ranking is the result of hard work by Sparrow Caregivers and our system-wide focus on the iCare value of Innovation. It represents one more step towards our vision of being recognized as a national leader in quality and Patient experience.

Patrick Hale, Sparrow Chief Technology Officer, points to Sparrow’s ranking among the top tech innovators nationwide.
Pick your “pink” event!

It’s A Breast Thing

Bras decorated by Sparrow Caregivers for It’s A Breast Thing are currently on display in the Cancer Center and mammography rooms. Their creative works will join other Broadway-themed bras on display at the It’s A Breast Thing event from 5-8 p.m. at the Eagle Eye Golf Club on Oct. 2. This fun and creative night features health-related exhibitors to provide breast cancer information to the woman of Lansing.

Bras for a Cause

Come celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness Month and raise funds for the fight to end breast cancer with the Sparrow Foundation and the Women’s Council of Realtors, Lansing Chapter.

The first annual “Bras to Support a Cause” will feature male models donning bras and strutting their stuff down the runway. Music, appetizers, a cash bar and a silent auction round out the evening.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and the show starts at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 18, at the Eagle Eye Banquet Center. Tickets are $35 a person or $250 per table (8 tickets). Local businesses or individuals can also choose a “Cup-size” sponsorship.

For further information please contact: Denya Shimnoski, 517.881.3539 or Kate Droschia, 517.853.7708.

First Facebook live chat focuses on sports injuries

Sparrow recently hosted its first live Facebook chat, answering questions on sports injury prevention and treatment with the help of Dr. Julie Dodds, MD. Stay tuned for future live chats at Facebook.com/SparrowHealthSystem.

Don’t end up sitting out the season.

Get your sports injury prevention and treatment questions answered.

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:

» George Smith Retirement
» MAC Super Hoops Camp Stars
» Bob Denslow Retirement
New executive chef serves fresh, local foods

Sparrow's new Executive Chef Jesse Emmett is cooking up new dishes for Sparrow cafeteria and room service diners, with a focus on fresh, healthful foods.

Foods that were grown in Michigan – like asparagus and other veggies – will be labeled with a special insignia on the menu. Emmett joined Sparrow this summer, and said he hopes to maintain our high food service standards while working to serve more local foods.

“I want to incorporate more fresh products and make more of our foods from scratch,” said Emmett. “I also want to try to get away from fried and fatty foods in the cafeteria.”

Emmett comes to Sparrow from the Mercy Health System in Toledo. He studied culinary arts at Monroe County Community College and hotel restaurant management at Eastern Michigan University. He is a certified Executive Chef from the American Culinary Federation.
Sparrow Caregivers urged to pack away the pounds

The Michigan Hospital Association Harvest Gathering Food Drive is Oct. 1-31. Last year Sparrow gathered more than 13,000 pounds of food for the hungry in our community and this year we want to set another record. So spread the word, get creative, start a competition with another department, involve your family... whatever it takes! For more information or to help out, contact Tracy Feazel at 517.364.7179.

A capacity crowd packed Tim and Cathy Staudt’s backyard in Okemos recently for the Spartan Marching Band for Kids Concert, benefitting the Sparrow Children’s Center.

Dedicated Education Unit to help train college nursing students

Sparrow and the MSU College of Nursing have collaborated to provide an innovative approach to hands-on training and mentoring for MSU nursing students. Sparrow’s new Dedicated Education Unit pairs Sparrow Nurses with nursing students to provide clinical learning experiences which will improve outcomes for students, Sparrow Caregivers, and Patients.

This new mentoring program will improve student learning, build clinical teaching capacity, and encourage students to seek employment in institutions providing such a learning experience, like Sparrow. The kickoff celebration for Sparrow’s DEU in the Cardiac Progressive Care Unit was held this month.