

# Spirit of Giving

A NEWSLETTER FOR DONORS AND FRIENDS OF ASCENSION ST. JOHN AND PROVIDENCE FOUNDATIONS

## Inside:

- Spider therapy equipment assists kids with mobility
- Caring Cradle helps grieving families cope
- Therapy dogs bring comfort
- Art brightens environment, enhances mood of patients
- Tower expansion adds more private patient rooms
- Hospital celebrates 10 years of caring for community



## Ascension is our first name

Our hospital names officially changed on June 1. But while our names have changed, the care and resources you have grown to trust remain the same. Patients can rest assured that everything they like about their relationships with their doctors will stay the same, because our caregivers and care sites have been part of Ascension since 1999.

By being part of the largest nonprofit health system in the U.S. and the world's largest Catholic health ministry, our care teams gain access to the expertise of thousands of others so they can better deliver on our commitment to provide compassionate, personalized care.

Some hospitals and outpatient facilities already have new signage, while others will be updated soon.

Our new names include:

- Ascension Brighton Center for Recovery
- Ascension Macomb-Oakland Hospital (Warren Campus and Madison Heights Campus)
- Ascension Providence Hospital (Southfield Campus and Novi Campus)
- Ascension River District Hospital
- Ascension St. John Hospital

Our Foundation names have become:

- Ascension Providence Foundation
- Ascension St. John Foundation

While we may have new names and a new look, our promise to our patients and the communities we are privileged to serve remains unwavering.

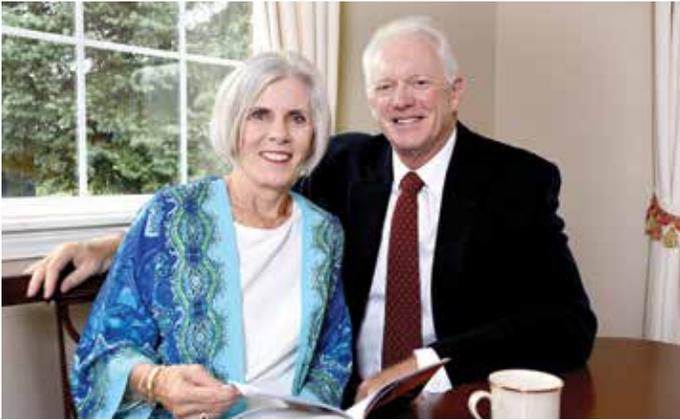


New signage is popping up across Ascension Southeastern Michigan sites.



The multi-dimensional Ascension sculpture is very symbolic and significant to Ascension hospitals. The sculpture is a triquetra, also known as the Christian Trinity symbol, and has long been a symbol of unity. The colors are also meaningful, with green representing growth, blue for health and purple for compassion.

## Couple gives generously to support children with mobility issues



Mary and Ted Huebner

Few things give grandparents more joy than seeing their grandchildren playing. For Mary and Ted Huebner, of St. Clair Shores, the sight is extra sweet.

That's because their 4-year-old grandson has VACTERL, a rare genetic disorder that affects multiple body systems and creates physical challenges that impact mobility.

Their grandson receives ongoing physical therapy through his school system and at a medical center near his home. Since he began treatment, Mary and Ted have seen great progress in his walking ability.

"Our grandson has a prosthesis on his left leg," said Ted, a retired financial services executive. "He began using a walker, then switched to forearm crutches. This year, he started preschool. One day, we saw him take about five steps into his classroom, then he dropped his crutches to run and play with the other kids."

### Grandson's progress inspires gift

This transformation inspired Mary and Ted to visit the Pediatric Rehabilitation department at Ascension St. John Hospital to see how they could help children facing similar physical challenges. After learning about equipment needs and the number of children who would be impacted, the Huebners made a generous gift to support the purchase of "spider cage" equipment.

Spider therapy is a physiotherapy treatment that helps children with physical impairments. The child wears a special belt or vest attached to a bungee cord suspension system within an exercise unit. The cords form a suspended

"spider web" around the child, providing support and stability. The treatment allows the child to move safely and independently while improving strength, range of motion and muscle flexibility.

"The spider cage appealed to us because it can help children like our grandson who have difficulty walking," Mary said. "Helping others by giving back is simply the right thing to do."

### Gift enables donor society privileges

The Huebners' gift allowed them to become members of the McQuade Society at Ascension St. John. Membership offers personal navigation from a dedicated donor relations manager for any health services needed. When Ted had a heart attack last May, membership proved invaluable.

"I was able to get a private hospital room that allowed Mary to stay overnight," said Ted, who recovered and is in good health. "I received excellent attention and couldn't have been more comfortable."

As someone who contracted polio twice as a child before the vaccine was available, Ted understands the impact illnesses have on children.

"The March of Dimes was very helpful to my parents," said Ted, who recovered from the disease. "I always remembered that and made it a goal as an adult to find ways to give back."

The Huebners have accomplished this in several ways. Ted was one of the founding members of The Lake House, a St. Clair Shores-based support center for cancer patients, survivors and their families. Mary was co-founder of the Grosse Pointe Chamber of Commerce.

Mary and Ted encourage others to follow their philanthropic example. In lieu of family holiday gifts, the Huebners' adult children made generous gifts to the Pediatric Rehabilitation department at Ascension St. John to support the purchase of YBikes to help children develop strength, balance and coordination.

"Children are the future, and we firmly believe in giving every child the best possible start in life," Mary said. "We want to make sure the next generation carries on in our footsteps."

Cover photo: A young girl uses "spider cage" therapy with her physical therapist to help with mobility issues.

## Caring Cradle helps grieving families say goodbye to their babies

Jade Rubino went for a routine prenatal appointment on Feb. 2, 2018. There she and her husband Gasper were told their baby, who was due to arrive in three weeks, no longer had a heartbeat. From that moment, Jade and Gasper's lives were forever changed, and they began the journey of navigating a road filled with unimaginable heartache.

The next day, Feb. 3, Cecily Rosebriar was born "sleeping" at 11 a.m. She weighed 6 pounds, 1 ounce, and was 20 inches long. She was beautiful and had strawberry blond hair and looked just like her big brother and sister.

Cecily's mom Jade and her sister BrieAnna are as close as two peas in a pod. They look alike, speak alike and are there for each other no matter what. BrieAnna had previously heard of a cooling cradle that was developed for families who experience the loss of a baby. The Caring Cradle is a cooling unit incorporated in a bassinet that allows families the ability to spend as much time as needed with their baby at the hospital, while trying to say their final goodbyes.

The hospital where Cecily was born (not Ascension-related) did not have one of these cradles. BrieAnna quickly searched and found one at another hospital, which graciously loaned it

out. This provided Cecily's family the time to hold her, talk to her and love on her as they grieved their loss together. With the aid of the cradle, Cecily stayed overnight in the hospital with Jade and Gasper. This gave her parents precious time to say goodbye.

**Each year, nearly 29,000 families in the United States experience the loss of a baby the same way the Rubinos lost Cecily.**

To help others who find themselves beginning this painful journey, Cecily's family generously donated a Caring Cradle to the Birthing Center at Ascension Providence Hospital, Novi, in Cecily's memory. The cradle will allow other families cherished time with their little one to say goodbye in their own way and time. It may be used for infants up to 1 year of age.

The Caring Cradle enhances the hospital's Perinatal Bereavement Program. According to Courtney Pinter, BSN, RN, Perinatal Bereavement Coordinator, the Birthing Unit partners with Lynch and Sons Funeral Home to help grieving families memorialize their angel babies in whatever way they wish. Photos are taken of each baby at the hospital, and families are supplied with books, journals and a teddy bear to help in the grieving process. Babies can stay in the parents' hospital room for as long as families like. Funeral Director Tim Lynch Jr. takes the baby when the parents are ready. The funeral home offers all services for angel babies free of charge.



Pictured with the Caring Cradle are Jade and Gasper Rubino (2nd and 3rd from left) with Courtney Pinter (far left), Tim Lynch Jr., and Sara Thompson, Chief Development Officer, Ascension Providence Foundation. Jade is holding a memory plate with Cecily's name and a special quote engraved; it will be mounted on the cradle.

## Four-legged team members bring smiles and comfort to patients

Dogs are often called man's best friend. At Ascension Southeast Michigan hospitals, they are also good friends to our patients, visitors and staff, providing comfort and fetching smiles through the Pet Therapy Program.

Jane Van Belle, a patient's daughter, recently wrote to Hope — a yellow Labrador retriever who serves as lead pet ambassador — to express her gratitude for the joy Hope's co-worker, Parker, brought to her mother and family. Parker is a black Labrador retriever who visits patients at Ascension Providence Hospital, Novi.



Patient Marcia Lefort enjoys a visit from Parker at the Novi hospital.

Dear Hope,

*I love the Therapy Dog Program...I am writing to thank all of your friends for the great work you do. My mother was a volunteer at Ascension Providence Hospital, Novi, for 15 years and she got to know Parker very well. A few years ago, she became very ill and was in and out of the Novi hospital several times as a patient. All her friends who also volunteered there were constantly visiting, and Parker was no exception. As bad as she felt, my mother was always happy to see Parker. But I loved it when he visited even more, and so did my brothers. My mom, Mary Cameron, passed away in June 2016. As hard as that was, I still have fond memories of the wonderful care she received and especially the joy that a visit from the therapy dog was sure to bring.*

With her letter, Jane enclosed a gift to the Pet Therapy Program with a photo of her own dog, Gibbs, a cream/yellow Labrador retriever. She wants her gift to help care for the therapy dogs, so they can continue bringing joy and comfort to other patients and families.

You, too, can help these dogs help patients. The Pet Therapy Program is funded entirely by donations. To learn more, visit [stjohnprovfoundations.org/pet-therapy](http://stjohnprovfoundations.org/pet-therapy) or call Lisa Pinkowski at 313-343-7581 or Heidi Crisman at 248-465-4511. You can also make a gift using the envelope enclosed in this newsletter.



Hope, Lead Pet Ambassador



## Art has positive effect on Behavioral Health patients

Art is subjective and means something different to everyone. Besides the enjoyment of viewing it, there is evidence that the visual distraction of art, especially nature scenes, can help alleviate anxiety and agitation. For patients in the Behavioral Health Unit at Ascension Providence Hospital, Southfield, artwork is a calming, positive addition to their surroundings.

In the spring, a donation to the patient unit funded the purchase of 12 paintings worth approximately \$7,000 to enhance the environment for patients. The paintings are nature themes, predominantly floral scenes, painted in bright colors.

"The patients are more in-tuned since the artwork arrived," said Jarrett Schroeder, MD, Chair, Department of Psychiatry, Ascension Providence Hospital, Southfield and Novi campuses. "Feedback from patients has been quite positive. The artwork has improved the environment tremendously for the patients."

According to former Nurse Manager Amanda Klahr, RN, staff worked together in a team effort to select the artwork. Patients then participated in where the artwork would hang. A couple of the prints were placed in group therapy rooms, with the remainder hung in the hallway of the unit.

The next artistic wish from patients and staff is music, which also has a positive impact on mental health conditions. Dr. Schroeder shared, "It would be fantastic to have music available where patients could dial in and hear it from the phone in their room."

To learn how you can support the Behavioral Health program or any patient care service, please call 248-465-5000 or 313-343-7480.

## Hospital tower expansion enhances environment and privacy for patients

You might call it South Macomb Hospital, St. John Macomb, or by its new name — Ascension Macomb-Oakland Hospital. But whatever you call it, the community hospital at Twelve Mile and Hoover roads in Warren is the only hospital serving southern Macomb County and the only one in Warren, the state's third largest city.

As a result, Ascension Macomb-Oakland Hospital can be very busy. To continue providing you with excellent medical care and a more comfortable, private environment, the hospital's East Tower is undergoing an expansion from four to seven floors.

This \$48 million endeavor is the largest building project in the hospitals' history. It is expected to be completed in the spring of 2019. Construction began in November 2017.

Progress is going well:

- Steel work and exterior wall sheathing is complete.
- Exterior metal wall panel and window installation began.
- Interior work — including plumbing, electrical, mechanical, drywall, paint and more — is also underway on floors 4, 5, 6 and 7.
- Work is ongoing on the penthouse in preparation for the new air handling unit for the newly expanded floors.

The completed project will bring:

- 75 new spacious, private rooms — nearly tripling the number of private rooms to 220
- Shorter wait times in the Emergency Center
- Greater privacy and comfort for patients and their families
- A larger, more efficient Rehabilitation Unit
- Upgraded furnishings

Hard hat tours of the expanded area will begin in early 2019. A grand opening celebration will be held upon completion of the project.

A \$2 million fundraising campaign, "Caring to New Heights," is in progress to assist with the \$46 million capital investment by Ascension. So far, \$1.1 million has been raised from the hospital's medical staff, Volunteer Auxiliary and community as well as proceeds from the hospital's annual golf outing and Taste Fest.

To learn more about the expansion project and how you can help support this effort, please contact Sherry Augustine at 313-343-7481.



An exterior view of the tower under construction



An interior view of construction in progress

## Your devotion helps hospital reach 10th anniversary of caring for community

Ascension Providence Hospital, Novi, reached a milestone this fall — celebrating 10 years of providing compassionate, personalized care. The hospital and campus wouldn't be what it is today without you, our generous donors and community members. Thank you!

The campus originated in 1992 with an outpatient medical center, followed by the Assarian Cancer Center, a medical office building, the Novi Orthopedic Center and Staybridge Suites hotel. A \$229 million investment, including \$8.6 million in philanthropic gifts, enabled the opening of the inpatient hospital in 2008.

Originally named Providence Park Hospital, the full-service hospital began serving patients in September 2008. It was the first hospital within Ascension Michigan to have all acuity-adaptable rooms, a new concept at the time.

The Novi community welcomed the hospital with open arms; over 7,000 community members attended the opening celebration. In the past 10 years, the campus has hosted many



An aerial view of the Novi campus in 2008 when the hospital opened



Hospital, church and community leaders took part in the ribbon-cutting of the new hospital.

health fairs, 5K runs, Chamber of Commerce events and celebrations of hospital accomplishments and donors.

### Community need drives expansion

A consistent increase in Emergency Department visits, births, surgeries, orthopedic procedures and other services created a demand for campus growth. To better meet your needs, a major expansion began inside the hospital and across campus in 2014. Additions include 32 new patient rooms, an orthopedic gym, a 14th operating room and support facilities.

Philanthropy has played a critical role in the enhancements and in the creation of the Van Elslander Neuroscience Center of Excellence, Van Elslander Surgical Innovation Center and The Rose Family Senior Assessment for Independent

Living Center. The campus now includes facilities which are collaborations with partners, such as Rose Senior Living, DaVita Kidney Care and Novi Wellness.

"I hope you feel the same pride I do as you see the accomplishments we've made in 10 years," said Joseph Hurshe, President and CEO, Ascension Providence Hospital. "We are very thankful for a supportive community and greatly appreciate your dedication to help us better serve our patients and community. Donors, community members, physicians, leaders, staff and volunteers have all brought us to where we are today."

## Hospital reinvents itself to meet your needs

As healthcare needs change and the national trend moves toward expanding care delivered in outpatient settings, Ascension River District Hospital is leading the way. Providing healthcare to St. Clair County communities for more than 50 years, the hospital is repositioning itself and its services to continue serving the community for years to come.

In response to how patients were accessing care, changes were made in services, leadership structure and staffing to continue to provide high-quality healthcare, effectively meet your needs and adjust to the growing focus on outpatient services.

Appropriately matching services with the needs of the community meant scaling back on some inpatient services but continuing — and even expanding — outpatient services.



The “new” Ascension River District Hospital offers the following on-site:

- Emergency Department with board-certified emergency doctors
- Inpatient medical-surgical care
- OB-GYN care
- Surgical services
- Physical therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Imaging — including 3D mammography, CT, PET CT and MRI
- Lab services
- Infusion services
- Occupational Health Clinic

Ascension River District Hospital also operates an urgent care center off-site. Additionally, plans are underway to locate a site and construct a new outpatient medical center to expand the services Ascension will provide to southern St. Clair County. Ascension River District will continue the strong collaboration and referral relationships with specialty and tertiary care services provided by other Ascension Southeast Michigan hospitals.



### Annual Fund Endeavors

- If you supported the “Holiday Blessings” program in the past, be sure to check your mailbox in early December for this year’s opportunity. This is a perfect way to show you care during the holidays; 100 percent of your gift supports the hospital or program of your choice. Gifts are tax deductible.
- Is there a special doctor you would like to acknowledge? Doctor’s Day is March 30, 2019. This is an ideal time to honor your favorite physicians. In the new year, you’ll receive more information explaining how you can make a contribution to recognize that special doctor who has made a difference in your life. Your tribute will be shared with your physician with the gift amount kept confidential.



Pictured with the donation check are: Karen LaBarge, Lochmoor Fights Cancer Tri-chair; Cheryl Wesen, MD, Medical Director, Ascension Southeast Michigan Breast Program; Lorrie Lipa, Director, Oncology Services/Cancer Center Administration; Tomasine Marx, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer, Ascension Providence Rochester Hospital; Cathie Patterson; and Cindy Merry, Lochmoor Fights Cancer Tri-chair. (Not pictured: Katie McSkimming, Lochmoor Fights Cancer Tri-chair)

## Cancer patients in need get help from golfers and special fund

When you're diagnosed with cancer, it can be overwhelming and scary dealing with your diagnosis and treatment. What others may not realize is that many patients are very stressed as they deal with financial hardship as well.

To help local cancer patients pay for basic living needs during treatment, proceeds from the annual ladies' golf event at Lochmoor Club in Grosse Pointe Woods were designated to the Needy Patient Fund at Ascension St. John Hospital's Van Elslander Cancer Center (VECC). A \$30,000 check from the "Lochmoor Fights Cancer" golf outing was recently presented at the VECC. Funds will assist cancer patients and their families with expenses such as mortgage/rent and car payments, utility bills, and gift cards for gas and food.

This is the second year the Ladies of Lochmoor Club have supported the VECC Needy Patient Fund. At the event, Cathie Patterson, Oncology Financial Counselor, shared several stories on how this fund has made a difference in patients' lives.

"Alleviating the financial burden for these patients allows them to concentrate on treatment and healing," she said. "It's a true gift you are giving to our most vulnerable patients."

Patricia Smith is one such person who was helped by the fund. During treatment, she received assistance with insurance copays and deductibles. "This allowed me to pay household bills and not worry," she said. "I also received a gift card that enabled me to purchase my Thanksgiving meal for my family. I cannot say thank you enough for the peace of mind I received over and above the medical care from the Van Elslander Cancer Center."



Patricia Smith

Patricia's experience led her coworkers at Change Healthcare, a company that focuses on revenue management for healthcare facilities and providers, to support the VECC Needy Patient Fund because it touches lives in the community directly. They felt good knowing they were helping Patricia and others like her so they can focus on their health instead of worrying about finances.

## ‘Survival’ bags bring comfort to families

Families with loved ones undergoing oncology surgery at Ascension St. John Hospital receive special “survival” bags on the day of surgery to make their experience more comfortable, thanks to donated funds.

The tote bag comfort kits include a blanket, an inflatable neck pillow, stress ball, adult coloring book and colored pencils, a prayer book, valet parking and cafeteria vouchers, and coffee coupons. Items are intended to help alleviate stress and assist in passing the time while families wait for their loved ones to get out of surgery.

Kits are provided compliments of the Stephen B. Campau Oncology Endowment Fund, established in memory of Tom and Carol Campau’s son.

Over the years, this fund has supported many hospital programs that improve

the patient-family experience. Patients and family members referred by nurses have been able to get stress-relieving massages through the Healing Arts Program because of endowment funding. Family members spend countless hours at their loved one’s bedside and often sleep on chairs or couches. According to a massage therapist, many become emotional after their massage as they release the stress they have been under.

Funds from the Campau Endowment also helped with renovating space in the Van Elslander Cancer Center to create a Multidisciplinary Clinic. This clinic will allow oncology patients to spend extended time meeting with physicians, specialists and support staff to discuss treatment plans and get answers to questions in one place, at one appointment.



Michele Harris, a recent patient of Richard Berri, MD, Chief of Surgical Oncology and the Peritoneal Malignancies Program, and her husband Johnnie were grateful for the kit and for receiving text updates on the progress of the surgery.

## Volunteer group drives to support patient programs



The winning team at the PPL Golf Outing included Bill Goodwin, PPL Board Member, and his friends Jack Zibell, Trevor Moore and Tom Terrell.

Wonderful weather! Fun company! Worthy cause! Over 60 players enjoyed the 2nd Annual Providence Park League (PPL) Golf Outing at Kensington Metropark on Aug. 1 while raising nearly \$4,500 to support patient services and programs at Ascension Providence Hospital, Novi.

PPL is the hospital’s volunteer auxiliary that is dedicated to service and philanthropy. The Fundraising Committee seeks to facilitate events that raise money and provide a positive environment for associates and guests of the hospital. Fundraisers often coincide with seasons such as selling mums and poinsettias in the hospital cafeteria at affordable prices so buyers can conveniently take home plants. PPL also hosts monthly vendor sales featuring jewelry, linens, books or other household items. A percentage of every vendor sale is returned to PPL to help fulfill its mission. For more information about PPL sales or to volunteer, contact Kathy Zaguroli at [kathleen.zaguroli@ascension.org](mailto:kathleen.zaguroli@ascension.org).

## Kudos

### Volunteers honored

Congratulations to the following individuals honored as Distinguished Volunteers by the Greater Detroit Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals at its National Philanthropy Day event.



**Peter and Camille Cracchiolo** have made it their quest to support the Mission of Ascension St. John Hospital. Their allegiance is evident in their participation in THE GUILD and Fontbonne Auxiliary organizations. The

Cracchiolos are engaged with events benefiting the hospital, co-chairing some of them. Their commitment extends to their willingness to take on leadership roles with Ascension St. John and Providence Foundations.



**Shukri David, MD**, serves as a true ambassador for the most generous benefactors of Ascension Southeast Michigan hospitals. He understands the importance of a meaningful relationship with his patients beyond excellent clinical care and embraces the culture of

philanthropy within those relationships. Dr. David's engagement in stewardship is integral to the work of Ascension Southeast Michigan.



**Greg and Phyllis DeMars** are the epitome of devotion in their Catholic faith and dedication to Ascension St. John Hospital and its Mission to serve those in need. Advocates for the hospital, they generously commit themselves to

THE GUILD and Fontbonne. The DeMars are on the boards of these volunteer organizations and have chaired/co-chaired events that raise significant funds for hospital programs.



**Julia Hoffman** enthusiastically contributes to the success of The Holley Institute volunteer newborn hearing screening program at Ascension St. John Hospital. Since 2012, she has screened over 3,400 newborns for hearing loss and has detected several infants with some

degree of loss. Julia recruits volunteers, assists with processes and training and always fills in when other volunteers are unavailable.



**Kelly Hurshe** has served as Chair of the Ascension Providence Hospital Friends' Ball for two years. A leadership volunteer with deep devotion, her drive and spirit has engaged the event committee to raise more than \$304,000 in net proceeds to support patient care programs and the

Mission of Ascension Providence Hospital. In the first year under Kelly's leadership, event proceeds increased nearly 40 percent!



**Monica and Roman Imielowski** are deaf artists who believe in sharing their gifts. Together, they respond to any request to assist in art programs with deaf children. Monica uses her artistic talents to work with The Holley Institute's children who attend the summer programs. Roman has assisted and mentored deaf teens in

art design and construction for the yearly Acorn Theatre productions. The Imielowskis volunteer at their church and for the Deaf Arts Festival, working with youth, hosting and displaying art projects.

## New board members



**Sister Joan Drega, DC**, was named a member of the Ascension Providence Foundation Board of Trustees. She has been serving as a volunteer Foundation Liaison for Ascension Providence Foundation since 2014. In that role, she helps cultivate relationships with patients, philanthropic donors and associates. Sister Joan is a Daughter of Charity who has been serving Ascension for many years, including her role as Foundation Liaison at St. Vincent Medical Center in Jacksonville, Florida. Before her experience in healthcare, Sister Joan was a teacher and principal.



**Cherolee Trembath, MD**, was also named a member of the Ascension Providence Foundation Board of Trustees. She is a family medicine physician who was on the medical staff of Ascension Providence Hospital for 36 years. Dr. Trembath served as Chair, Department of Family Medicine, for 17 years. She completed her tenure by helping establish a Family Medicine Endowment Fund, making a contribution and engaging other physicians to help reach the \$500,000 goal.



**Adrienne Way** is a new member of the Ascension St. John Foundation Board of Trustees. She has been the owner, President and Chief Executive Officer of Edcor Data Services, LLC, since 2010. Prior to that, she served in various roles of increasing responsibility, including Chief Operating Officer, Director of Information Technology and Operations and Manager of Information Technology. Adrienne also worked for Sandy Corporation.

## Foundation staff



**Natalie Reilly-Finch** joined the Ascension Providence Foundation as a Major Gift Officer. Her primary focus is on capital campaign strategy and securing major gifts for the Minimally Invasive Spine Campaign, Heart and Vascular initiatives, Graduate Medical Education and endowment campaigns. Natalie joins the Ascension Providence Foundation from within Ascension Michigan. Her most recent role was Senior Development Officer for Ascension Providence Rochester Hospital. Prior to Ascension, Natalie gained fundraising experience with the Rochester Area Neighborhood House, Gads Hill Center Chicago and Loyola University.



**Lisa Pinkowski** was promoted to Major Gift Officer for Ascension St. John Foundation. She is fundraising for various areas including Pediatrics, PICU/NICU, Women's Health, Nursing and Medical Education. Lisa was previously Annual Giving Development Officer, providing management and creative direction to build the annual giving program. She was instrumental in enhancing the Spirit of Giving campaign for associates and physicians. Prior to that, Lisa was with Oakwood Foundation (now Beaumont Foundation) for over 20 years.



**Christa Williams** joined the Ascension Providence Foundation as a Senior Development Officer. She is fundraising for various areas including event sponsorships, Ascension Brighton Center for Recovery, Behavioral Health and Ascension Medical Center – Howell.

Christa comes to the Foundation with eight years of experience in fundraising in the chamber of commerce setting and as a community volunteer. Before joining the staff, Christa served as a volunteer and committee member for the Ascension Providence Foundation Friends' Ball and Golf Classic.

## Thank you to THE GUILD for 70 years of extraordinary support

Congratulations to THE GUILD, which is celebrating its 70th anniversary of helping Ascension St. John Hospital meet the healthcare needs of the community. Established in 1948, THE GUILD is a volunteer organization that played a critical role through fundraising efforts to open Ascension St. John Hospital in 1952.

It continues to be one of the hospital's largest supporters, helping immensely in the development and expansion of healthcare services offered to the community. THE GUILD raises funds for Ascension St. John through fundraising events, including THE GUILD Dinner and the Ascension St. John Medical Staff/GUILD Golf Outing, and proceeds

from the GUILD Coffee Shop. Since its founding, THE GUILD has raised more than \$18 million for the hospital, assisting countless patients by providing support for medical equipment, programs, state-of-the-art technology and facilities.

THE GUILD has supported the hospital's Surgical and Pediatric Services expansion and Central Hub renovation. It has also supported the Cracchiolo Family Birthing Center, Mary Ann Van Elslander Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and Special Care Nursery, Elaine E. Blatt Endoscopy Department, Cracchiolo Inpatient Rehabilitation Center, and Oncology Psychology Program. The Emergency Center was named for THE GUILD in honor of a generous gift made by John and Marlene Boll (lifetime GUILD members) for the expansion and renovation campaign.

Other initiatives supported by THE GUILD include the Gretchen C. Valade Hybrid Cardiovascular Operating Room, the Birthing Center's global work in stem cell collection from umbilical cords, the Lymphoma Clinic and a Cardiac Research Endowment. GUILD donations have also funded major equipment, including multi-performance surgical beds, a modular spinal surgery table and video monitoring equipment.

To learn more about THE GUILD or become a member, visit [stjohnguild.org](http://stjohnguild.org) or call 313-343-7480.



Dedicated GUILD members include President Dan Roma, Greg DeMars and David Kesner.

## New GUILD Coffee Shop opens

The newly expanded GUILD Coffee Shop recently opened at Ascension St. John Hospital. The bright, welcoming larger space is located just off the Center Lobby across the hall from its former location. It is part of a larger Central Hub renovation.

At a dedication event, GUILD President Dan Roma thanked hospital leadership for supporting the project, and Pastor Corey Kennard blessed the space. Pastor Corey stressed how the coffee shop is more than a place to get coffee; it is a place for fellowship and respite for patients, visitors and associates.



The new GUILD Coffee Shop is more spacious than its previous location.

## Your spirit of giving is tremendous!

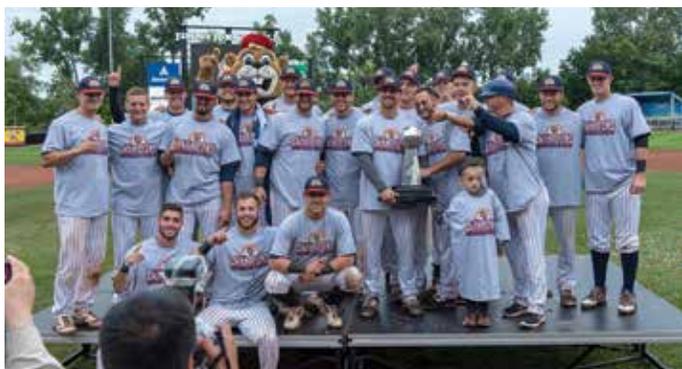
Thank you to all the associates and physicians who made gifts to the Spirit of Giving Campaign which supports your local hospitals and patient programs. The generosity and commitment from those within the Ascension Southeast Michigan family makes an impact on the care we provide to the community. The campaign was a great success, raising more than \$234,000, a significant increase over last year. Participation also increased to 1,371 associates and physicians.

As a thank you, those who gave to the campaign were invited for a complimentary day at Jimmy John's Field in Utica for a baseball game between United Shore Professional League teams. Despite the inclement weather, the turnout was great! Families enjoyed the game, a barbecue buffet and had the chance to get autographs and photos with players.

The 2019 Spirit of Giving Campaign will kick off with leadership Jan. 14-Feb. 15, followed by the associate campaign April 1-30. Your support is most appreciated!



Young fans line up for players' autographs.



The winning team poses for pictures.

Families enjoy a day at the ballpark, even in the cold, rainy weather.

## Your event support helps enhance patient care

**Ascension Providence Foundation Friends' Ball:** The annual event raised nearly \$320,000 to support the expansion of the Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery Center at Ascension Providence Hospital. Proceeds will support the acquisition of leading-edge surgical tools and technology and a dedicated entryway and help highlight the renowned neurosurgery program at the Southfield campus as a destination center. "The Greatest Ball on Earth" was held on April 21 at Cobo Center in Detroit with over 650 guests. Thank you to presenting sponsor Rose Senior Living and Warren Rose. The Order of Charity Award was presented to Blair Bowman, owner of Suburban Collection Showplace, and The Caduceus Society. Steve McGraw, DO; Anibal Drelichman, MD, and Vilma Drelichman, MD, were honored as The Caduceus Society Physicians of the Year. Kelly Hurshe chaired the event.



Carole Ann, Frances and Warren Rose

**Guild Dinner:** The 58th annual event on May 23 raised \$258,375 in gross proceeds to assist with the purchase of five multi-performance mobile surgical beds for Ascension St. John Hospital. The beds offer versatile configurations and easy-click operation to give the surgical team flexibility, control and convenience to best treat patients. Held at MGM Grand Detroit, the GUILD Dinner had 600 guests who enjoyed the comedy of Bobby Collins. Event Chairs were Greg DeMars and Sean Lane. Honorees included: John DeWald, CPA, Lifetime Achievement Award; Walter Cytacki, Sister Verenice McQuade Distinguished Service Award; Louis Saravolatz, MD, Physician of the Year Award; and Michael T. Timmis, Philanthropic Services Award.



Greg DeMars, John DeWald, Walter Cytacki, Dr. Louis Saravolatz, Michael Timmis, GUILD President Dan Roma and Sean Lane

### Ascension Macomb-Oakland Hospital Taste Fest & Health Fair:

The 17th annual event raised \$51,000 for the expansion and renovation of the East Tower at Ascension Macomb-Oakland Hospital, Warren. The expanded space will feature 75 new private rooms, helping enhance privacy and comfort for patients and families. Taste Fest was held on May 14 at the San Marino Club in Troy. More than 200 guests tasted samples from over 20 restaurants and participated in a free health fair. Denise Hubbard, RN; Joann Lademan and Audra Stoker chaired the event. People's Choice Award Winners included: Antonio's Italian Cuisine (Best Entrée), Brio Tuscan Grille (Best Casual Entrée), Pointe Dairy Services (Best Dessert) and A Serendipity Cakery (Best Presentation).



Enjoying Taste Fest are: Margaret Kozlowski; Rebecca Wenson, Event Committee member; Lori Yervasi; and Joann Lademan, Event Committee Co-chair. Margaret, Lori and Rebecca work for Binson's Home Health Care, one of the event sponsors.

**Climb to Beat Breast Cancer ~ Mount Marcy Challenge:** The 2018 Climb to Beat Breast Cancer team raised over \$56,000 for the Maria R. Lucarelli Endowment Fund in support of the Ascension Southeast Michigan Breast Care Program. On June 30, 42 climbers hiked 15 miles round trip on Mount Marcy in the Adirondack High Peaks near Lake Placid, New York, gaining an elevation of 3,166 feet. Thank you to the climbers and everyone who supported the climb with donations, prayers and moral support! This is the 12th year a team has trekked up a mountain to help uninsured and underinsured women get diagnostic tests to ensure early detection of breast cancer. If challenging yourself physically and mentally appeals to your adventurous side and being part of a team making a difference inspires you, consider joining the team in 2019 as they ascend Whitetop Mountain in Virginia. For information, call 313-343-4530 or email [specialevents@ascension.org](mailto:specialevents@ascension.org).



Members of the team display prayer flags sponsored by donors in honor of loved ones.

**Ascension River District Hospital Golf Outing:** The 41st annual event on June 12 raised nearly \$50,000 to benefit the renovation of the hospital's Infusion Center. This renovation will provide a safe, comfortable environment for patients requiring infusion therapies. Bill Zweng chaired the outing, held at St. Clair Golf Club, where 84 golfers participated. There were three winning foursomes. Raffle winners were: Steve Owczarek — Can-Am Outlander 4-wheeler and Pauline Hemmingsen — Shinola watch.



Bill Zweng, Golf Outing Chair, and Dr. H. Lee Bacheldor, Chief Medical Officer, Ascension River District Hospital

**Ascension Providence Golf**

**Classic:** The 39th annual outing on June 4 raised nearly \$175,000 for the Care of the Poor programs at Ascension Providence Hospital. Proceeds support the Believe in Miracles Fund, which helps cancer patients struggling with financial burden pay for essential living needs such as transportation, housing and utility bills. Proceeds also benefit the Infant Mortality Program, which assists low-income expectant parents with guidance and access to healthcare, to help reduce the infant mortality rate. The event was chaired by Dave Imesch and held at Indianwood Golf and Country Club in Lake Orion, with 242 golfers. The winning team on the Old Course was from John Paul Home Care; the foursome included Mickey Redmond (former professional hockey player, now a commentator for Detroit Red Wings games), Bob Krause, Lance Sitto and Patrick Kinaya.



The first-place team on the New Course was from Varsity Lincoln, pictured from left: Barry Harnos, John Treharne, Kevin McCarthy and Jeff Nickoloff.

Continued on page 17

## Your event support helps enhance patient care ... continued

**Jerry Williams Shootout for the Cure Golf Outing:** The 4th annual event raised over \$35,000 to benefit the Jerome F. Williams Gastric Cancer Program at Ascension St. John Hospital. The program was founded by Anne Marie Williams, working with Richard Berri, MD, Chief of Surgical Oncology, in memory of Anne Marie's beloved husband Jerry. During Jerry's treatment for gastric cancer, he envisioned a program that would enhance quality of care, improve outcomes and increase patient satisfaction. The golf outing was held on Aug. 17 at St. Clair Golf Club, with 92 golfers.



Anne Marie Williams and Dr. Richard Berri at the Jerry Williams Shootout for the Cure

**Ascension Macomb-Oakland Hospital Golf Outing:** The 19th annual outing on Aug. 20 raised over \$81,000 to support the expansion and renovation of the East Tower at Ascension Macomb-Oakland Hospital, Warren. This expanded space will feature 75 new private patient rooms. When completed, patients and staff can expect enhanced privacy and comfort, reduced wait times in the Emergency Center and more room. John Siedlik chaired the 19th annual event, held at Plum Hollow Country Club in Southfield, with 138 golfers.



The Caduceus Cup winning team and winning team of the day included, from left: Brian Cronin, DO; Fred Nichols, DO; Rick Bernard; and Nick Sousa, DO (not pictured).

**Ascension St. John Medical Staff/GUILD Golf Outing:** The 13th annual Ascension St. John Medical Staff/GUILD Golf Outing raised over \$69,000 to support the Surgical Family Consultation Room at Ascension St. John Hospital. This room will provide a private, quiet, comfortable space for surgeons to meet with patients' families to discuss results of their loved one's surgery or procedure. Edward Schervish, MD, chaired the golf outing, which was held on Sept. 10 at Lochmoor Club in Grosse Pointe Woods with 111 golfers. Kanwaldeep Sidhu, MD, was the tournament's medical staff winner; Gerald Gadette was the non-medical staff winner.



Kanwaldeep Sidhu, MD; Edward Schervish, MD; and Gerald Gadette

**Fontbonne Auxiliary Fashion Show:** This "Couture for the Kids" Fashion Show raised more than \$60,000 in gross proceeds to support the Meade Pediatric Hematology Oncology Center within the Van Elslander Cancer Center at Ascension St. John Hospital. The event was held on Sept. 27 during Childhood Cancer Awareness Month at Andiamo Banquet Center in Warren. Camille Cracchiolo and Tricia Schaden chaired the girls' night out dedicated to making a difference in the lives of young patients. The 180 guests enjoyed a double runway presentation showcasing fashion from The Somerset Collection, food and raffle prizes. Danielle Bell, MD, Pediatric Hematologist/Oncologist, was Honorary Chair.



Fashion Show Chairs Tricia Schaden and Camille Cracchiolo

To see more event photos, visit:  
[flickr.com/photos/sjpfoundations/albums](https://www.flickr.com/photos/sjpfoundations/albums).

## Thank you to our event sponsors

The sponsors listed here supported Ascension St. John and Providence Foundations and your local hospitals with \$5,000 or more at one or more of the following events: Ascension Providence Foundation Friends' Ball, Ascension Macomb-Oakland Hospital Taste Fest & Health Fair, Ascension Providence Foundation Golf Classic, Ascension River District Hospital Golf Outing, Climb to Beat Breast Cancer ~ Mount Marcy Challenge and Ascension Macomb-Oakland Hospital Golf Outing. Thank you for your generosity!

- Academic Hematology Oncology
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## Donation helps advance research and care of asbestos-related diseases

Asbestos was declared to be a human carcinogen (substance capable of causing cancer) nearly 40 years ago, yet the United States still has not banned its use in construction. According to the National Institutes of Health, approximately 11 million people were exposed to asbestos between 1940 and 1978, when use of the material began to be phased out.

### An estimated 40,000 Americans die each year from asbestos-related diseases including lung cancer and mesothelioma.

The Breath of Life Foundation was established through the insulating industry to seek a cure for mesothelioma and asbestos-related diseases. Since its inception in 2009, it has raised more than half a million dollars to fund research for the prevention, detection, treatment and cure of mesothelioma and other asbestos-related diseases.

Breath of Life Foundation representatives recently made another annual \$60,000 contribution to Ascension Providence Hospital to assist Michael Harbut, MD, in his efforts to combat asbestos-related diseases. Dr. Harbut is a

specialist in occupational medicine and an internationally recognized expert in the diagnosis and treatment of asbestos-related diseases.

Since 2013, the Breath of Life Foundation has contributed \$300,000 to Ascension Providence Hospital to support Dr. Harbut and a team of post-doctorate fellows who research, diagnose and treat victims of occupational asbestos-related diseases.



Dan Somenauer, Breath of Life Foundation Trustee; Sara Thompson, Ascension Providence Foundation Chief Development Officer; Breath of Life Foundation Trustees Greg Revard, John Tesija and Pat Barron; Dr. Michael Harbut; Ron Piersol, Insulators Union Business Manager; Cyndi Noraian, RN, Clinical Trials Coordinator; and Mike Hickey, Union Business Manager

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## Save the Date

For details, call 313-343-4530 or visit [stjohnprovfoundations.org/events](http://stjohnprovfoundations.org/events).



### Ascension Providence Foundation Friends' Ball "Diamonds are Forever"

April 27, 2019  
Suburban Collection Showplace  
Benefiting Ascension Providence Hospital  
oncology programs and services



### Ascension Providence Foundation Golf Classic

June 3, 2019  
Indianwood Golf and Country Club,  
Lake Orion  
Benefiting Ascension Providence Hospital  
Care of the Poor programs, including  
the Believe in Miracles Fund and  
Infant Mortality Program



### 59th Annual GUILD Dinner

May 29, 2019  
MGM Grand, Detroit  
Benefiting Ascension St. John Hospital



### Climb to Beat Breast Cancer ~ Whitetop Mountain Challenge

June 29, 2019  
Whitetop Mountain, Virginia  
Benefiting Ascension Southeast Michigan  
Breast Care Program

If you would like to learn more about giving opportunities at  
Ascension Southeast Michigan hospitals and entities, please call 313-343-7480.