

▼ **Magnet panel finds Sparrow attractive.** From left, appraisers from the American Nurse Credentialing Center (ANCC), Mary Nash, Mary Ann Hulme and Claudia Burchett listen to a presentation from East Lansing Mayor Victor Loomis during the final day of the ANCC site visit as part of the process for Sparrow to achieve Magnet nursing status. Mayor Loomis, Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero and many other community leaders spoke on behalf of Sparrow. ANCC are expected to announce their decision regarding Sparrow's Magnet status by the end of this year.



Sparrow in talks with TCI group

Leaders from Sparrow Hospital and Thoracic and Cardiovascular Institute (TCI) announced that they are engaged in discussions that would result in TCI cardiologists and staff joining the Sparrow team.

"This is a key step toward transforming Sparrow into a national leader in quality and patient experience," said Dennis A. Swan, President and CEO of Sparrow.

"Sparrow and TCI have enjoyed a long and fruitful relationship. "This agreement would represent a significant step forward in the advancement of heart and vascular care in mid-Michigan."

TCI patients should expect no interruption in the care provided by their TCI cardiologist once the agreement is finalized. Patients can still expect to receive services at all TCI offices located throughout mid-Michigan, including Lansing, St. Johns, Ionia, Carson City, Hayes Green Beach, Eaton Rapids, Owosso, Mt. Pleasant and Williamston.

"This agreement will promote an environment of care that properly supports physicians, nurses and other members of a highly integrated team," said Michael J. James, DO, President of TCI. "TCI looks forward to partnering with Sparrow in the fight against heart and vascular disease."

While discussions have been highly productive, no definitive agreements or timelines are currently in place.

TCI physicians from left, ▶
Matt Wilcox, DO and Michael James, DO
are current members of Sparrow's Medical Staff.



◀ **Emergency meeting.** The 6th annual battle for the Dr. John Wiegenstein trophy brought together the emergency room staffs of Sparrow and Ingham Regional Medical Center for an afternoon of flag football.

To find out who won, see the back page.

brief mentions

Infectious disease conference

Sparrow and Michigan State University host an Infectious Disease Conference, Wednesday, Dec. 9, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the University Club of Michigan State University. This course is approved by Sparrow Health System for 6 hours of AOA Category 1A credit. Speakers include Sparrow physicians Mary Nettleman, MD, Peter Gulick, DO, Dan Havlicek, MD, Greg Holzman, MD, and MaryAnn Tran, MD.

❶ For more information, contact Jennifer Wyble at 364.2197.

Physician nominations sought

Nominations are sought for the Sparrow's Physician Hall of Fame with responses due by Jan. 17, 2010. The 2010 inductees will be honored at the annual Sparrow Physician Recognition Dinner, scheduled for Apr. 24 at the Country Club of Lansing.

❶ Nomination forms can be found on the Sparrow Intranet under Volunteer Services.

FANS offering holiday pies

Sparrow's Food and Nutrition Services Department will offer pumpkin and cranapple pies for sale on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving beginning at 7 a.m. until supplies last.

Surgical care recognized

Sparrow has been recognized by the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP) as one of only 25 participating hospitals to achieve exemplary outcomes for surgical patient care. ACS NSQIP is the only nationally validated quality improvement program that measures and enhances the care of surgical patients. Hospitals selected must achieve the distinction of attaining exemplary patient-management outcomes in two or more of five key clinical areas.

Courtside Grill offers discounts

The Courtside Grill, the restaurant and lounge located inside Sparrow's Michigan Athletic Club, (MAC) 2900 Hannah Blvd in East Lansing offers Sparrow family members 20 percent off their total bill. Check out the Courtside Grill for lunch or dinner. You do not need to be a member of the MAC to enjoy outstanding food and atmosphere of the Courtside Grill.

❶ Call 364.8884 for reservations or daily specials.

people news

Ed Bruun was honored with the 2009 MHA ▶ Health Care Leadership Award, by the Michigan Health & Hospital Association (MHA) during the MHA Health Foundation Governance Leadership Forum in Boyne Falls on Oct. 11. Ed currently serves as president and CEO of Sparrow's Clinton Memorial Hospital in St. Johns.



Carol Horowitz was honored with ▶ the 2009 Ketchum Award for Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser by the Capital Region Community Foundation. Carol also serves as a member of the Sparrow Foundation Board of Directors.



◀ These boots are made for...triage. Emergency Department nurse Dave Jansma, RN, dons protective clothing to prepare for an emergency preparedness drill outside the ambulance entrance to Sparrow Hospital's Emergency Department. A portable, decontamination tent was pitched in the parking structure, and pre-med students from Michigan State University volunteered as victims of a radiation exposure. All systems worked well, and Sparrow was a little better prepared—for anything.



◀ Future stars of the stage. From left, Sparrow pediatric rehab patients and Children's Miracle Network (CMN) kids Katelin Frayer and Caroline Thomas are busy preparing for their command performance when the Children's Ballet Theatre (CBT) of Michigan performs the Nutcracker in the Great Hall of the Wharton Center Nov. 27-29. CBT has invited children with physical limitations to participate in this year's Nutcracker Ballet and is donating a portion of their proceeds to CMN. In addition to their rehab sessions, Katelin and Caroline are attending rehearsals at the CBT studio in Old Town. Sparrow's Personal Assistants office is offering discounted tickets to this family event.

❶ For additional information and performance times, contact Wharton Center Box Office at 517.432.2000.

obituary

We deepest regrets, we announce the death of Josephine Garchow on Oct. 16 at age 66. Josephine served as a Sparrow associate for more than 25 years, retiring in 2008 from the Medical Records Department. On behalf of the entire Sparrow family, the Sparrow News offers our condolences to Josephine's family and friends.

Now, appearing on patient care units—
Meet Sparrow's new CDMP team.



David Donahue, RN, CDS



Paula Warren, RN, CDS



Kathryn Schaefer, RN, CDS



Janet Kulhanek, RN, CDS



Jamie Majeske, RN, CDS Supervisor



Stacey McCarthy, RN, CDS

New program improves medical record accuracy

In October, Sparrow Hospital implemented a compliant document management program (CDMP) to improve the documentation of care in the medical records of Medicare patients.

“Both Sparrow and Sparrow physicians benefit from the program,” said Diana Henthorne-Stoddard, Sparrow’s Chief Privacy Officer and Director of Health Information Management. “A CDMP allows the coder to code the severity of illness, yielding true data for a multitude of purposes.”

Henthorne-Stoddard said a well-designed CDMP:

- Provides accurate data for quality initiatives like Joint Commission core measures
- Improves results in publicly reported hospital comparisons like *Hospital Compare*
- Improves case mix index which affects how much the federal government pays us for Medicare patients
- Provides an accurate picture of the severity and complexity of the Medicare patients Sparrow doctors are caring for
- Improves physician results in publicly reported physician comparisons
- Improves the readiness of Sparrow and Sparrow doctors to manage complex rules, regulations, and initiatives required by the government and commercial insurance companies

Sparrow’s new CDMP team, led by medical director James Haering, DO, consists of clinical documentation specialists (CDS) who are assigned to specific nursing units and professional coders.

“The CDS are trained to work with physicians to make sure what is written in the medical record accurately reflects how sick a patient is and the resources needed to care for the patient,” Henthorne-Stoddard said. “After patient discharge, the CDS and coders work together to make sure that the record is appropriately coded and billed based on the medical record documentation.”



◀ Diwali celebration brightens Sparrow Tower.

From left, Sparrow nurses Satya Subedi, RN, Meena Sharma, RN, and Sushila Upadhyaya, RN donned traditional dresses (salwar kameez and saree) during the Indian festival of Diwali on Oct. 15. Based on the Hindu lunar calendar, Diwali means “festival of lights.” For the more than a hundred Sparrow associates who attended the celebration in the elevator lobby of 5-West, it meant mouth-watering, homemade Indian food.

◀ Michele Nikolai has been promoted to the position of chief clinical dietitian for Sparrow Hospital. Michele has, for the past 13 years served Sparrow patients as a pediatric dietitian.

Jennifer Rees-Brown, RN, ▶ has been promoted to nursing supervisor at Sparrow Hospital. Most recently, Jennifer served as a staff nurse at Mason Urgent Care Center.



◀ The Reverend Virginia Schiefelbein has joined the Sparrow team as a staff chaplain in the Pastoral Care Department. Most recently, Virginia served as a staff chaplain at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, Mo.

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Victory!

Sparrow outscores IRMC in gridiron clash between emergency departments

Led by medical director Tony Briningstool, MD, Sparrow's Emergency Department's co-ed flag football team took an early two-touchdown lead and then held off their counterparts from Ingham Regional Medical Center (IRMC), 43-38, in the 6th annual Dr. John Wiegenstein Football Classic on Oct. 18.

On a cool afternoon on the artificial turf practice field adjacent to Spartan Stadium, the annual coed flag football brought together the two hospital emergency room staffs for an afternoon of fun and football. Proceeds to the event benefit charity causes.

"It's just a great way to share some fun and camaraderie with our brethren across town," Dr. Briningstool said.

Sparrow returned the Dr. John Wiegenstein Trophy to Sparrow after IRMS had captured it the last two years. Sparrow now leads the overall series, 4-2.

Assisting a physician. Physician assistant Ryan Maldonado ► sets a screen block for Sparrow surgeon Jeff Deppen, DO, who evaded the reach of an IRMC defender and scampered 70 yards for the first touchdown of the game.



▲ **Captains courageous.** From left, IRMC physician Michael Racine, MD, and Sparrow Emergency Department Medical Director Tony Briningstool, MD, captains of their respective teams, pose in front of the East Lansing Fire Department Honor Guard before the game.

