

Dr. Clark becomes new Chief of Medical Staff

Longtime Emergency Department attending physician Michael Clark, MD, has been named Sparrow Chief of the Medical Staff, succeeding Dawn Springer, MD. Dr. Clark has served as chief of staff-elect for the past two years.

Dr. Clark is a graduate of the Georgetown University School of Medicine. He served his internship at Mary Imogene Bassett Hospital in Cooperstown, N.Y. and his emergency medicine residency at Sparrow Hospital. In 2009, he was chosen, along with outgoing chief of staff Dawn Springer, MD, as co-recipient of Sparrow's Physician of the Year award. Since 1977, Dr. Clark has served as an attending physician in Sparrow's Emergency Department. He will serve a two-year term as chief of staff.



Dr. Armstrong new Chief of Staff-elect

Former Sparrow Physician of the Year John Armstrong, MD, has been elected by his peers to serve as Sparrow Chief of Staff-elect. Sparrow's first pulmonologist, Dr. Armstrong currently serves as medical director for critical care medicine and chair of the Critical Care Committee.

A graduate of Michigan State University's College of Human Medicine, Dr. Armstrong served his residency at the Cleveland Clinic and his internship and fellowship with the Henry Ford Health System. Dr. Armstrong will serve two years as chief of staff-elect.



Ionia County Memorial Hospital becomes Sparrow affiliate

Leaders from Sparrow and Ionia County Memorial Hospital (ICMH) announced in December a formal agreement that will allow ICMH to join the Sparrow family, effective Jan. 1, 2010. This agreement represents the next step in a successful partnership between the two organizations that began in 2006.

"This is a phenomenal opportunity for Sparrow and Ionia to continue to partner in the growth and development of health care in mid-Michigan," said Dennis Swan, President and Chief Executive Officer of Sparrow. "Sparrow is pleased to demonstrate its continued commitment to the residents of Ionia County by cementing our relationship with Ionia County Memorial Hospital and working together to improve the health of the people in our communities by providing quality, compassionate care to everyone, every time."

"Today is a day of celebration for Ionia County," said Dan Balice, Chairman of the Ionia County Memorial Hospital Board and Mayor of Ionia. "Becoming a part of the region's leading health system will secure the future of health care in our community. Sparrow's presence at Ionia will allow us to preserve and enhance one of Ionia County's most vital resources."

ICMH fast facts:

Number of Beds—25
Number of associates—265
Location—479 Lafayette St., Ionia



Inside. CMH's new Meditation Room offers gentle designs and warm colors.



▲ **Ribbon cutting.** With help from CMH Meditation Room Committee Members Pat Quigley, left, and Jack Hagerman, far right, From left, The Rev. Matt Olson, CMH President Ed Bruun, CMH Chief of Staff Dave Minnick, MD, and CMH Board Chair Dave Hunt cut the ribbon to open the hospital's new Meditation Room.

CMH's Meditation Room offers quiet reflection

The Nobel Peace Prize Winner Dag Hammarskjöld once wrote, "We all have within us a center of stillness surrounded by silence."

That basic human need for a quiet place for reflection or prayer was recently addressed at Sparrow-affiliate Clinton Memorial Hospital (CMH) in St. Johns with the opening of a new interfaith meditation room.

"Our intent is to offer patients, visitors and employees a safe haven for healing of the mind, body and spirit—a goal which reflects the hospital's ongoing commitment to meet the needs of our community," said Ed Bruun, Clinton Memorial Hospital President & CEO at the Dec. 10 open house celebrating completion of the project.

Located on the first floor of the hospital in a quiet hallway by the Medical Records Department, the new Meditation Room provides a tranquil sanctuary for contemplative thought, worship and prayer. Available 24-hours a day, this room also can be used for visits with clergy and private conversations between family and medical staff.

For more information about funding this project or making a contribution in support of Clinton Memorial Hospital, please call the CMH Foundation at 989.227.3396

Bingham School luncheon. Food and Nutrition associate Dale Yanz tops off a holiday lunch of chicken fingers, corn and mashed potatoes with jello and a cookie for a student at neighboring Bingham Elementary School on Dec. 16. The traditional holiday luncheon provided by Sparrow Food and Nutrition Services is always a much-anticipated event for Bingham's students.



endevor among staff members and delivered gift-wrapped socks to Ingham County Medical Care Facility for their Christmas Party. All 236 residents will receive new socks for Christmas.

UAW members ratify agreement with Sparrow

Members of United Auto Workers (UAW) Local 4911 have ratified a new, three-year collective bargaining agreement with Sparrow Hospital.

"Our membership was pleased with the contract and with the work of the bargaining committees," said Deb Aldrich, UAW Local 4911 Representative.

"I appreciate the hard work of the UAW and hospital bargaining teams," said Sparrow Human Resources Vice President Thomas Ostrander. "We look forward to continuing to work with the UAW in growing our partnership to benefit our patients, associates, physicians, volunteers and the communities we serve."

The new agreement covers approximately 2,600 service, technical and skilled maintenance associates.

people news

We say goodbye to **Laura Lane** (left) and **Irm Fritch, RN**, who are retiring after 41 and 26 years of service, respectively. Laura served her entire career in the Admitting Department and is credited with admitting tens of thousands of Sparrow patients. Irm began her Sparrow career as a staff nurse on the Oncology unit on 8-South. Most recently, she has served as a manager in Sparrow's Cancer Center. On behalf of the entire Sparrow family the *Sparrow News* offers out best wishes to Laura and Irm for a long and happy retirement.



Dennis Swan has been appointed to the state's Health Information Technology Commission. The commission facilitates and promotes the design, implementation, operation, and maintenance of interoperable health care information infrastructures in Michigan. Dennis, who serves as Sparrow President and CEO, will represent hospitals on the commission. His term will expire in August, 2013.



We also say goodbye to **Angie Knauf**, who leaves us after 29 years of service, most recently as chief information security officer. Angie has taken a new position at Michigan State University as a telecom service manager. Best wishes, Angie!



obituary

With deepest regrets we announce the death of Evelyn Hunt on Dec. 18 at age 61. Evelyn served her community for 28 years as an associate in Sparrow's Food and Nutrition Department. Her husband, Don, also served for many years in Sparrow's Radiology Department. On behalf of the entire Sparrow family, the *Sparrow News* offers our condolences to Don, and to Evelyn's family and many friends.

▼ **Holiday pops concert.** Sparrow physician and violinist George Smith, MD, performs with the Shiawassee String Orchestra in the Sparrow Professional Building atrium on Dec. 11. The lunchtime concert delighted many and filled the building with beautiful holiday melodies.



brief mentions

Consumers choose Sparrow

Sparrow has been recognized as one of the nation's top hospitals by the National Research Corporation (NRC). Based on consumer perceptions on multiple quality and image ratings, Sparrow joins only 280 other facilities in the country's top 300 markets in being named a 2009/2010 Consumer Choice Award winner. These consumer choice awards are determined by NRC's Healthcare Market Guide Ticker study, which surveyed over 250,000 households representing more than 450,000 consumers nationwide. NRC's Healthcare Market Guide Ticker is the nation's largest and most comprehensive study of its kind.

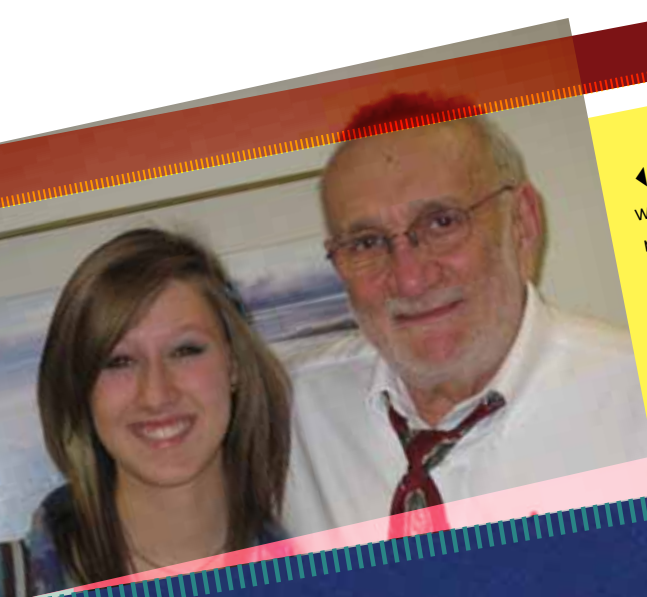
For more information on the study, go online to hcmg.nationalresearch.com.

Sparrow wins top employer honors

Sparrow was recognized as "Employer of the Year" by Capital Area Michigan Works for participation in their healthcare scholarship program. The program enlists healthcare organizations to assist in interviews and help identify candidates who are a good fit for the healthcare profession. Sparrow's interviews produced seven candidates, five of whom are pursuing nursing degrees and two who are in the surgical technologist program. The award was presented at the annual dinner held at the Kellogg Center in December.

Editor: John Lux

517.364.2934
john.lux@sparrow.org



◀ **Birthday reunion.** From left, Kendall Rae Voltattorni poses with Sparrow physician Frank Schneiderman, MD, at a surprise reunion organized by Kendall's parents and Sparrow associate Larry Esch. Kendall came to Sparrow on the occasion of her 18th birthday to thank Dr. Schneiderman for saving her life when she was a newborn. If you are looking for a reason why you brave the winter cold to be a part of the Sparrow team—look no farther.

Rooftop display. Sparrow Hospital's ▶ traditional rooftop display of Santa and his reindeers has delighted children in our community for nearly half a century. Once again, this year, Rudolph led Santa's sleigh into the nighttime sky.

