

▼ **Gazing west.** Morning sunlight mixes with domed and recessed lighting in the new lobby to create a stunning, new ambience.



▲ **New headquarters, expanded service.**

One component of the new lobby extension is a bright new office for Sparrow Personal Assistants (SPA) concierge service. From left, SPA Director Jennifer Peiffer and concierge specialist Tamara Trutt are expanding SPA services beyond associates to patients and guests.

Lobby complete! Big, bright, beautiful

We've all been waiting patiently for this since the fall of 2005.

That's when the first section of Sparrow Hospital's new main lobby opened and the 10-story Sparrow Tower was still just an architect's drawing. Years and months followed while the massive construction project steadily advanced from one stage to another.

One of the final, and most visible phases was realized on Feb. 19, when Granger Construction Company, Sparrow's general contractor for the project opened the last 300-foot section of the hospital's grand, new main lobby and heard the oohs and ahs of everyone who traveled through the sparkling, sunlit new space.

"It's gorgeous," said Melissa Sherry, Sparrow's Director of Volunteer Services, and anyone who has seen the lobby extension can't help but agree.

Some of the features of the bright, new space include a new headquarters for Sparrow Personal Assistant's concierge service and and Cup-A-Chinos, a specialty coffee café run by Sparrow's Food and Nutrition Services Department. Still in the works is a new admitting and discharge center and a grand new entrance to the Sparrow Hospital Gift Shop.

South-facing, floor-to-ceiling windows run the length of lobby, bathing the space in sunshine and offering a comforting perspective for new visitors to Sparrow Hospital.

"To be able to have a great view of Michigan Avenue is an overlooked positive aspect," said Granger's Jon Upton, who has served as project manager for the Sparrow Tower construction. "It helps give new visitors a solid perspective of where they are within the building, and which direction they are headed."

No matter where people are headed inside the hospital, one thing is for sure. The new main lobby gives visitors a positive first impression of Sparrow—and it's absolutely beautiful.

brief mentions

Nurse nominations deadline near

There's only one more week to submit nominations for Sparrow's 2009 Nurse of the Year awards and the 11th annual Jean Granger Nursing Contributor Award. Nominations must be received by the Nursing Office by Friday, March 27.

i Nomination forms are available on the nursing units and can also be obtained at the Sparrow Nursing Office on 2-South.

Need tax forms?

It's tax time, and to help those who need tax forms, Sparrow's Medical Library has once again posted links directly to the 2008 local, state and federal tax forms.

i If you require tax forms/instructions, then visit the SHS Library Web site at: <http://www.sparrowhealth.net/Default.aspx?tabid=613>

Team Sparrow Walking Challenge

Sparrow Health and Wellness invites all associates, affiliates, volunteers, and physicians and their families to participate in a team walking challenge beginning March 30. All participants receive a pedometer to track steps, and are eligible for a grand prize as well as weekly prizes. By registering for the annual Komen Race for the Cure on April 26, your team receives bonus points. The cost per team is \$20.

i For more information, call Sparrow Health and Wellness at 364-8148.

Resale shop offers bargains galore

Looking to stretch the value of your dollars? The Sparrow-St. Lawrence Campus Resale Shop has clothing, household items, toys, knick-knacks and gadgets at a fraction of their original cost. And all during March, the Resale shop is offering 50 percent off their already low prices. Resale Shop hours are Mondays, 8 to 11 a.m. and the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. All proceeds benefit Sparrow through the Catherine McCauley League volunteers.

Doctors' Day Walk of Stars

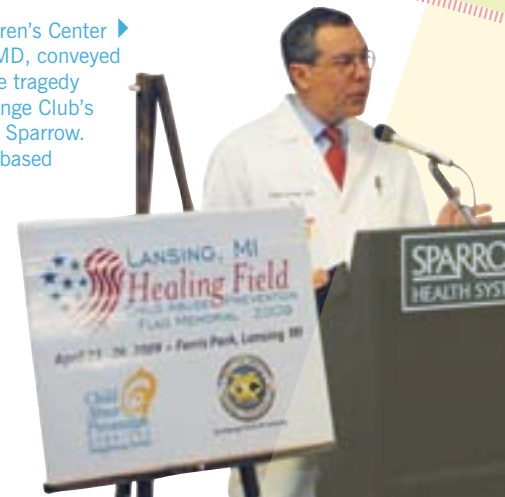
March 30 is Doctors' Day—a time to thank and recognize the care our physicians provide to our patients each and every day. On the days leading up to Doctors' Day the skywalk between Sparrow Hospital and the Sparrow Professional Building will feature a constellation of stars submitted by associates, volunteers and other physicians to recognize members of our medical staff. If you get a chance, take a stroll through the skywalk and do some stargazing.

numbers

7,500,000

approximate number of articles picked up and delivered by Sparrow's Linen Service each year. This includes sheets, towels, bedspreads, washcloths, scrub wear and nearly 100 other reusable, laundered items.

Children's advocate. Sparrow Children's Center ▶ Medical Director Stephen Guertin, MD, conveyed his experience and knowledge of the tragedy of child abuse at the Lansing Exchange Club's news conference recently hosted by Sparrow. The Club spearheads a community-based effort that will plant more than 1,400 U.S. flags in Lansing's Ferris Park from April 23 through 26 to honor victims of child abuse. This effort is part of a nationwide campaign led by a charitable organization called the Colonial Flag Foundation.



people news

Larry Rawsthorne, MD, ▶ senior vice president of Medical Affairs is the newest member of the Lansing's BoarsHead Theater's Board of Trustees. Dr. Rawsthorne also practices with Pulmonary and Critical Care Consultants, P.C.



▶ **Black history award**
African-American history Diversity Director Jackie Thornton at the St. Lawrence campus Conference Center where Gil featured presenter of the Inventors and Innovators Exhibit. The presentation, on February 19, highlighted many of the discoveries, inventions, and innovations made by African-American

New surgical procedure can restore hearing

Sparrow doctors are restoring hearing to people affected by single-sided deafness through an innovative, new surgical procedure and device called a bone-anchored hearing aid, or BAHA.



▲ Dr. Richardson

The BAHA consists of a small, titanium screw implanted into the bone behind the ear, an external, cone-shaped piece that connects with the screw, and the hearing device that attaches to the cone.

Sparrow ear, nose, and throat specialist Kurt Richardson, M.D., implants the tiny screw in an outpatient procedure that takes less than an hour. The system works by taking the sound from the outside

and transmitting it to the inner ear through the bone, bypassing the ear canal and the middle ear. The hearing device transmits sound vibrations through the titanium implant to the skull and the inner ear—where hearing takes place.

“Single-sided deafness is a handicap that negatively affects many aspects of a person’s life,” Dr. Richardson said. “Patients are truly amazed at the quality of hearing they recover from the BAHA procedure.”



▲ The small hearing device attaches to the implanted screw and fits behind the patient’s ear.
(photo courtesy of Cochlears America)

obituaries



With deepest regrets we announce the death of Joseph L. Sheets, M.D., on Feb. 27 at the age of 77. Dr. Sheets is among the most accomplished physicians in Sparrow history. As an Ob-Gyn specialist, Dr. Sheets performed more than 10,000 deliveries and 5,000 major surgeries in an illustrious career that spanned five decades. He also served as a teacher and mentor to hundreds of young physicians, starting an endowment to enhance medical education and research at Sparrow. As a physician leader, he co-founded Physician’s Health Plan and served as a member of the Sparrow Foundation’s Board of Directors. In 2004, he received the Sparrow Founders’ Award, the highest honor of the Sparrow Health System and, in 2006, was a member of the first class of inductees into the Sparrow Physicians Hall of Fame. On behalf of the entire Sparrow family, the *Sparrow News* offers our deepest condolences to the family and friends of Dr. Sheets, one of Sparrow’s most honored physicians.

◀ **Marc D. Basson, MD**, is the newly named chairperson, Department of Surgery, Michigan State University. Most recently Dr. Basson served as Chief of Surgery at the John D. Dingell VA Medical Center. In light of the new affiliation agreement between MSU and Sparrow, Dr. Basson says his first priority will be to recruit several new doctors to the region who can excel both at clinical work and research.



◀ **Lee Surdenik** says goodbye to Sparrow and hello to retirement after 40 years of service in Sparrow’s Patient Financial Services. Most recently, Lee served as an accounts payable specialist in the Disbursements Unit.



▲ **Belles of the Ball.** From left, Sparrow Foundation associates Shela Dubenion-Smith, Emily Jackson, Stacy Weeks, Amy Possavino and Cindy Artibee gather for an evening of friends, food and fun at the 2009 Sparrow Gala on Feb. 28 at the Country Club of Lansing. This year’s gala, dubbed the “Heart Center Royale,” featured great food, casino-style gaming, music and dancing. Nearly 540 people attended the event, which raised more than \$117,000 to benefit Sparrow’s Heart and Vascular Center.

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Well-experienced trio

Not many Sparrow Departments can boast three associates with a combined 130 years of experience, but Sparrow's Linen Service sure can. From left, Emily Hawks (37 years) Eva Mata (63 years) and Rod Miller (30 years) have been supplying clean laundry and fresh enthusiasm to medical units throughout the hospital for as long as most of us can remember. Mata's incredible 63 years of service began at age 14 at Clinton Memorial Hospital. She transferred to the laundry at St. Lawrence Hospital in 1965 and became an official member of the Sparrow team when St. Lawrence and Sparrow merged in 1997. The oldest of the three Sparrow Linen Service stalwarts, Mata still has no plans for retirement any time soon. "As long as I feel good and can do the job, I will keep doing it." That's good news, for Sparrow's Linen Service annually receives and delivers more than 7.5 million individual items—sheets, washcloths, towels, scrubs, bedspreads—you name it. For a job this big, it's great to have all that experience to call on.

