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Stand and Deliver

A highlight of the SSM Health Care Annual Leadership Conference in May was the presence on stage of the 26 Franciscan Sisters of Mary who attended the event. At the conclusion of “Our Heritage of Healing,” a presentation that honored the contribution of the religious congregation, the sisters came forward to tears and a lengthy, thunderous standing ovation. [Read related story on Page 3.](#)

SSM Health Care



Network

May/June 2006

Sharing Ideas to Advance Our Common Mission • www.ssmhc.com

Electronic Health Records First Phase of Project Beacon to Come Online June 19

By Brian Piper

OKLAHOMA CITY — The pieces are coming together for the first of many “go-live” dates for Project Beacon, SSM Health Care’s system-wide switch to electronic health records for patients. The picture archiving and communication system (PACS) is set to come online June 19 at St. Anthony Hospital and Bone & Joint Hospital, both in Oklahoma City. PACS brings information networks and diagnostic imaging systems together to create a powerful new tool for caregivers to provide breakthrough results in patient care.

It will nearly eliminate film generated now by magnetic resonance imaging, X-rays and cardiology procedures and streamline workflow for caregivers. Instead, images will be available for display within seconds on workstations and via the Web, saving valuable time in patients’ treatment.

“This milestone is a result of a great deal of hard work from teams both here in Oklahoma City and at the SSM Information Center,” said Alisyn Beffa, PACS project manager.

“It’s exciting when you can finally start realizing some of the benefits the PACS radiology/cardiology solution will bring to SSM facilities,” Beffa added.

The implementation of this first stage of Project Beacon began in January when the PACS team started analyzing the day-long workflows of hospital staff and physicians. This allowed the team to understand the best way for PACS to complement caregivers’ work.

“So much of our focus throughout this process has been on the end user – the radiology tech, the cardiology tech,” said Lynne Schroeder, leader of the PACS change management team. “The technical aspects of how to use the system will come from training, but realizing how the PACS solution can make life easier and more efficient comes from an understanding of how they currently do things and what the PACS system will allow us to improve.”

Installation is expected to be completed at SSM’s entities over the next two years. For more information on PACS, visit the project Web site on the Intranet and click on PACS.

Dr. Phillip Stratemeier demonstrated the current radiology technology at St. Anthony Hospital in Oklahoma City for Project Beacon team members who were analyzing workflows for implementation of the picture archiving and communication system.



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Read on page 4 about what a St. Charles physician had to say about electronic health records before a congressional subcommittee.

“School at Work” Promotes Learning, Employee Careers

By Beth Cross

Weekly, 10 employees at SSM Cardinal Glennon Children’s Medical Center gather in the hospital computer lab for a class to help them advance in their health-care careers or prepare them for college.

“School at Work” is a new, eight-month employee development program of SSM University. The program is under way at St. Mary’s Good Samaritan Inc. in southern Illinois, Bone & Joint Hospital in Oklahoma City, St. Mary’s Health Center in Jefferson City, Mo., and Cardinal Glennon in St. Louis. Two new sites will open January 2007: at St. Francis Hospital and Health Services in Maryville, Mo., and SSM Rehab in St. Louis.

“There is no age limit on learning, and I just want to learn more and be the best that I can be,” said one student, Diane Luna-Williams, an information specialist and clinic coordinator at Cardinal Glennon.

The program, designed for employees in entry-level positions, is divided into two semesters. The first semester, which winds down in June, is a refresher in reading, grammar, communications and workplace math. The second semester, “Becoming a Healthcare Professional,” focuses on health-care terminology and other topics.

“It’s very rewarding to see the students advance and grow, and gain confidence in their skills and knowledge to explore career opportunities,” said Karen Miller, Cardinal Glennon director of volunteers and education, who coaches the students along with Kendrick Joshway, business manager of surgical services.

For information on School at Work, contact Karen Busch, corporate manager of organizational effectiveness, at (314) 994-7841 or Karen_Busch@ssmhc.com. SSM University is dedicated to leadership development at all levels of the health-care system.

Longtime Service To SSM Celebrated
See pages 5-8

St. Mary’s Nurses Earn Magnet
Page 4

SSM Health Care Network

Network® is published bimonthly by SSM Health Care for employees, physicians and friends.

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SSM Health Care provides equal employment opportunities, without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, veteran status, or disability to all qualified applicants and executives.

Mission Statement

Through our exceptional health care services, we reveal the healing presence of God.

Core Values




In accordance with the philosophy of the Franciscan Sisters of Mary, we value the sacredness and dignity of each person. Therefore, we find these five values consistent with both our heritage and ministerial priorities.

- Compassion
- Respect
- Excellence
- Stewardship
- Community

Developed by SSMHC employees systemwide in 1999.

SSM Health Care


Exceptional Health Care Services

-  Exceptional Clinical Outcomes
-  Exceptional Patient, Employee and Physician Satisfaction
-  Exceptional Financial Performance

Look for symbols on Network stories to link actions with our focus areas.

SSM Health Care is sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Mary.

Look for SSM Network Online at www.ssmhc.com and the SSMHC intranet.

 Network is printed on recycled paper that is recyclable. A web printing press is used, making four-color economical.

Cover Faces

In the cover masthead of each issue of Network, we feature faces of people mentioned in the issue. This issue features Mary Starmann-Harrison, Dr. Michael Williams, and Donda Daniels.



24,455 Reasons to Say 'Thank You'

By Sr. Mary Jean Ryan, FSM

Do you know what Play Doh and the game show "The Price is Right" have in common? What about the first "Dear Abby" column and Elvis Presley's debut on the Ed Sullivan Show or the first episode of the soap opera "As the World Turns" and the distribution of the first polio vaccine?

You might already have guessed it – each turns 50 this year.

The year was 1956. Dwight Eisenhower was president; a first-class stamp cost three cents (I'll spare you the cost of a gallon of gas); and "In God We Trust" was first adopted as the U.S.' national motto. And if that weren't enough to make some of us feel old, movie stars Mel Gibson and Tom Hanks were newborns.

So why are we taking this trip down Memory Lane? Because this issue of Network contains the annual SSM Health Care Service Anniversary insert – and 1956 represents this issue's service milestone for the two honorees that have been with us the longest.

Fifty years of service.

This year, Sr. Mary Doris Ashcraft from St. Francis Hospital & Health Center in Blue Island, Ill., and Peggy Millette from St. Marys Hospital Medical Center in Madison, Wis., will celebrate their 50th service anniversaries with SSM Health Care. What an amazing thought – and an awe-inspiring accomplishment. Not too far behind, we have three honorees with 45 years of service: Rosie Wilkerson from St. Anthony Hospital in Oklahoma City, as well as Judith Bitter and Frederick Marti, both from St.



Sr. Mary Jean Ryan, FSM
President/CEO

Marys Hospital Medical Center in Madison.

And the list keeps going: 40 years, 35 years, 30 years, 25 years, 20 years. In all we celebrate 24,455 years of service this year.

When I think about the collective experience, wisdom and expertise that the hundreds of names on these pages hold, I breathe a prayer of humble thanks and tremendous admiration.

Even though the world changes dramatically as the years go by, our extraordinary employees' commitment to revealing the healing presence of God remains constant.

Where would SSM be without these employees – those who have committed such a significant part of their lives to caring for others? It seems woefully inadequate to say that we wouldn't be the same. These individuals have helped make us who we are today. And they continue to shape our future

"Even though the world changes dramatically as the years go by, our extraordinary employees' commitment to revealing the healing presence of God remains constant."

through their passion, dedication and steadfast example.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt thank you and congratulations to each of our special service anniversary honorees. May God continue to abundantly bless you in your life and work.

Uninsured People Shown Compassion

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS – Free health screenings and information on financial assistance were given out at two events for "Cover the Uninsured Week" sponsored in May by St. Mary's Good Samaritan Inc. in Mount Vernon and Centralia.

But doses of concern were also dispensed, as organizers of the events listened to the personal stories of those who attended the events. Many were without adequate health insurance.

"Our hospitals have a long history of providing compassionate care to people during times of illness," said Julie Long, director of marketing.

A woman in her 60s sought information on how to stop smoking and assistance with medications. Her husband died two years ago and she sells Tupperware and babysits to make ends meet. She had no insurance but was counting the days until she could qualify for Medicare.

A woman in her early 30s was diagnosed with lymphoma and told to find a physician so that she could get chemotherapy. But she had no car and didn't know how to get chemo.

Another woman in her 40s tearfully talked about suicide over her financial and medical situation. She said she was so grateful that someone was listening to her story because she had nowhere to turn.

Cover the Uninsured Week was organized nationwide May 1-7 to shed light on the plight of the nation's estimated 46 million uninsured people. Long noted that St. Mary's Good Samaritan efforts aren't restricted to one week. Last year, the hospitals provided more than \$15 million in unreimbursed health-care services in its communities.



Registered nurse Vicki Vaughn (left) said the event "spoke more about our mission and values than anything I have ever participated in."



Distinguished music therapist Deforia Lane led Kris Zimmer (right), SSM senior vice president for finance, and other audience members at the Annual Leadership Conference through a "mirroring" exercise to demonstrate how to follow, lead and work together.

2006 Vision Awards Recognize Achievements through Values

SSM Health Care honored 23 individuals and groups with 2006 Vision Awards for exceptional efforts which reflect SSM's values of compassion, respect, excellence, stewardship and community. The awards were presented during the Annual Leadership Conference on May 4 at Marco Island, Fla. The following individuals and programs received Vision Awards:

Inpatient Rehab Center Achieving the Elusive 99th Percentile Bone & Joint Hospital Oklahoma City	Marcia Beason St. Francis Hospital & Health Services Maryville, Mo.
Home Care Wound Care Program SSM Home Care St. Louis	Baby Bands SSM Information Center St. Louis
Blood Conservation Team SSM Health Care-St. Louis St. Louis	Outpatient Social Service St. Marys Good Samaritan, Inc. Mount Vernon & Centralia, Ill.

Exceptional Performance Team, Exceptional Performance Variance Reviews
SSM Rehab
St. Louis

Sandy Lenington
SSMHC-St. Louis Physicians' Organization,
DePaul Medical Group
St. Louis

Dr. Allen D. Kemp
Dean Health System
Madison, Wis.

Blood and Blood Products: Utilization and Conservation
SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center
St. Louis

Mission Exceptional Teams/ Mission Exceptional
St. Anthony Hospital
Oklahoma City

SSM St. Mary's Health Center – Newborn Services
"Great Beginnings – Healthy Outcomes for Newborns"
SSM St. Mary's Health Center
St. Louis

Palliative Care Team
SSMHC Palliative Care Initiative
St. Mary's Care Center
Madison, Wis.

Making a Difference: Implementation of Rapid Response Team
St. Clare Hospital and Health Services
Baraboo, Wis.

Susan Peeler
Redesign of Physician Office Billing
Healthfirst Physician Services
Oklahoma City



At the close of the Leadership Conference, Sr. Mary Jean Ryan, FSM, President/CEO of SSM Health Care, addressed the audience on the importance of making a difference in people's lives.

Paula Friedman, Our Quality Journey & MBNQA SSM Health Care-Corporate Office St. Louis	St. Marys Hospital Medical Center Parish Nurses St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center & St. Mary's Care Center Madison, Wis.
Medication Reconciliation Team SSM DePaul Health Center Bridgeton, Mo.	Rapid Response Team SSM St. Joseph Hospital of Kirkwood Kirkwood, Mo.
David Billing, Mission Team Leader SSM St. Joseph Hospital West Lake Saint Louis, Mo.	Medication Verification Team St. Mary's Health Center Jefferson City, Mo.
Debby Vossenkemper 2005 Missouri Quality Award Application SSM St. Joseph Health Center, St. Charles, Mo. & SSM St. Joseph Hospital West, Lake Saint Louis, Mo.	Mary Kobus, Chair, Mission Awareness Team St. Francis Hospital & Health Center Blue Island, Ill.

Winners of the 2006 Vision Awards celebrate their recognition.



Entities Set Priorities Under New Planning

The new 2007-2011 strategic, financial and human resource planning process has been separated into two parts and lets local entities set their own priorities.

The two-part planning process now includes long-term, strategic planning covering a period of five years and a one-year operational plan. The operational plan will include the entity activities to advance strategic goals, other priorities and departmental plans.

Entity strategic plans should be completed by June 15; operational plans by Nov. 1.

"A system-wide team was formed to look for opportunities to improve the strategic, financial and human resource planning process," said Bill Thompson, SSM senior vice president for strategic development.

"The team determined that the previous process was neither truly strategic nor operational, and thus was less than fully effective," Thompson said. "An entirely new approach to strategic and operational planning was needed."

What has changed?

- Instead of three-year strategic plans, entities will submit five-year plans.
- Entities will set the strategic goals they will focus on.
- Operational plans will link to strategic plans and identify other operational priorities.
- All plans will be submitted electronically for posting on the Intranet to encourage the sharing of best practices.

The changes will not only maximize local flexibility to identify those goals and objectives necessary for long-term success, but are also designed to drive results in patient, physician and employee satisfaction, clinical outcomes and patient safety, and financial performance.

"The initial feedback on the new process has been very positive," Thompson said. "The entities have really appreciated an opportunity to engage in true strategic conversations about the future of the health-care ministry."

Know What's Right DO What's Right

SSM Health Care • CRP

Your supervisor asks you to photocopy a 200-page book that has a copyright. What would you do?

1. Say nothing. Just copy the book.
2. Ask my supervisor if there is a corporate policy on copying copyrighted materials.
3. Search the corporate Web site for a copyright policy and bring it to your supervisor's attention.
4. Call the CRP Help Line: 1-877-4CRP-ASK.

Answer: Any of the answers except for No. 1. SSM Health Care is committed to the highest standards of business ethics and integrity. It is every employee's duty to report in good faith any possible or known violation of a policy, law or regulation. Employees must not engage in any activity intended to defraud anyone of money, property, services or excellent quality care.

St. Mary's Nurses Earn Prestigious Magnet Honor

MADISON, Wis. – St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center has earned another "Magnet" designation for nursing excellence, the highest recognition for nursing services for a health-care organization.

St. Mary's also received the Magnet recognition in 2002. "St. Mary's is proud of its strong tradition of working with a talented, compassionate nursing staff," said Dr. Frank Byrne, St. Mary's president.

Joan Beglinger, St. Mary's vice president of patient services, credited the hospital's shared governance model for the accomplishment.

Said Beglinger: "This would not be possible if it were not for the culture of open communication and shared decision-making among all staff when it comes to doing what's best for every patient."

The Magnet Recognition Program was developed by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association, to recognize health-care organizations that provide the very best in nursing care. Only three percent of all health-care organizations in the country have been given the honor.

Physician Testifies On EHR's Pros, Cons

By Mary Enger

ST. CHARLES, Mo. – Dr. Christopher Normile, a physician at SSM St. Joseph Health Center in St. Charles, testified before a subcommittee of the House of Representatives Committee on Small Business investigating the feasibility of electronic health records in small health-care groups.

Normile spoke April 6 at the request of Congressman Todd Akin, chairman of the subcommittee, because of his experience using the technology. He and his partner, Dr. Wendy Meyr-Cherry, have been using the technology in their practice for more than two years and are among the first small practices in the nation to use them.

Electronic health records hold great promise to improve the quality of health care and lower medical costs, Normile said. The electronic record-keeping is fast, easy to access and decreases errors in drug interactions. But, he added, they come with a significant pricetag for the small medical practice. Paying consultants or staff to manage the electronic records can even be prohibitive. Then there is the time it takes to become proficient with the system.

"Those of you who hate setting the clock on your VCR," he continued, "can't even imagine the complexity of installing and using the hardware and software required to run an already complex business."

CEO's Career Path No Mystery

By Lorraine Kee

MADISON, Wis. – A career in health care really wasn't such a stretch for Mary Starmann-Harrison, regional president and chief executive officer for SSM Health Care of Wisconsin.

Growing up, Starmann-Harrison recalled receiving gifts of toy medical kits. But what may have sealed her prospects was a book.

She was nine, perhaps 10, years old. For a school assignment, she had to write a report on a famous person. And from the library shelves, she plucked a book on Tom Dooley, the Catholic missionary-physician known for his humanitarian efforts in southeast Asia.

"I liked the idea of caring for people," she said, "and I was fascinated by medicine."

At Arizona State University, she decided to study nursing and then hospital administration. It turned out that the operational matters of hospitals fascinated her as much as their clinical aspects. Starmann-Harrison earned a bachelor's degree in nursing and master's in health administration.

Today, Starmann-Harrison believes the combination of her clinical training and administrative acumen comes in handy in a wide-ranging job, whether it's building on a long and strong relationship with physicians or building projects on campuses in SSM's Wisconsin region or anticipating the impact of a fast-aging baby-boomer population.

She spoke glowingly of the caregivers in Wisconsin.

"It's a great place with great people," said Starmann-Harrison who has been regional president since 1998.



Mary Starmann-Harrison

The Lighter Side of ... Mary Starmann-Harrison

Where's your hometown?

I was born and raised in Evergreen Park, a suburb on Chicago's southwest side.

Your first car?

A 10-year-old Chevy beater. It was my older brother's hand-me-down.

What is your proudest accomplishment?

I've got two great kids with my husband Greg: Stephanie is 17 and Gregory Bruce Jr. ("GB") is 20.

What was the last concert you attended?

Elton John (for the second time). The first time was the first date between my husband and I in 1975.

What is one thing people might not know about you?

I love to read mystery novels, all sorts of them. As a child, I read every Nancy Drew. Now, I really enjoy medical examiner mysteries.

SSM's Wisconsin region includes two acute care hospitals (440-bed St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center and 100-bed St. Clare Hospital and Health Services), two nursing homes (184-bed St. Mary's Care Center and 102-bed St. Clare Meadows Care Center); and part ownerships in Dean Health Systems, Dean Health Insurance, St. Mary's Dean Ventures — which includes three outpatient surgical facilities and 135 rural primary care physician practices — and two community hospitals Columbus and Stoughton. The Network also manages Boscobel Area Health Care and is affiliated with Upland Hills Health.

Asked to describe her job, Starmann-Harrison said: "I work with a terrific team to ensure that the strategies of our complex, integrated system are achieved."

About two years ago, her office moved off the St. Mary's campus to make way for patient beds. Though she regularly comes to the facilities, she misses being where the action is.

In particular, she misses seeing young parents walking out of the hospital carrying their newborn bundles.

"I like the energy of a hospital," Starmann-Harrison said. "Just to know you're making a difference in somebody's life. It's a wonderful field and it's a privilege to be a part of it."

(This is one in a series of features on SSM executives.)

SSM Took Lead on Tobacco-Free

St. Louis metropolitan area hospitals followed the lead of SSM Health Care on May 31 when they announced a plan to restrict the use of tobacco products on their campuses.

The hospitals in the St. Louis area and southern Illinois have restricted smoking in their facilities for years. But the new plan calls for tighter restrictions on their properties. The restrictions would be effective Sept. 1 ahead of a new Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services regulation.

SSM became the largest health-care system in the country to go tobacco-free in November 2004 when its facilities in four states eliminated tobacco use on their campuses. The recent announcement was made by the St. Louis Metropolitan Hospital Council, a regional office of the not-for-profit Missouri Hospital Association. The association represents 142 Missouri hospitals.



Service Anniversary

Special Edition

Honoring the Long-term Commitment of SSM Health Care Employees

By Kelly Cheramy and Darren A. Owens

This special edition of *Network*, covering four pages, marks the career milestones of about 1,000 SSM employees. Theirs is a legacy of caring and loyalty.

Two of them, however, are celebrating 50 years of service – each – making them among the longest serving of SSM Health Care’s 24,000 employees.

Peggy Millette was just 14 years old in 1956 when she came to St. Mary’s Hospital Medical Center in Madison, Wis. She started in dietary service, moved to the nursing office and later payroll. In 1974, she began working in pastoral care where she has stayed. Today, she’s a secretary in that office, which provides spiritual and emotional support to patients and families of all faiths.

Sr. Doris Ashcraft came to St. Francis Hospital and Health Center in Blue Island, Ill., in 1975 wanting to serve however she could. She started in house-keeping, moved to the cafeteria and then to the hospital bakery. Today, Sr. Ashcraft also works in pastoral care, as spiritual mission advocate.

After all these years, why did they stay?

“There isn’t any one key to longevity in my vocation,” Sr. Ashcraft said. “It is always by the grace of God, living a prayerful life, and having a good attitude.”

Said Millette: “I’ve enjoyed all my jobs. But you realize pretty quickly that the real satisfaction comes from the people you work with and those you serve.”

ILLINOIS

		<p>30 Years</p> <p>Patricia Blazek Sagrario Guerrero Kathleen Fico Donna Koehler Yvonne Kowalkowski Nancy Meskimen Ann Merkelbach Concepcion Ramos Mary Ruiz Raffaella Signore Peggy Terrell Carole Vrshek Alice Weatherspoon</p> <p>25 Years</p> <p>Lori Adams Mercedes Baccega</p>	<p>Mary Broadbent Catherine Connor Laura Deacon Patrice Funk Lilia Glackin Judy Grimes Corazon Guerrero Susan Hall Kathleen Hamill-McGee Maureen Hansen Peggy Jorgensen Carol Kogut Evelyn Kowalik Maria Lamorte Mary Ann Limanowski Edna Miles Della Moss</p>	<p>Beth Reitz Linda Saller-Kuikman Kathryn Shroyer Evelyn Teeter Denise Toussaint Annabel Unger Karen White Terry Young</p> <p>20 Years</p> <p>Celeste Borhauer Carmen Damian Deborah De Bruyn Mary Lesniak Rosemary Nelson Mary Nevell</p>	
<p>50 Years</p> <p>Sr. Mary Doris Ashcraft</p> <p>40 Years</p> <p>Ann Bogolia Christine Byford Linda Jones</p> <p>35 Years</p> <p>Guadalupe Alvarado Catherine Braasch</p>	<p>Michele Calabrese Nancy Finnen Cynthia Goesel Scarlet Gomez Patricia Klimavicius Josie Pasit Kathleen Pease Sandra Purnell Carrie Smith Sandra Trella Denise Wilson Trudy Wrzesinski</p>	<p>Natalie Brammeier Kathy Carman Leo Childers Angela Hart Michael Hicks Marsha Holloway Charlotte Huntman James Jeffers Jack Lewis Carl Lutz E Shirlean Penner Myrtle Ramirez Rodney Roberson James Rueter James Storey Diane Terry</p>	<p>20 Years</p> <p>Leslie Allen Marilyn Barbaglia Linda Bryan Janet Carter Raymond Dial Wayne Grote Terry Guess Elizabeth Hale Janet Hamil Judith Harmening Linda Harre Ruth Holloway Kristen Houser Ithiel Kimball</p>	<p>Peggy Sue Mitchell Melissa Peoples Vicki Schoen Patricia Shaw Diane Smith Doris Stewart Shan Stover Mary Jane Sursa Mark Szatkowski Wanda Taylor Pamela Twenhafel Sister Genevieve Ulaszek Michael Warren Linda Wilkerson Lola Zimmermann</p>	
		<p>35 Years</p> <p>Ruth Cummings Cleta Hamilton Rosemary Riechman Virginia Telford Rita Vaught</p> <p>30 Years</p> <p>James Barnes Geraldyn Davis Lee Ann Earle Lawana Jones</p>	<p>Sharon Lamar Carol McKinney Joan Nix Darlene Nollman Harlan Pierce Linda Roekeman Mary Lynn Szperra Deborah Tomasik</p> <p>25 Years</p> <p>Cynthia Armstrong Deborah Bost</p>		

Service Anniversary

Special Edition

MISSOURI



Clinical Engineering Services

30 Years

Eunice R. Halverson
Margaret Tanksley

25 Years

Thomas K. Langston

20 Years

Leo F. Childers
Kathleen Ferguson
Michelle D. Henson

Corporate Office

30 Years

Kathleen Belding

25 Years

Frank Bodenschatz
Gene Hackstadt
Michael Woulfe

20 Years

Robert Biffignani
Brian Hill
Steven Nachtweih



DePaul Health Center

40 Years

Martha Woods

35 Years

Geraldine Oliver
Barbara Payne
Loretta Schwartzbeck
Linda Sussman

30 Years

Phyllis Boorsma
Drenda Dobbins
Diane Giammanco
Deborah Henderson
Maggie Jones
Mary Kleeschulte
Shirley Moore
Mary Lee Walton
Mike Williams

25 Years

Patricia Abramczyk
Gregory Adler
Phillip Atkins
Kathleen Bonser
Karen Bradley

Donna Ehlmann
Karen Flynn
Robin Gilder
Ruth Goldsmith
Robin Griggs
Mary Halbrook
Teresa Helm
Pamela Horst
Haysoon Kang
Dorcas Klott
Margaret Koenegstein
Kathy Mcculloch
Dorothy Mebruer
Donald Montgomery
Ruth Petrov
Rene Pickett
Margaret Raiff
Nora Reuther
Sharron Sargent
Kathy Schepers
Janet Shaw
Dale Shocklee
Linda Simmons
Wilbert Smith
Dianne Stock
Patricia Thimmig

Julie Vilbert
Sheila Watts
Donna Whitt
Brenda Windsor
Jeanette Wuebbeling

20 Years

Lucy Appleton
Marion Baker
Genny Boehmer
Raquel Corona
Christine Dalske
Sandra Hennemeyer
Barbara Kemp
Patricia Leonard
Pamela Linke
Roger Loeffler
Carole Mathis
Laura Mccabe
Birdie McClain
Ann Mower
Cindy Narsh
Sharlene Price
Ellen Rensch
Parvinder Shinger
William Taylor
Karen Thomas
Lori Vincent
Kirk Williams
Mary Young

SSM Information Center

35 Years

Ralph Russell

30 Years

Kathleen Forster
Martha Higgins
Kathryn Ray

25 Years

Steven Lepsky
Edward Magraw

Dianne Merlenbach
Gerald Nickell
Joseph Provaznik
Dennis Rogers

20 Years

Darla Arnold
Sharon Borys
Candace Buettner
David Jones
Roger Owensby
Donald Steinberg
Andrea Turner
Jeffrey Wright



Cardinal Glennon

SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center

40 Years

Helen Gagen
Doris Hobson
Maryellen Judge
Elaine Mastin

35 Years

Mark Rellergert
Janet Wodicker
Bertha Zackary

30 Years

Kathryn Acton
Patricia Adamec
Marcia Bello
Geraldine Book
Mary Cline
Patricia Delaney
Christine Fultz
Barbara Meyer
Mary Moore
Susan Weber

25 Years

Barbara Barnes
Frances Bentrup
Timothy Bonnot
Deborah Boylan
Joan Buffa
Linda Campfield
Wanda Clark
Luann Conner
Vanessa Curry
Charles Dawson II
Erin Donovan
Deborah Fields
Carol Gocken
Brenda Hinson
Rebecca Indelicato
Barbara Kountzman
Diana Kraus
Elaine Lamay
Sally Launch
Debra Meyer
Amy Miller
Karen Miller
Janet Modde

Dianne Niethe
Kimmie Pacatte
Kathleen Potts
Louise Putnam
Sandra Rickard-Van Dyke
Dana Runde
Janet Schaeffler
Stephen Scherr
Marlene Sept
Madeline Sims-Wright
Cynthia Stephens
Barbara Stewart
Robert Stewart
Karen Viers
Julianne Voegtlin
Marie Weber
Mary White
Marlene Zagari
Karen Zahn

20 Years

Mary Bixby
Paulette Brand
Alfred Burton
Richard Cunningham
Peggy Devoy
Charlene Sue Dougan
Kathleen Forcelledo
Donna Gfeller
Michael Guithues

Jama Hall
Kathleen Harris
Kathryn Harrison
Janice Hawkins
Lisa Kamper
Loretta Laurent
Norma Lester
Mary Maher
Munir Malik
Christopher Mann
Diana Mensinger
Jackie Mitchell
Helen Moore
Patricia Moore
Tracy Moore
Elizabeth Mullen
Patricia Parks
Kristi Rehor
Lisa Ruzicka
Ronald Ryan
Michal Schelling
Lynne Schenewerk
Patrice Seratti
Velma Shoemaker
Karen Snyder
Judith Stanfield
Karen Steiner
Susan Stuppy
Louis Thompson
Susan Vasel
Mary Ward
Julie Weber
Terry Wills
Sheila Wurth



Care Management Company

25 Years

Sandra Behrmann
Cheryl Goh
Kathleen Henricks
Jean Schall
Robyne Wilmsmeier
Linda Young

20 Years

Margaret Graf
Nancy Hebert
Deborah Holden
Sandra Hosto
Gracie Potter



40 Years

Martha Archer
Floyd Hook

30 Years

Cynthia Carmichael
Ellen Joslin
Barbara Siebert
Brenda Swinford

25 Years

Teri Harr
Rita Miller
Donna Reeves
Jocelyn Skidmore

20 Years

Sheryl Ginther
Paula Holtman
Sharon McClain
Stephen Tompkins
Mary Sandau
Marilyn Shamberger

35 Years

Lillie Gill
Catherine Leahy
Betty Lewellen
Sheryl Mansfield
Annie Rockette

30 Years

Marjorie Ackermann
Evelyn Chrisler
Janice Dulle
Sharan Hutton
Denis Riley
Barbara Shaw
Marcella Small
Annie Mae Smith
Marilyn Williams

25 Years

Yvette Battle
Mary Jane Brecklin
Barbara Hertlein
Diane Klima
Kathy Luber
Mary Orlando
Jo Ann Pritchett
Carrie Scott
Teri St. Clair
Anthony Trupiano
Vivian Mary Jo Yost

20 Years

Tina Brogan
Ann Brune
Terri Doll
Neil Kiesel
Faith Logsdon
Mary Stone
Pamela Wehking
Sheila White



SSM Rehab

30 Years

Tammy Giddings
Roseann Hughes
Vivian Mcdonald

25 Years

Patti Finnegan
Laura Klages
Kathleen Maskell
Victoria Tabaka
Annette Tulley

20 Years

Mary Aggas
Tammy Brooks
Colette Buckley
Gerard Erker
Chrystal Gilbert
Michelle Meyer

Service Anniversary

Special Edition

MISSOURI *Continued*



40 Years

Leanna Becker
Mary Christian
Ora Daniel
Geraldine Kearney
Mary Madoux
Classie Turner

35 Years

Eugene Cogorno
Renu Fareed
Paula Kraft
Karen Sue Loretto
Carolyn Mack
Fred McMein
Beth Metcalf
Pamela Pipkin-Magraw
Maxine Sanders
Elizabeth Susanka
Karen Westcott
Thomasina Worth

30 Years

Theresa Baranowski
Deborah Beishir
Joseph Blessing
Barbara Branch
Clara Carr
Mary Cashel
James Connolly
Brenda Davidson
Patricia Dodson
Annie Hudson
Barbara Kovac
Anita Kreienkamp
Shirley Lohkamp
Rebecca Moppins
Bessie Morehouse
Lois Nelson
Valeria Norful
Denese Oelkers
Nancy Ricca
Frank Riget
Lenell Sanders-McGlone

Mary Sandretto
Judith Saulich
Mary Sedlacek
Betty Smith
Wayne Smith
Mary Stecich
Cora Taylor
Carol Thompson
Janice Trachtman
Dale Wood

25 Years

Kathrine Amerson
Nancy Baldwin
Nancy Barton
Karen Batz
Louise M Bugnitz
Kathy Bury
Lasandra Davis
Audrey Dempsey
Maurie-Kay Dunn
Jasper Engel
Morey Gardner
Nancy Gassner
Michelle Gauvain-Munn
Kathryn Graham
Ursula Hand

Thomas Hebertie
James Henderson
Rick Hubbard
Donna Isbell
Ann Krueger
Linda Litzelman
Teresa Marino
Joan McAllister
Loretta McBride-Fleming
Kathleen McCulloch
John Milton
Suzanne Ott
Andrew Presti
Myra Puckett
Nancy Rhees
Ollie Robinson
Cheryl Siempelkamp
Mary Simpson
Mary Stassi
Barbara Voiles
Patricia Walsh
Denise Weseloh
Sandra White
Deborah Whitehead
Bonnie Widmann
Robert Wiele
Annie Wilks
Sharon Williams

20 Years

Debbie Baker
Joan Becker
Linda Catanzaro
Corinna Duggan
Nancy Ester
Mary Fischer
Ernestine Gibson
Patsy Gilson
Darwin Gowen
Brenda Hudson
Gaye Klingenberg
Joann Klipsch
Sharyn Kneipp
Lisa Licameli
Dorothy Marshall
Brenda McMath
Robert Mudd
Marta Neely
Isabel Neyer
Bernice Orr
Kathleen Pimmel
Martha Provaznik
Becky Roberts
James Smith
Debra Souders
Beverly Steiner
Deborah Terry
Sandra Winkelmann



Health Center • Medical Park • Wentzville

40 Years

Gloria Armstrong
Mary Kantz
Mary Sater

35 Years

Brenda Hollander
Barbara Hutchison
Sheila Kelems
Carolyn King
Catherine Lammert
Rebecca Shannon
Connie Walker

30 Years

Linda Anaclerio
Walter Belter
Donna Boll
Stacey L. Brown
Steven Conway
Judith Coons
Janice Crugnale-Eppard
Barbara Eaton
Patricia Frasca
Linda Gentry

Nancy Hammock
Pauletta Headrick
Donna Kluesner
Joyce Locke
Gail Maggart
Margaret Marlatt
Peggy Martin
Kathy Milatovic
Patricia Noah
Josephine Purler
Karen Recker
Shirley Stahlschmidt
Rita Young
Margaret Yount

25 Years

Barbara Baquero
Kathryn Bohler
Barbara Breeding
Beth Dudley
Lucille Dykas
Mary Eaton
Dianne Greene
Margaret Moulton
Carol Stahlschmidt
Antoinette Steinhoff

Margaret Sulin
Colleen VanPelt

20 Years

Mark Benskin
Craig Blum
Cindy Copeland
Mary Etzkorn
James Freeman
Mary Garver
Kristine Graff
Diane Hill
Karen Kemper
Karen Kinser
Mary Logan
Mariann Miller-Boerner
Anthony Miyat
Elizabeth Muehlenbrock
Carol Muir
Joann Orf
Lynn Owen
Douglas Patient
Cecily Pilger
Frank Puleo
Betty Schultz
David Sutton
Karen Thompson
Richard Vaughan
Audrey Wattler
Cynthia Weaver
Susan Willis
Lynda Wimsatt



25 Years

Anabella Bernabe
Mary Besche
LaSonya Dunbar
Deborah Hilke
Ellen Richardson
Cynthia Rowland
Linda Spaar

20 Years

Kevin Heisten
Lucinda Leveron
Darlene Linnenbrink
Alicia Robinson

40 Years

Mary Struempf

35 Years

Anita Bliesath
Letty Farley

30 Years

Susan Evans
Dolores Lecure
Rhonda Shimmens



35 Years

Timothy Hussey
Rowena Mayes

30 Years

Denise Blevins
Patricia Cully
May Pagano-Lampe
Jill Prinster
Patricia Swagman

25 Years

Nancy Hegel
Stephen Kiefer
Joann Patterson
Rebecca Powers

20 Years

Elaine Bote
Kelly Day
Cynthia Delargy
Judith Fetsch
Elizabeth Healzer
Monica Henke
Mary Lindemann
Kathleen McDonnell
Marie O'Donnell
Cindy O'Rourke
Lynne Quallen
Alice Scarry
Stanton Schiller
Susan Steiert
Margaret Tipton
Michael Williams
Delana Wundertich



40 Years

Mary Smith

30 Years

Vikki Bennett
Dennis Cardwell
Maureen Flynn
Kerry Ford
Kathleen Franklin
Diane Gudines
Mary Hittler
Beechy Hu
Amanda Keller
Gerianne Kelly
Kenneth Nosser
Debra Oldham
Mary Riegelsberger

Dorothy Riportella
Ellen Sanders
Sharon Webber
Dale Wood

25 Years

Robert Barnes
David Bolduc
Constance Cox
Carolyn Cummings
Rhonda Curtis
Leo Eckert
Patricia Horn
Janice Jackson
Pamela Manuel
Carina Messina
William Page
Nancy Pigue

Stephen Ruzycski
Kathy Sliefert
Denise Sundhausen
Thomas Wallace

20 Years

Kimberlee Adams
Werner Buerke
Helen Finder
Patrick Johnson
Sandra Kertz
Debra Mcclerren
Mary Ann Mccullough
Elizabeth Mininni
Dianne Peabody
Debbie Slack
Debra Soete
Ellen Strassman



40 Years

Gloria Carter

35 Years

Janet Hughes

30 Years

April Esquivel
Jack Jolly

25 Years

Denise McKinnon
Theresa Stiens

20 Years

Edith Jones
Mary Zuener

Service Anniversary

Special Edition

OKLAHOMA



Bob Elliott
Cheryl Factory
Bennett Goe
Debra Gray
Joyce Green
Lavonne Hall
Brenda Harris
Alice Kirkland
Susan McDonald
Ricki Novak
Brenda Patterson
Kaye Payne
Huong Pham
Viet Phan
Linda Pratt
Mary Scuderi
Wanda Thompson

Mary Hamilton
Sherry Holloway
Sarah Irvan
John Christopher Jackson
Nona Johnson
Sherry Kendall
Carletta Lamkin
Linda Landrith
Mark Mayes

Patty McKinney
Christina Mohr
Roosevelt Moore
Jacqueline Richards
Elodia Saenz
Max Salathiel
Danguole Scalzo
Marcy Washburn
Linda Wood

45 Years

Rosie Wilkerson

40 Years

Dorothy Holden
Edna Chatman

35 Years

Brunetta Batiste
Sarah Bennett
Agnes Daniel
Donna Johnston
Sandra Lewis
Karen Schott
Donald Whetsell
Patricia Wills
Carolyn Womack

30 Years

Terri Burr
Charles Christensen
Phyllis Colbert
Sandra Finch
Marjorie Greer
Karen Hart
Luan Ingram
Cynthia Jackson
Gayle Johnston
Edith Lamkin
Jeffrey Neff
Frances Odle
Jacqueline Strotter

25 Years

Gwendolyn Allen
Patricia Collins
Margaret Craig
Joycie Davis

20 Years

Karen Blackburn
Nancy Blalock
Dolores Bryant
Jane Cantrell
Melba Clark
Maria Curtis



30 Years

Marion Harger

25 Years

George Walton
Myra Okada-Hargrove
Terry Smith
Richard Moore
Margaret Robertson

Brenda Davis
Mary Beneux
Naida Harding-Hill
Cynthia Williams

20 Years

Estevan Olvera
Terry Meler-Flinn
Rocky Fields

WISCONSIN



Sally Keleny
Kathleen Lee
Denise Lewis
Susan Luginbuhl
Barbara Lynch
Susanna Mooney
Jeanne Mork
Sandra Onsager
David Pauly
Gregory Ptaszynski
Laura Ramirez
Becky Roelke
Jean Ronzani-Shaffer
Kari Schlimgen
Constance Schwalbach
Lynda Schwanz
Mary Seim
Shirley Smith
Susan Smith
Dennis Sokolik
Kristie Statz
Michael Steffen
Terrance Strohmman
Mark Ulmer
Margaret Van Gemert
Caprice Vanderkolk
Connie Walton
Christine Zahrte
Sandra Zylkowski

20 Years

Jayson Anderson
Marilee Anderson
Mary Bares
Cynthia Benson-Lein
Timothy Bergum
Karen Brennan
Cecelia Brown
Amy Christian-Lang
Donald Clark
Bonita Coy
Susan Daniel
Linda Davidsaver
Alice Donnell
Cari Enger
Christopher Fitzsimons
Margaret Flor
Betty Georgeson
Sheila Green
Mark Gunderson
Holly Halberslaben
Kathleen Heilman
Gina Hendron
David Herrin
Teresa Johnson
Kenneth Kaether
Carol Lasecki
Georgina Lassey
Stephen Lauridsen

Susie Lessner
Roxanne Marks
John Mason
Juliene Meyer
Lisa Meyer
Carole Mintz
Dawn Neve
Jan Paige
Tina Procknow
Barbara Rizzo
Robert Schmook
Debra Severson
Anne Sommers
Nancy Thompson
Elizabeth Williams
Wendy Wittwer
Sandra Zart
Laura Ziebarth

50 Years

Margaret Millette

45 Years

Judith Bitter
Frederick Marti

40 Years

Patricia Casad
Mary Grunke
Marlene Nickel
Harriet Norsetter
Beverly Roberts
Mary Sutton

35 Years

Ann Ace
Marilyn Anderson
Thomas Bollig
Diane Buss
Cheryl Glomp
David Hellenbrand
Debra Herr
Donna Kivett
Linda Kubly
Kristin Laylan
Paige Lohaus
Christine Loomis
Connie Robb
Deborah Ryan
Rose Sergenian
Robert Vorwalske
Diana Wendricks
Elizabeth Wiese

30 Years

Gregory Bauer
Suzanne Callahan
Janet Campbell
April Carroll

Ann Dolan
Donald Dummer
Cheryl Dykhuizen
Rita Edelman
Terry Edelman
Daniel Guerra
Jacqueline Hughes
Cheryl Lauby
Lois Leveque
Joanne Lien
Beth Michaels
Marsha Miller
Brenda Mueller
Lynn Pflanz
Ann Recob
Richard Troia
Evelyn Ulrich
Joyce Warner
Brenda Warren

25 Years

Marie Ackerman
Margret Anundson
Philip Beck
Catherine Beck
William Bennett
Tammy Boersma
Mary Boettcher
Aldona Caplenas
Roger Christianson
Ellen Connolly
Cheryl Cook
Rose Doucette
Maria Felland
Jan Hagen
Cynthia Haglund
Sandra Hamby
Mary Lou Hammer
Kathleen Hartley
Lynn Hodgson
Joan Hoyer
Jean Johnsen



30 Years

Barb Bair
Clare Gaston

25 Years

Fran Cole
Jill Kutzke
Gerry Parrott

20 Years

Joan Desomer
Lu Downing
Charlie Bair
Chele Hammerly
Marge Michel

40 Years

Darlene Francois

35 Years

Konalee Shew



20 Years

Jodeen Bitter



20 years

Linda Gamble
Lana Hammerly

*The employee lists for the anniversary edition were provided by entity human resource departments.

Employees Appreciate Diversity

Carrying a Torch

ST. LOUIS — To mark its second anniversary, SSM's Diversity Advisory Council met in April for the "The Legacy Lives On – Diversity Advisory Council Carries the Torch" conference.

Members of the council represent entities and regions around the system. They are charged with:

- Supporting SSM's mission, values and commitment to diversity.
- Advising regional leadership and human resource executives on diversity.
- Serving as contacts on diversity issues.
- Being a diversity ambassador and leader by modeling behaviors and practices that demonstrate respect for differences and promote full inclusion

“This kind of exploration is imperative for this council and for others in order to be open and to learn in as many ways as possible about the struggles, trials and tribulations of individuals and groups that have been historically oppressed and excluded,” said Yvonne Tisdell, corporate vice president for human resources and system diversity.

“Social justice changes can only occur when you have an awareness of, an understanding of, and a strong desire to eradicate the causes of bias, bigotry and discrimination,” Tisdell said.

The two-day conference recognized the lives and enduring works of Rosa Parks and Coretta Scott King, linking the civil rights' leaders' struggles to SSM's goal of addressing and eliminating barriers to inclusion.

Better Understanding

OKLAHOMA CITY — Employees at Bone & Joint Hospital took time out to celebrate their multicultural heritages during Diversity Week in April.

Employees represented their cultures by creating storyboards, describing their homeland and bringing in personal items to share with others. They also sampled ethnic foods and flags from around the world were hung to represent native countries of employees. They could place a tack on a map to represent their native lands.

Other activities included daily cafeteria specials featuring ethnic foods, Native American dancers from a local high school and a Scottish bagpiper. The week concluded with a lecture by George Henderson, a professor at the University of Oklahoma, who spoke about "Realizing the Dream: From Diversity to Inclusion."

Afterward employees commented on what they had learned – "how many different cultures can work together."

"I hope it created a deeper personal curiosity of people's heritage and interests, which makes for a better understanding of one another, not assumed from just the color of their skin," one employee remarked. "I think the more I know about other cultures, the better I will be at facilitating meeting their [diverse] health-care needs."



Members of SSM's Diversity Awareness Council toured the Black World History Wax Museum in St. Louis during a two-day conference.

"A Family Taking Care of a Family"

By Nancy Kohl

Dr. Mike Williams and Dr. Bashima Williams list their life priorities as faith first, family second and work third.

And that, the Drs. Williams say, makes for a great working relationship at the new Dardenne Prairie office of SSM St. Charles Clinic Medical Group.

"We were drawn to SSM due to its Christian base and overall good quality of care from the primary care doctors and specialists," Bashima said.

The Drs. Williams met at Kirksville (Mo.) College of Osteopathic Medicine, where they had the same classes, studied together and got along well. They were also a little competitive, leading to one buying dinner for the other, depending on who earned the higher test scores.

Eventually their friendship turned into a commitment. After a long-distance relationship during the third year of medical school, the two were again training in St. Louis. In their first-year residency, they married.

"Michael had the qualities I was looking for in a husband – namely, that he was devoted to God, had very good morals and values, and made me laugh a lot," Bashima said.

After fulfilling a five-year commitment in his hometown of Canton, Ill., the Williams learned about the opportunity to open up a new office – together.

"We liked what SSM stood for and were also able to get good feedback from doctors we trust and had trained with during our residency years," he said. "Dr. Mike Hemmersmeier, Dr. Len Hoffmann and Dr. Wan Koo are all members of the medical group."

They were also attracted to the office because it allows them to offer patients "a family taking care of a family." They've found that patients like having the choice of a male or female physician.

They each have their own patients, but cover for one another if need be. And the patients don't seem to mind. "They know we share the same values," he said.

Though many people would have reservations about working with their spouses, it works well for the Drs. Williams. They treat one another with the same respect they would any professional.

When office hours are over though, they're not physicians but parents.

"Once we get home, we hardly ever talk about the office," she added. "We're busy with our wonderful daughters (Olivia, 4-1/2 years old and Grace, 2-1/2), enjoy doing outdoor activities together, and are active in various organizations within our church."



Drs. Michael and Bashima Williams

SSM Celebrates New Beginnings

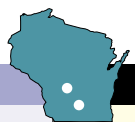
As Network went to press, plans were being finalized for a groundbreaking ceremony for the new SSM St. Clare Health Center, designed to reinvent the health-care experience, in southwest St. Louis County. The groundbreaking was set for 10 a.m. June 8 at Highway 141 and Bowles Avenue. For information, go to www.ssmstclare.com.

Also, we will officially welcome SSM St. Joseph Health Center-Wentzville to the family during a dedication ceremony being planned for July 25. The hospital will host an open house the following day for the public from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. which will include tours, health information and more.

The Wentzville hospital, formerly Crossroads Regional Medical Center, was purchased in November 2005 from Essent Healthcare.

AROUND THE SYSTEM

PEOPLE



Wisconsin

Missouri

Honors

Sr. Mary Jean Ryan, FSM, President and CEO of **SSM Health Care**, was featured in an April 28 St. Louis Review article, entitled, "SSM chief notes direction of Catholic health-care services."

Ron Levy, president and chief executive officer of **SSM Health Care-St. Louis**, was honored by the National Conference for Community and Justice of Metropolitan St. Louis for exemplifying its mission "to fight bias, bigotry and racism and promote mutual respect and understanding among all races, cultures and religions through advocacy, conflict resolution and education."

Process improvements that will help lower patients' infections at the soon-to-be constructed **SSM St. Clare Hospital** in Fenton were featured in a Wall Street Journal article entitled, "Ounce of Prevention: To Reduce Errors, Hospitals Prescribe Innovative Designs."

Lillie Thomas, oncology director at **SSM St. Joseph Health Center** in St. Charles received the Excellence in Health Care award from the St. Louis American newspaper. This award honors African-American health-care providers.

Kathy Hampel, women's health advocate at St. Joseph, was recognized by the prostate cancer survivors group Us TOO for her work with survivors.

Pat Forbis, clinical coordinator of sports medicine at **St. Mary's Health Center** in Jefferson City, was named president of the Mid-American Athletic Trainers Association.

David Kelch, associate executive director at the **SSM St. Charles Clinic Medical Group**, was elected treasurer of the Medical Group Management Association of Missouri, Inc.

SSM DePaul Health Center in Bridgeton and **SSM Media Services** in St. Louis were recognized with two "Tellys" for two 30-second commercials introducing DePaul's TomoTherapy service. The awards honor outstanding locally-produced commercials and programs.

Appointments

Suzu Farren, who served as director of corporate communications for the past two years at **SSM Health Care**, recently assumed the title of corporate vice president for communications.

At **SSM DePaul Health Center** in Bridgeton, **Kathy Bosner** was named interim chief nurse executive; **Carol Holt** will serve as interim food service director; Lyn Votoupal was named interim clinical director for pulmonary medicine; and **Katie Roush** interim clinical director for orthopedics/neurological and general surgical units.

Tony Egan, who served previously as director of business development, has been promoted to vice president, ambulatory services for **SSM Rehab**.

St. Mary's Health Center in Jefferson City named **Glenda Dahlstrom** as vice president and chief nursing executive. Dahlstrom serves on the board of directors for the Missouri Nurses Association.

Deena Fischer, who served as manager of public relations and marketing for SSM St. Joseph Health Center, St. Joseph Hospital West and St. Joseph Medical Park, has been promoted to director of public relations at **SSM St. Joseph Hospital West** in Lake Saint Louis

At **SSM St. Charles Clinic Medical Group**, **Madeline "Kay" Cauley** was named site manager for the New Town and Specialty Suites locations and **Mary Ann Hackmeister** site operations director for the O'Fallon and Mid River locations.

Illinois

Appointments

Inna Makievsky assumed the post of vice president/chief nursing officer at **St. Francis Hospital & Health Center**, Blue Island.

Oklahoma

Honors

Joe Hodges, president at **St. Anthony Hospital**, was named to the Journal Record "Achiever under 40" list.

Wisconsin

Honors

Barbara K. Miller, vice president for operations at **St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center** in Madison, received the Champions in Women's Health Award for her contributions to health care and succeeding in her 15-year personal battle with leukemia. **Dr. Paul Wertsch** received the Wisconsin Medical Society's Presidential Citation Award for his contributions to medicine and public health. **Dr. Maureen Murphy** of **St. Clare Hospital Medical Center** in Baraboo was awarded an honorary degree from the University of Wisconsin for her work as president and founder of the Haiti Medical Mission of Wisconsin.

Nursing Conference Outlines the Shape of the Future

MADISON - St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center sponsored a national nursing conference in March with the theme "Nurses Shaping Our Future." The biennial conference drew 250 participants from across the nation. Topics ranged from design innovations to the culture of creativity.

Speakers included Sr. Mary Jean Ryan, FSM, President and CEO of SSM Health Care, and Robert Porter, execu-

tive vice president for strategy and business development for SSM Health Care in St. Louis.

Pictured in the photo are Dr. Frank Byrne, president of St. Mary's; Sherry Anderson, director of St. Mary's float pool; Connie Curran, editor of Nursing Economic\$; Deb Geier, St. Mary's float pool; and Joan Beglinger, vice president of patient services at St. Mary's Hospital.



Apostrophe's Back!

MADISON — St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center unveiled a revised logo in May, presenting the name of the hospital



with an apostrophe that undoubtedly will please most grammarians and other community members.

In the hospital's name since its opening in 1912, the apostrophe was

removed some three decades ago. At the time, the idea was to honor all the saints named Mary, resulting in the simple addition of the "s" without punctuation. On the eve now of a major expansion, the hospital is reconnecting with its roots.

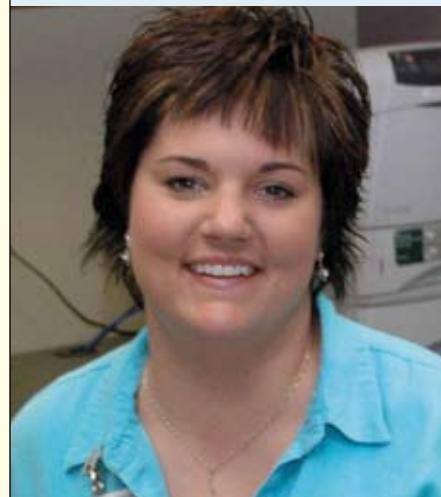
In addition, St. Mary's is adopting a deeper color of red for its signature heart and for use as its official color on letterhead, print materials and signs. The new color will also be visible on the hospital's newly reorganized and redesigned Web site: www.stmarysmadison.com.

Custom Jewelry to Support Breast Cancer Patients

BARABOO – Donda Daniels' life has been profoundly affected by the strength and courage of patients at St. Clare Hospital's Radiation Oncology Department. Daniels says the length of their treatment allows her and her co-workers to become friends with their patients.

To support these friends, Daniels is raising \$2,200 to join the Breast Cancer 3-Day walk in Minneapolis this August. Thousands of participants will walk 60 miles — 20 miles a day — to support breast cancer research, education, screening and treatment.

While some of her funding has been donated, Daniels is earning most of it by selling custom-made jewelry. Using crystal beads and sterling silver, Daniels creates pieces for survivors, friends and families of cancer patients, and general supporters.



Oklahoma

"Saints in Action" Rides the Airwaves

OKLAHOMA CITY – The focus is on energy, and on the inviting employees, doctors and volunteers at St. Anthony Hospital. The vehicle is a new ad campaign, with commercials running on major network TV stations and displayed on 10 billboards. (See sample below). Said Joe

Hodges, St. Anthony president, "The new ad campaign is innovative, cool, and different than what everyone else has in the market right now. Ads currently running in Oklahoma City pull at your heart strings, but our new ads really invite people to our hospital."



Marathon Relay Team Beats Their Own Time

OKLAHOMA CITY – It was an amazing feat, by feet.

Five of St. Anthony Hospital's "Saints in Action" took the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon up on it, and finished ahead of their anticipated time. Joe Hodges, Tammy Powell, Julie Costilla, Kyle Nondorf and Elain Richardson ran the 26.2 miles in just 4 hours, 25 minutes and 38 seconds.



It's Easier to Sleep in a Hotel

OKLAHOMA CITY – St. Anthony Hospital caught more than 40 winks recently when it moved its Sleep Disorders Lab.

The hospital moved the lab into the downtown Marriot Courtyard last December, and won the "Innovator of the Year" award from the *Journal Record*, the city's daily business publication.

The move placed the lab in a relaxing setting that reduces stress and anxiety for patients. Gordon Yenser, manager of diagnostic medical services, accepted the award in March at a dinner ceremony on behalf of the hospital.

Missouri

New Cleft Palate Surgery Featured on "Discovery"

ST. LOUIS - On June 5, the Discovery Health Channel featured a revolutionary approach to cleft palate surgery developed by a surgeon at SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center.

The new technique, developed by Dr. Michael Carstens, director of plastic surgery, requires far fewer surgeries than traditional surgery, no bone graft and allows the child to finish treatment before entering kindergarten. Quinn Sliment, pictured at right after

surgery, became the first child to undergo this type of operation in March 2005. Quinn, who will be two years old June 30, was featured in the Discovery show.



Toddler's Death Leads to Gift of Healing

ST. LOUIS - When chaplain Judy Stanfield lost her three-year-old son to leukemia 22 years ago, her life took a turn that she never expected. A few years later, she joined the pastoral care department at SSM Cardinal Glennon Children's Medical Center and now uses her personal experience to comfort other families.

Stanfield was honored recently for her exceptional service to others with the "Sister Ann Manganaro Healer Award" during the ninth annual Catholic Women Awards Celebration.

"It's just been so humbling," Stanfield said of the award. "It's just such an honor to be here at Cardinal Glennon in pastoral care. I feel in some ways I am honoring my son too, because without his life, I would never be here."



Compassion, Dignity and Sacrifice Win Employee of the Year

ST. LOUIS - Carolyn Herren's gentle spirit, exceptional care for her patients and her always-positive attitude are inspirations to her patients and her fellow team members. In honor of that spirit, Herren was named SSM Home Care's 2005 Employee of the Year.

Herren is a certified home health aide for SSM Hospice West.

When one of her patients wanted baths at 6:30 in the morning, Herren arrived at his home at the appointed time with a portable heater to make sure the shower area was warm and comfortable for him.

Herren once gave her pies to a patient for his Thanksgiving dinner, provided an air conditioner for a patient in the heat and altered clothing for one who had lost weight.

Watt's Up Doc?

MARYVILLE - The Preservation of the Earth Committee at St. Francis Hospital & Health Services celebrated Earth Day and Arbor Day with a presentation on saving

energy and a reception for hospital staff. In the photo, members (left to right) Adam Bean, Terry Ewing, Mary Ebrecht, Barb Scott and Chrissy Sharr discuss the history of Earth Day and present tips on conserving energy.



Obstetrics Risk Team Takes STEPPS

ST. LOUIS - A new approach to handling emergency care, called STEPPS, may help reduce deaths and permanent injuries in childbirth. The management approach was a central topic at the Obstetrics Continuous Quality Improvement team roundtable in April.

In the photo below, Mary Salisbury of the U.S. Department of Defense, discusses effective team communication with the roundtable team. The Department of Defense developed STEPPS. The team was established a year ago to counter the high cost of insurance claims in obstetrics.



Walking the Walk

RICHMOND HEIGHTS - Employees, physicians and friends of SSM St. Mary's Health Center helped stomp out heart disease on April 21 by participating in the Treadmill Challenge.

Participants raised money before the event, then competed to run or walk the farthest in 15 minutes. The event raised more than \$3,000 for the American Heart Association. St. Mary's representatives presented the hospital's total donation to the association at the American Heart Walk in Forest Park on May 6. Treadmill

Challenge winners were: most distance by an individual Dr. Leonard Fagan, 2.41 miles; most distance by a team by Dr. Edward Heidbrier, Dr. Francis Dysarz, Dr. Darren Wethers, and Dr. Jonathan Limpert, 8.54 miles; most money raised by an individual Sara Wilfong, \$385; and most money raised by a team by Sara Wilfong, Aaron Wiles, Patti Wiersch and Dr. Leonard Fagan, \$933.

In the photograph below, employees cheer on Sr. Susan Scholl (left), FSM, St. Mary's president, as she races against Linda Kalkofen, supervisor of the Blood Bank.



High School Sports Gain the St. Mary's Edge

JEFFERSON CITY - St. Mary's Health Center will provide athletic training services for both Jefferson City and Helias High Schools starting this summer, through the new St. Mary's Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Center.



"We're very excited about this development," said Pat Forbis, St. Mary's Sports Medicine coordinator. "We're able to give back to our community, and we're dedicated to providing quality health care to all of the athletes."

Looking Flabulless

RICHMOND HEIGHTS - Three nurses from same-day surgery at SSM St. Mary's Health Center, who previously called themselves the "Flabulous 3," can now say they are the "Flab-less 3" thanks to the Think Lite Challenge.

Karen Batz, Kathy LaChance and Trish Nichols lost 7.7 percent of their body weight in the employee weight-loss competition that began in January. The 70 teams of employees who completed the challenge nearly met their goal of losing 1,000 pounds.



Illinois

Volunteers' Heartfelt Work Buys Heart Monitors

BLUE ISLAND - A gift of \$55,000 from the St. Francis Auxiliary will buy four heart monitors for the newly expanded radiology department of St. Francis Hospital & Health Center. The money was raised in 2005 through volunteer staffing of the hospital's gift shop and other fundraising events. Caryl Tietz (right), St. Francis Auxiliary president, presents a check to Dave Cemate, executive vice president and chief operating officer at St. Francis.



Bride Says “I Do” to Surgery, Groom

By Kelly Cheramy

MADISON, Wis. — With nine weeks left before her January 2005 wedding, Kelly Gaona was riding the emotional high of a bride-to-be planning her nuptials. That was until her dream wedding in Hawaii was threatened by a serious seizure.

Eight days later, Gaona underwent brain surgery, and made St. Mary’s Hospital Medical Center history. She was the first person treated at St. Mary’s new epilepsy monitoring service.

“Doctors thought it might be stress, migraines or a sinus infection, but medication didn’t help,” said Gaona, who suffered from headaches and vision problems.

“I knew something wasn’t right,” she added. “Unfortunately, it took a seizure to uncover it.”

Gaona’s epilepsy was unusual because of the lack of neurological symptoms, the rate at which it progressed and her advanced age. Usually epilepsy is detected during the teen-aged years.

Eventually Gaona landed in the St. Mary’s emergency room and was directed to a Dean/St. Mary’s epilepsy specialist. Neurologist Michael Frucht utilized the new epilepsy monitoring service, funded by a \$140,000 grant from the St. Mary’s Hospital and Care Center Foundation.

An electroencephalogram monitored her brain activity while a video camera recorded her body activity during her seizures. Mag-

netic resonance imaging was also used to pinpoint the origin of the seizures in her brain.

The cause could be traced to either of two conditions: a rare developmental disorder called cortical dysplasia or a low-grade brain tumor.

“One is benign and one can progress to malignant cancer,” said Dean/St. Mary’s neurosurgeon Dr. Alan Lozier. “The surgery had two goals: figuring out the anatomical cause of the seizures, and curing the seizures, or at least controlling them.

“She could’ve opted for observation and an attempt at medically controlling her seizures – that would’ve been completely acceptable,” Lozier said. “But, for Kelly, who was about to be married, knowing the cause up-front was vital. Thankfully, it was the dysplasia and we could correct it.”

She underwent nine hours of surgery in November 2004 and married that January — in Hawaii. And this past December, she delivered a healthy baby girl.

“Dr. Frucht and Dr. Lozier are amazing people,” Gaona said. “They were there for me and my family. I feel like a new person. I feel better than I’ve felt my entire life.”

Physicians helped Kelly and Daniel Gaona make it to the church on time.

