THE MAGAZINE OF SAINT JOHN’S HEALTH CENTER FOUNDATION | SUMMER 2017

Rendering 16 Caption:
Ground-level view along Broadway (looking northeast), with the Multi-Family Housing building (S2) on the South Campus, and the South Garden in front

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE AND PERSONALIZED CARE

Providence Saint John’s Health Center

75TH ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE AND PERSONALIZED CARE

Saint John’s Health Center Foundation
YOUR GIFT

WILL PUT a SMILE on MANY FACES and CAN
CHANGE the FACE of MEDICINE.

You know that health and happiness go hand in hand. When you give a gift to Providence Saint John’s Health Center, you can help fund breakthrough technology and innovative clinical care that significantly advances the medicine of tomorrow. Your vital support enables us to continue to serve you, your family and the local community we all love. You can help others enjoy a better quality of life, which is something we can all smile about.

Please give now at www.SaintJohnsFoundation.org or call the Foundation at 310-829-8424, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

www.SaintJohnsFoundation.org
If you have a change of address or no longer wish to receive SJHC Foundation communications, please let us know by calling 310-829-8424, faxing 310-315-6127, emailing foundation.optout@stjohns.org or writing to Director, Data Management, Saint John’s Health Center Foundation, 2121 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90404.

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**ON THE COVER**

Throughout its 75-year history, Providence Saint John’s Health Center has adhered to values that put people first.
**Saint John’s Health Foundation Board of Trustees**

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**Saint John’s Health Center Local Board of Directors**

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**Ex-Officio**

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**Special Advisors**

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<td>James L. Hesburgh</td>
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<td>Ruben F. Mettler, PhD †</td>
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<td>Sister Marie Madeleine Shonka, SCL</td>
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**Honorary**

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† deceased
It was a blessing in disguise. In several short years we opened the first phase of the New Saint John’s and launched what has become a high-tech, high-touch, ever-changing platform of health and healing.

Recently we changed our religious sponsor to Providence Health & Services—one of the nation’s largest health care organizations. Our affiliation with Providence greatly enhanced our medical offerings and best-care practices with our colleagues in seven states. We are now part of a vast network, making it possible to share groundbreaking medical research and clinical trials.

We are able to quickly translate our research into treatment protocols for our patients—healing what could not have been possible just a few years before. It’s amazing to realize that we are part of creating the future. Developing and instituting protocols for diseases such as brain cancer, melanoma and heart failure has saved many lives. We’re so proud.

The other important part of our DNA is the people. Saint John’s has always taken such pride in its caregivers. From the nurses and doctors to the lab tech, physical therapist, maintenance crew and many others, our people are what set us apart. It’s because of these folks that we are the preferred hospital of the world-class Westside community of Los Angeles.

We are Saint John’s.

P.S. Save the date: Saint John’s Gala Celebration will be held on October 21. Please visit california.providence.org/saint-johns/giving/events for more information.
HEALING AND HOPE:  
OUR THREAD THAT RUNS SO TRUE

In depression-era Kentucky, country folk talk about the thread that runs so true—a thread of hope and faith that times would get better because God loved them, and they tried in their daily life to do His will. Here at Providence Saint John’s we too can sing and hold on to our thread that runs so true—the thread of Mission, of caring for God’s people, bringing hope and healing. This thread stretches back to the 1930s when a group of doctors and local citizens dreamed of a Catholic hospital on the Westside of Los Angeles.

The Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth met with these men and agreed that, yes, they would come out to the oceanside and build a hospital. World War II began in the midst of the building. Even so, the Sisters, medical staff and employees opened Saint John’s on October 25, 1942. The thread has taken many turns in its journey of healing, but always it has run true—true to the values of compassion, service and excellence combined with the latest approaches in medical care.

The Health Center has been blessed with generous donors who share the mission that began 75 years ago. Our friends have come to us from many professions and backgrounds. Their devotion and commitment to excellent health care enable Saint John’s to play a major role in the lives of the people of Southern California.

Our trustees come to us with open hearts and open hands. Their generosity and devotion enable Saint John’s to continue its Mission. They have shared with us the good times and the difficult days. Together, we hold dear the values of excellent care, dignity and devotion. We are grateful for all those people who are our community.

With their help and love we continue the thread that runs so true.

FOR MORE INFORMATION on the Irene Dunne Guild, please contact the IDG at www.irenedunneguild.org/contact-us.html.
As we celebrate our milestone anniversary, however, Saint John’s continues to evolve. A few years ago we became a proud part of Providence Health & Services, one of the nation’s largest health care organizations. Our affiliation with Providence further enhances the excellent care our patients receive. We share best-care practices with our colleagues in seven states and provide state-of-the art telemedicine to some of the more rural areas in need of a higher level of expertise. And we are also part of a vast network, making it possible to share medical research and clinical trials.

Saint John’s is a hybrid: a community hospital that also engages in medical research and offers clinical trials. I like to refer to Saint John’s as a community hospital on steroids! Our community benefits from this unique model, providing the highly personalized and attentive care that is a hallmark of community medicine.

We anticipate continued innovation in the future, building on the many state-of-the-art therapies and services now available through our research and specialty programs. It’s a true benefit to our community to have this level of advanced medicine in their backyard, eliminating travel to access innovative treatment and lifesaving emergency services.

We have much to be grateful for as we celebrate our 75th anniversary, and we envision continued growth, excellence and new “firsts” in the years to come. Many community hospitals in our region have come and gone over the past eight decades, but we remain—bigger and better than ever.

With utmost respect,

MARCEL LOH
Chief Executive
Providence Saint John’s Health Center
and John Wayne Cancer Institute

LETTER FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

From its founding 75 years ago, Providence Saint John’s Health Center has achieved many “firsts.”

We were the first hospital in our community, opening our doors in 1942. We were the first hospital to use a heart-lung machine during surgery and the first, in 2010, to offer a revolutionary cardiac procedure called laser balloon ablation. A few years ago our orthopedic surgeons were the first to offer a new type of hip replacement surgery, which quickly became the gold standard. And more than 20 years ago our John Wayne Cancer Center offered one of the first cancer immunotherapy vaccines in the nation.

We produce Saint John’s magazine biannually to update you on what’s new and exciting on the Saint John’s campus. Feel free to call, email or write to us with any feedback, suggestions or questions.

Phone: 310-829-8424  Email: communications@stjohns.org
Address: 2121 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90404

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU
**MARK THE DATE**

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<th>SEPTEMBER 19</th>
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<td><strong>Planned Giving Recognition Luncheon</strong>&lt;br&gt;Luxe Sunset Hotel&lt;br&gt;The Guardians of the Future will gather for its annual luncheon and update on the latest news and research at the Institute and Health Center. The Guardians of the Future consists of individuals who have provided support for the Institute through their estate plans or other charitable gift planning. The luncheon also honors Friends for the Future, comprised of individuals who have remembered the Health Center through planned giving.</td>
<td><strong>QVC Presents “FFANY Shoes on Sale”</strong>&lt;br&gt;New York, NY&lt;br&gt;The 24th annual Fashion Footwear Association of New York Charitable Organization (FFANY) fundraiser is the largest charity event of the shoe industry and has donated more than $52 million to fund “First Step” research at nine of our nation’s leading cancer research organizations. The annual charity gala event will be held October 10, and on October 12 donated footwear is sold on live television through QVC. The John Wayne Cancer Institute is a proud beneficiary of FFANY.</td>
<td><strong>Saint John’s Health Center 75th Anniversary Celebration Event</strong>&lt;br&gt;3Labs, Culver City, CA&lt;br&gt;Saint John’s Health Center Foundation and Irene Dunne Guild will present Saint John’s 75th Anniversary Celebration—a one-of-a-kind event—to honor the heritage of Saint John’s and celebrate its bright future. This celebration of “People Who Make a Difference” fundraising event will take the place of the Caritas gala this year and promises to be the one event you won’t want to miss!</td>
<td>For more information about these and other upcoming events, please visit <a href="http://www.SaintJohnsFoundation.org">www.SaintJohnsFoundation.org</a> or call 310-829-8424.</td>
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<td><strong>Board of Advocates Fall Luncheon</strong>&lt;br&gt;Luxe Sunset Hotel&lt;br&gt;Friends and patrons of John Wayne Cancer Institute and Saint John’s Health Center comprise the Board of Advocates. They serve as ambassadors to the community, encouraging support for various projects and programs in need. Luncheon attendees will receive Institute and Health Center updates.</td>
<td><strong>Associates for Breast and Prostate Cancer Studies (ABCs) Annual “The Talk of the Town” Gala</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Beverly Hilton Hotel&lt;br&gt;The Associates for Breast and Prostate Cancer Studies (ABCs) host this special evening each year to honor individuals who have made a difference in the fight against cancer. The black tie event attracts more than 800 guests. Celebrities and supporters alike gather to raise funds for the Institute’s breast and prostate cancer research. The evening includes dinner, dancing, guest performances, a boutique, and live and silent auctions.</td>
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WELECOMING
THE NEW FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

Our Foundation board of trustees continues to grow. We recently welcomed four new members who will bring additional insights and energy to the group. The Foundation board of trustees give generously of their time, talent and resources to assist the Foundation in our effort to strengthen the Health Center and serve our community. Thank you to all who serve.

ALISON EDELSTEIN is director of major gifts at Los Angeles County Museum of Art. She is a successful fundraiser with expertise in major gifts, both individual and corporate, campaign start-ups, and new fundraising program design and implementation. Allison received health care at Providence Saint John’s Health Center in 2015—the same year her husband, Geoffrey Edelstein, was also a patient at the hospital—and later expressed her interest in supporting Saint John’s. Alison and Geoffrey reside in Pacific Palisades and have a home in Truckee. Geoffrey is cofounder, principal and portfolio manager of Granite Investment Partners, LLC, an investment advisor specializing in asset management for institutions and high net worth families.

BERNADETTE LEIWEKE has played an active role in the cultural, civic, business, educational, sports and entertainment fabric of Los Angeles. She served for four years as president of the Getty House Foundation, the 501(c) (3) entity charged with overseeing all activity at Getty House, the official residence of the mayor of Los Angeles. Bernadette was an active member in the Westside Guild of Children’s Hospital Los Angeles and the Blue Ribbon. Numerous organizations have benefited from her marketing experience and commitment including the Sheriff’s Youth Foundation, the LA Sports and Entertainment Commission and the Stanford University Parents’ Advisory Board where she served for four years. Prior to moving to Los Angeles, Bernadette spent 12 years working in the telecommunications industry.

ROSALIE KENDALL SINTOTT is a former divisional vice president of Knoll, Inc., a furniture manufacturer. Her professional background is in sales and marketing. She has a keen interest in community outreach, fundraising and event planning and has worked with the Every Child Foundation, Reading Partners and Children’s Hospital. She is a regent with The George Washington Foundation and also serves on the advisory committee of The Library Foundation.

ERIC BORSTEIN is president and founder of EB Urban Ventures, Inc., specializing in urban infill real estate acquisitions, entitlement and development. Prior to founding EBUV, Eric worked for nine years at Borstein Enterprises, serving as senior vice president, managing their land entitlement projects. For the six years prior to Borstein Enterprises, Eric was at SunCal Companies specializing in land acquisition and project management/forward planning. He is also a co-trustee and serves as director of the Borstein Family Foundation. In addition to joining the board of trustees at Saint John’s, Eric is a board member of The Rape Foundation and sits on the board of directors of PS Science. Eric enjoys an active role in philanthropy and in the local community by volunteering his time coaching soccer and softball. He attended Tulane University and Cal State University Northridge and lives in Los Angeles with his wife, two daughters and son.

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Not that motherhood isn’t work, but Carlene “Carli” Greenebaum felt the need for a full-time job once her youngest child got a driver’s license and, she jokes, “put me out of work.” She’d left the workforce to raise her children, aside from the occasional part-time job or volunteer work. But it was volunteer work that led her to a full-time job last year—manning the front desk in the Tarble Atrium Lobby of Providence Saint John’s Health Center.

Carli had served as a volunteer at the hospital and at Saint John’s Health Center Foundation before taking the job at the hospital’s front desk when the post was created in May 2016. She has a long history with Saint John’s; her first child was born there.

Volunteering at Saint John’s “spoke to me, and the timing was perfect. I think it was serendipity,” Carli says. “I was looking to go back to full-time work and already was volunteering at Saint John’s as a patient escort and with the Foundation by helping to make appreciation calls to donors. I really felt a strong connection to Saint John’s, and I love the sense of community. One of the hallmarks of Saint John’s is that it’s very welcoming.”

Now it’s her job to be the welcoming face of the hospital. Before her position was created, the front desk was totally staffed by volunteers on four-hour shifts, backed up by security in evening and overnight hours. The Saint John’s Health Center Foundation helped to fund Carli’s position in order to emphasize the personal touch that distinguishes Saint John’s from other area hospitals. The Foundation also supports other hospital services that aim to comfort and “ease the way” of both patients and visitors, including the director of patient relations and Caritas patient concierge.

“We have a terrific security team, and they’ve been a big help to me. But of course they have other responsibilities,” Carli says. The benefit of creating a full-time position is the continuity of having the same person there 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

She describes a typical day as half “greeting and directing” and half “detective work.” The Health Center campus is large, and doctors’ offices may be in nearby buildings. So Carli may find herself telling visitors: “Actually, you’re in the wrong place.” But her familiarity with the complex from her time volunteering allows her to direct people to the right place.

Having Carli and the volunteers at the front desk creates a warm and welcoming environment for all who enter the Health Center. “It’s a pleasure to work with people who are here to give back,” she says of the volunteers. “It makes for a nice atmosphere at the front desk.”

Carli’s official title is Guest Services Lead. But it’s much more than handing out visitor badges, she says. “Hospital patients are vulnerable, so it’s important to make sure everyone entering the hospital has a reason to be going where they’re going. Patients and visitors appreciate a friendly person who remembers them and welcomes them.”

Mark Stock, director of patient experience, agrees. “Part of Carli’s skill set is remembering people, and I’ve seen her in action,” he says. “She remembers a name or who someone is there to visit or where they’re going. She is a personal touch right at the front of the hospital.”
It’s hard to imagine the John Wayne Cancer Institute without some of the key organizations that have provided steadfast support over the years. One of those groups is the John Wayne Cancer Institute Auxiliary.

The auxiliary has raised nearly $20 million to fund groundbreaking research, vital new laboratory equipment and the Institute’s nationally recognized Surgical Oncology Fellowship Program. The fellowship program was one of the first in the United States approved by the Society of Surgical Oncology and has trained more than 150 surgical oncologists.

The auxiliary was founded in 1982. In the early 1980s, the late Sandy Cohen and Noreen Nelson—both former patients of Institute co-founder Donald L. Morton, MD—invited 14 women for lunch, and the auxiliary was born. Today it’s 800 strong, with a board of 40 that includes the daughters of Sandy and Noreen.

“We’re so lucky to still have so many of our board members from that first board,” says Anita Swift, the eldest grandchild of John Wayne and a member of the board for the past 16 years. Swift is now in her third two-year term as auxiliary president. “We’re pretty proud of the fact that we’ve been around for so long.”

Each April more than 500 people attend the auxiliary’s biggest fundraiser, the Odyssey Ball. The event raised $750,000 this spring and $1 million last year. At each Odyssey Ball, the auxiliary honors and celebrates members of our community and their efforts in the fight against cancer with “The Duke” Special Service Award. Kirk Douglas, Larry Hagman, Lawrence D. Piro, MD, and Anton J. Bilchik, MD, PhD, are among the previous honorees.

Another award—the “True Grit” Humanitarian Award—is presented each year to an individual who embodies the “American values” characteristic of John Wayne. The first went to former First Lady Nancy Reagan; other honorees include the Mandela family, Larry King and Alana Stewart of the Farrah Fawcett Foundation.

Earlier this year, the auxiliary presented the first annual Dr. Donald L. Morton Legend Award to long-time member Ruth Weil for her generous support of cancer research.

The auxiliary also hosts educational events, an annual award luncheon and boutique and other events to raise money and educate the public on the Institute’s work. Anita credits the commitment of the auxiliary’s members with its success—women like Sheri Rosenblum, a 25-year board member and recent recipient of the Angel Award, and Ruth Weil, who volunteers every Tuesday at the hospital. Not to mention countless other women on the board and in the general membership who never hesitate to help.

“Our women walk the walk, and they talk the talk,” Anita says. “They understand our mission. They want to find a cure for cancer as much as our doctors do.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION about the John Wayne Cancer Institute Auxiliary, please contact Mary Byrnes at 310-582-7102.

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE
Meet the Associates for Breast and Prostate Cancer Studies (ABCs) and discover their work on behalf of the Institute.

FOR MORE INFORMATION about the John Wayne Cancer Institute Auxiliary, please contact Mary Byrnes at 310-582-7102.
The Pawsitive Pet Program offers patients a respite from discomfort and worry.

FOR MORE INFORMATION on how to support the Pawsitive Pet Program, please contact Wendy Merritt at 310-829-8443.
**ON THE PULSE**

**PETS DISPENSE THE RIGHT MEDICINE**

It was a fairly routine day for Colleen Wilson and her Dalmatian, Charlie. The volunteers, part of the Pawsitive Pet Program at Providence Saint John’s Health Center, stopped by the room of a patient who was recovering from surgery.

The woman had lost her own dog recently, and between that loss and her health problems, she was in need of good cheer. The patient smiled at Charlie, who is deaf, petted him and began to talk to Colleen.

“She was someone who was broken,” Colleen says. “But she loved dogs and loved talking about her dog. She clearly felt better after seeing Charlie. That is what is so significant about the Pawsitive Pet Program. Seeing a dog like Charlie for even five minutes gives patients a break from their problems and puts a smile on people’s faces. It’s an important part of the hospital’s services.”

Erin Pickerel, volunteer services coordinator at Saint John’s, couldn’t agree more. The Pawsitive Pet Program provides animal-assisted therapy teams to visit patients, their families and hospital staff. The program has been in place since 2006 and depends entirely on the philanthropic support from generous—typically dog-loving—individuals.

Studies show pet therapy can contribute to healing by boosting emotional well-being, promoting interaction with others and prompting patients to move about more or even walk down a hall with a therapy dog.

The Pawsitive Pet volunteer teams are special. They participate in vigorous training to learn infection prevention and safety guidelines before being accepted into the program. The dogs who make the cut are obedient, well-trained, have good impulse control and an even temperament, Erin says. The owners tend to be in-tune with the dogs, proactive in handling them and able to anticipate what’s needed in a situation.

Most importantly, both the handler and the dog must want to be there, she says. “The dog has to have desire to interact. The dog has to love it. They have to want to engage. The handler has to be someone with compassion. I want to know: What is it that brought you here? Do you want people to feel better?”

Colleen, 28, is a lifelong dog lover who long wanted to volunteer in a pet therapy program. She found Charlie at a shelter in the Bronx, New York, about three years ago. The shelter operator told her the previous owners said Charlie wouldn’t pay attention to commands.

Colleen knew Dalmatians had higher-than-average rates of deafness. She performed some simple tests and quickly determined that Charlie couldn’t hear a thing. She took him home.

One day, while walking him in New York, Charlie came across a person in a wheelchair. The dog stopped and gently laid his head in the person’s lap.

“The woman smiled, and I thought, ‘OK, this is what Charlie wants to do,’ ” Colleen recalls. “I had always wanted a therapy dog. My last dog’s personality wasn’t conducive to that. When I got Charlie, I saw that he was drawn to children, seniors and people with disabilities. He likes to put smiles on people’s faces.”

She taught Charlie about 50 commands or “words” using sign language. Then after moving to Santa Monica, Colleen inquired about volunteering at Saint John’s. One of the pair’s favorite tricks is when Colleen signs “I love you.” That’s Charlie’s queue to kiss her finger—or that of any patient he happens to be cuddled up against.

Last year the Pawsitive Pet teams performed 2,788 patient visits—almost a 25% increase from the prior year. They also visit children at the Child and Family Development Center at Providence Saint John’s Health Center and visit various waiting rooms and lobbies, frequently stopping to say “hi” to staff members and hospital visitors.

“A patient can feel isolated, sad, depressed and be in pain,” Erin says. “But when there is a therapy dog in the room, the patient’s blood pressure goes down. Pain goes down. They eat better. They smile. Sometimes a volunteer will walk into the room, and a patient will say, ‘I’m scared.’ They are petting the dog while they are saying it. The dog is a conduit to express themselves. They wouldn’t tell a doctor or social worker or a family member they are scared. But they can tell a dog and tell a volunteer.”

Some therapy teams also visit the rooms of patients who are near the end of life, offering a poignant respite to grieving family members. The therapy teams are an invaluable part of the hospital, says Brian D. Madden, MD, medical director of the Health Center’s Palliative Care Program.

“Clearly they reduce patients’ emotional distress and isolation from home and provide a companionship at a time of greatest need,” he says. “With all of our patients, simply being able to offer this service brings a smile and brightens the mood.”
ON THE PULSE

IN MEMORIAM

The Foundation mourns the loss of several of our dear friends, major supporters and trustees. Their longtime devotion to our mission and their willingness to help will be remembered with fondness and deep gratitude.

Joyce Green, a former senior vice president of business development at the John Wayne Cancer Institute, passed away on January 22. Joyce was a champion of the Institute’s work, helping lead fundraising efforts.

Joyce became involved in cancer research in 1976 when her husband, Jack, was diagnosed with the disease and was treated by Donald L. Morton, MD, at the University of California, Los Angeles. Joyce worked with Dr. Morton to raise money for cancer research. The John Wayne Cancer Institute was founded at UCLA, under Dr. Morton. In 1981, Joyce worked closely with Dr. Morton and others to bring the Institute to Saint John’s.

As the senior vice president of business development at the Institute, Joyce dedicated herself to the physicians, researchers and fellows. In 2007 she was honored with “The Duke” Special Service Award at the Auxiliary’s Odyssey Ball. Joyce is survived by her son, Neal, his wife, Pamela, and her grandsons, Josh and Brad.

Jacqueline “Jackie” Banchik, a longtime member of the John Wayne Cancer Institute Auxiliary, passed away on December 28, 2016, after a seven-month battle with pancreatic cancer. She was 73.

A generous individual and talented leader, Jackie graduated from the University of Southern California, earning a degree in occupational therapy. She joined the auxiliary in the 1970s and also worked as a volunteer in the clinic. She became the fourth president of the auxiliary, and during her tenure the Institute moved from UCLA to Saint John’s Health Center. Jackie and her dear friend and fellow auxiliary member Diane Feldman started the “Circles of Distinction” project to honor and recognize Institute donors.

Jackie and her husband, Howard, started the Banchik Family Library, a place where families can access information about cancer. She also served on the Institute’s board of trustees and was a former patient and close friend of the Institute’s cofounder, the late Donald L. Morton, MD. She is survived by her husband, two children and six grandchildren.
GIFTS THAT MAKE AN IMPACT

Providence Saint John’s Health Center has been blessed with a number of noteworthy philanthropic gifts to brighten our future. Philanthropic giving is critical to the continued excellence of Saint John’s, and donations help the Health Center maintain its ranking as one of the best hospitals in the world. From technological innovations that make treatments more tolerable to staff training that helps us achieve excellent safety and patient satisfaction scores, we put these precious funds to the best possible use. We are grateful to the following individuals and groups for their generosity and thoughtful contributions to the community’s health care as we celebrate our 75th anniversary year.

Donna Schweers, chair, Saint John’s Foundation Board of Trustees and Tom Geiser, chair, Saint John’s Health Center Board of Directors have made a generous gift of $1 million in honor of the Health Center’s 75th anniversary. This gift will support multiple programs and services at Saint John’s and the John Wayne Cancer Institute, including the women’s integrative/gynecologic oncology program. “We believe strongly in supporting women’s health and in particular the integrative approach to oncology,” says Donna.

The Louise A. Tarble Foundation
The Louise A. Tarble Foundation is providing a $3 million grant to enhance nursing care at Saint John’s in support of three clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) for a five-year period for the emergency, oncology and orthopedics departments. Serving as a consultant, educator, researcher and clinical expert, the CNS advances the practice of nursing by implementing innovative alternative solutions that address complex system problems and/or patient care issues and integrates research into the clinical environment through evidence-based practices. As part of a multidisciplinary team, the CNS acts as a change agent to develop system performance standards to improve patient outcomes. We are most grateful to Jan Tarble, president of the Louise A. Tarble Foundation, and her beloved parents Pat and Newt.

Angelle and Roger Wacker have donated $1 million toward naming the Chapel hallway in honor of the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, the religious order that founded Saint John’s Health Center 75 years ago. The hallway will be blessed and dedicated later this summer.

Jean Perkins Foundation has gifted Providence Saint John’s Health Center with $200,000 to purchase the Maquet CardioHelp System for cardiac care. This lifesaving technology is a multi-therapy heart-lung assist system used to restore and stabilize the patient’s cardiopulmonary functions so clinicians can gain valuable time to save patients’ lives. The Jean Perkins Foundation has also donated $175,000 for the Philips Echo Navigator System Software. This innovative technology combines 3D echocardiography to visualize the heart’s soft tissue with X-ray imaging to provide a more cohesive view and assist with navigation within the heart. The Jean Perkins Foundation also supports the Nursing Magnet Coordinator position with a $450,000 gift. The Magnet nursing program promotes excellence and is the highest award given by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

Foundation Trustee David Ho and wife, Martha have provided $200,000 to support the women’s health and maternity services programs at Saint John’s in celebration of the Health Center’s 75th anniversary. “We have always been strong supporters of women’s health and respect Saint John’s for making women’s health services a focus,” Martha says.

Harold McAlister Charitable Foundation recently provided a $150,000 gift to support Surgical Oncology Fellowship Program at the John Wayne Cancer Institute. This is the 10th year the organization has supported the program. The program is approved by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) to offer advanced training in complex general surgical oncology.

Monica Salinas, PhD, has provided a gift of $100,000 to establish an endowment to provide education and training for caregivers in the radiation oncology department.

David and Anne Radden gave an irrevocable estate gift of $100,000 in support of equipment and technology needed most at the time the gift is realized.

Margo and David Lee each gave an irrevocable estate gift of $100,000 in support Saint John’s Health Center’s greatest needs.

Foundation trustee Laura Siart and husband, Bill have provided a $100,000 gift in honor of Saint John’s 75th anniversary to support immunotherapy research at the John Wayne Cancer Institute under the direction of Steven J. O’Day, MD, professor of medical oncology and director of immune-oncology and clinical research at the Institute. “We have skin cancer in both our families and the idea of targeting treatment for cancer is very exciting to us,” says Laura. “We are thrilled to donate in whatever small way to Dr. O’Day’s cutting-edge research.”
On a sunny California day in early 1941, a group of physicians, nuns, priests and architects gathered on a palm tree-lined lot in Santa Monica to break ground on what would become Saint John’s Health Center. In attendance that day were Sister Mary Hypathia Coughlin, who would use her considerable skills as a trained engineer to oversee the building process, and Louis Mahoney, MD, who not only lobbied for a hospital in Santa Monica to improve the health of the local citizenry but helped raise the initial funds for the project.

Decades later, the hard-working, can-do spirit reflected in those individuals and their colleagues is embedded in the very fiber of the Health Center. What a 75 years it has been! When the 1994 earthquake struck, there were questions about whether the hospital could reopen. But thanks to determined donors and friends, Saint John’s not only survived, it has thrived since that devastating event.

While the buildings have changed, the values of compassion, excellence and service to the community are the same as those championed by the founders. Each generation of health care professionals and administrators has emphasized retaining the core values that were championed by the hospital’s founders, the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth, says Marcel Loh, chief executive of Providence Saint John’s Health Center and the John Wayne Cancer Institute.

“We recognize when people come to us for health care they are in a time of need,” he says. “We really have it in our DNA to do the best we can for everyone we serve.”
That culture of excellence dates back to the physicians who built the medical staff and hired only the best, says Robert S. Sherins, MD, a retired Saint John’s physician and assistant archivist. “When the hospital opened, board certification became mandatory to ensure the enhanced skills required by the medical staff,” he says. “As medical care evolved, specialties and subspecialties became the norm. Physicians were required to meet the standards set by professional medical societies.”

Today Saint John’s routinely garners high performance rankings, while individual physicians are nationally recognized for innovation and excellence. The Joint Commission—an independent, not-for-profit organization that accredits and certifies nearly 21,000 health care organizations and programs in the U.S.—has recognized Saint John’s as one of the top-performing hospitals in the country for treatment of many conditions including heart attack, heart failure, orthopedics and pneumonia. Moreover, the physicians on staff at Saint John’s put their hearts into their work. “There is something about our physicians that I haven’t seen in my 35 years of being in health care,” Marcel says. “There is such an extremely high level of dedication, compassion and pride in being the best. They’re team-oriented, partnering with nurses and other clinicians to achieve the highest levels of care. They have an unwavering focus for doing the very best for their patients and equally passionate about the success of Saint John’s Health Center and the John Wayne Cancer Institute.”

The 266-bed hospital is a rare hybrid: a community hospital with services on par with academic medical centers, says Richard Corlin, MD, a Saint John’s gastroenterologist and a national authority on health care who served as president of the American Medical Association in 2001. “By being close to an academic institution, Saint John’s has been able to attract a large number of physicians who have left academia to go into clinical practice in the community,” he says. “They come to Saint John’s because they can maintain the level of
practice and have access to technologies that closely mimic what patients can get at an academic institution.”

**STATE-OF-THE-ART SPECIALTY CARE**

One of the earliest areas of medical excellence was in cardiovascular care. Saint John’s continues to shepherd advances in minimally invasive procedures.

Shephal K. Doshi, MD, director of electrophysiology and pacing at Saint John’s, was one of the first cardiologists in the country to offer the Watchman device—a treatment for atrial fibrillation. The hospital is recognized as an America’s 50 Best Hospitals and US News & World Report for Cardiac Care™.

Saint John’s is designated to receive patients having the most severe kinds of heart attacks. And last year the Health Center was named a primary stroke center by The Joint Commission. This designation means Saint John’s provides the staffing, equipment and expertise to treat stroke at the highest levels of quality.

Saint John’s has also earned an international reputation for state-of-the-art cancer care. The renowned John Wayne Cancer Institute at Saint John’s Health Center is home to the first accredited surgical oncology fellowship program in the U.S.—a program that provides the highest levels of training for surgical oncologists.

The Institute also developed one of the nation’s largest specimen repositories—a collection of patients’ blood and tissue samples that are now highly valuable materials for studying the molecular and genetic underpinnings of cancer.

“I believe we would not be able to recruit such excellent physicians if it were not for the synergistic relationship between clinical practice, education and what they are able to do as researchers,” Marcel says. “And by pursuing research, we are able to give our patients access to clinical trials that encompass some of the most promising advances in medicine.”

Many other specialty areas are recognized for outstanding care and innovation. Saint John’s has earned a Neurosurgery Excellence Award and the American’s 100 Best Hospitals™ award for gastrointestinal care. Patients come to Saint John’s from around the country for orthopedic care. The Hip and Pelvis Center at Saint John’s offers a range of choices to patients including hip preservation surgery and anterior hip replacement—an alternative approach to traditional hip replacement surgery that better preserves the muscles surrounding the hip.

The hospital’s Center for Knee Replacement was among the first in the region to offer partial knee replacement for appropriate patients and one of the first to utilize the Mako robotic system as another option for knee replacement. Saint John’s was named America’s 100 Best Hospitals for Joint Replacement Award™.

The McAlister Women’s Health Center has developed a reputation as “the place” to have a baby. Saint John’s created one of the first laborist programs in the region. The program ensures an obstetrician is on-site 24/7 to deal with any patient needs or emergencies. The hospital also has an 18-bed, Level III neonatal intensive care unit affiliated with Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. That means families with medically fragile infants do not need to travel across the county to ensure their infants receive the best possible care.

Saint John’s nurses are a big part of the hospital’s stellar reputation, Marcel notes. “When most people in the community think

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**The Saint John’s Story**

- **1942** Hospital opens, led by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth
- **1949** North Wing opens
- **Christmas party** In the early days, the Sisters sang Christmas carols for the doctors and guests
- **Dr. George Hummer** Dr. George Hummer, the hospital’s first physician, and Dr. Blake Watson helped establish subspecialties and the hiring of doctors with board certification
- **1967** South Wing opens
- **1974** Saint John’s Health Center Foundation is incorporated
about Saint John’s, nursing comes to the top of the list. The nurses are the front lines in keeping our core values real to every patient we serve. We have a laser focus on safety, and we believe that excellence is achieved by caregivers working together. Our outstanding nurses are the glue for quality and safety of all our patients.”

**EXPANSION OF PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS**
Outside the Health Center, physicians affiliated with Saint John’s maintain the same level of distinction, Marcel says. “We have been very fortunate to have our foundational primary care group, the Doctors of Saint John’s, which was a trailblazer in establishing a well-coordinated primary care group for our patients on the Westside,” he says. An added bonus is the addition of the Santa Monica Family Physicians—which joined Saint John’s this summer—raising the number of primary care providers affiliated with the Health Center to 75.

“All of our patients will benefit with the strong primary care presence of the Doctors of Saint John’s and Santa Monica Family Physicians. But we also can’t forget the loyal, independent physicians that round out our primary care offerings on the Westside,” Marcel says. “We want every person to have a designated primary care provider who understands and monitors their health and well-being.”

**SUPPORTIVE DONORS AND FRIENDS**
Saint John’s has long identified and served the needs of the community through such charitable endeavors as the Child and Family Development Center, which provides mental health services to under-served children and adults. The community has, in turn, been exceedingly supportive of Saint John’s. The Saint John’s Health Foundation works closely with the hospital leadership to continue the commitment to superior service and personalized care. The Foundation boasts a large board of dedicated and talented trustees and a vast network of volunteers and supporters.

“Our board members, advisors, trustees, and volunteers all consider themselves to be one of the owners of Saint John’s,” Marcel says. “They

**YOUR GIFT CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**
Saint John’s has long been distinguished as a community hospital offering premier medical care in a personalized setting. The “Saint John’s difference” is made possible through generous philanthropic support of its trustees, grateful patients and friends.

Current gift opportunities include:
- Cardiology: expanded patient monitoring beyond the coronary care unit
- Child and Family Development Center: assistance to low-income families
- Labor and Delivery: additional natural birthing suites
- Neuroscience: research support
- Nursing: continuing education
- Oncology: new infusion center
- Orthopedics: advanced surgical equipment

Individuals interested in making a gift, pledge or bequest in support of these or other areas may learn more by contacting John Miller, vice president of development, at 310-829-8632 or john.miller@stjohns.org.
The Italian island of Sicily is a long way from Santa Monica. But for Donatella Cali Scrima, 54, there is no other place she will go for health care.

In June of 2014, Donatella—a pharmacist, wife and mother of two—experienced pain and numbness on the right side of her face (also known as trigeminal neuralgia), and imaging tests showed a mass on a nerve in her skull base. Her doctors in Italy said the mass was likely benign and planned a surgery called a craniotomy, which is a surgical opening of the skull, to biopsy the mass. But Donatella was told she could lose her vision or hearing from the surgery, and she was terrified. Scheduled for surgery, she got out of her hospital bed shortly before the operation and went home.

Her family didn’t give up and continued searching the internet, looking for top physicians with expertise in the treatment of skull base tumors. The pursuit led them to the website of neurosurgeon Daniel F. Kelly, MD, director of the Pacific Brain Tumor Center and Pacific Pituitary Disorders Center at Providence Saint John’s Health Center.

With changes in health care reimbursement, philanthropy is needed more than ever, Marcel adds. In the next decade, Providence Saint John’s Health Center will undertake the phase 2 master plan development which will focus on the future of health care and how to support our communities well into the future.

Saint John’s is thriving under the guidance of Providence St. Joseph’s Health, which assumed sponsorship in 2014 and is deeply committed to the Southern California health care market, Dr. Corlin says. “Coming under the sponsorship of Providence is one of the best things to happen. They have poured resources into the hospital. The nature of health care delivery has changed. We are now with a system that is very helpful and supportive.”

Providence St. Joseph’s Health has helped Saint John’s with the development of electronic medical records, new medical office buildings, the addition of robotic technology, physician recruitment and support for the Health Center’s master plan, just to name a few Marcel says. “Providence recognizes how special Saint John’s is and what it brings to the Providence system.”

want to grow it and improve it.”

Without the philanthropic support of the community, Saint John’s wouldn’t be in existence today, he adds, especially after the significant damage the Northridge earthquake caused. “It was community support and passion for the hospital that allowed us to raise hundreds of millions of dollars to make a new hospital a reality.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION about how you can support Saint John’s, please contact John Miller at 310-829-8632 or john.miller@stjohns.org.
Center and professor of neurosurgery, John Wayne Cancer Institute. The family was hopeful and reached out to Dr. Kelly. “He responded promptly and kindly,” says Donatella. He studied her medical records from across the globe and told her she may have a cancerous tumor that could be biopsied with minimally invasive surgery.

Soon the Scrima family was en route to Santa Monica for the successful treatment of what ultimately proved to be a B-cell lymphoma, the type of cancer that was attached to Donatella’s sensitive trigeminal nerve. The staff of the Saint John’s Health Center Foundation helped the Scrima family find housing, while Ana Cohoe—a quality control coordinator at Saint John’s—dusted off her Italian speaking skills and served as an interpreter for the family during their stay. Dr. Kelly and ear, nose and throat/head and neck surgeon Chester F. Griffiths, MD, used an endoscopic endonasal approach to reach her skull base tumor of the trigeminal nerve. The tumor was approached using both nostrils and a small piece was removed for a biopsy.

“The tumor was coating and completely infiltrating the nerve—a nerve that provides facial sensation and innervates the jaw muscles for chewing,” Dr. Kelly says. “This endoscopic keyhole approach was the safest and most ideal for Donatella’s tumor and allowed us to reach the affected trigeminal nerve without a craniotomy and instead via the nose and sinuses without any manipulation or retraction of the brain. Even though we biopsied and removed some of the nerve, she actually had improved sensation in her cheek right after surgery, likely related to bone removal over the swollen and tumor-infiltrated nerve.”

Donatella then underwent chemotherapy under the direction of medical oncologist Sean Fischer, MD, who worked with doctors in Italy so she could have most of the recommended chemotherapy treatments there. “He is really special,” says Maria Celeste Scrima, one of Donatella’s two daughters. “He was so kind to contact an Italian hospital so she could continue chemotherapy in Italy.”

Donatella also underwent radiation treatments guided by Saint John’s radiation oncologist Robert C. Wollman, MD. “She’s in remission, now almost three years after her treatments, and there is no hint of the tumor coming back.”

“Donatella and her family were so scared when they got here,” says Ana, the translator. “But from the moment she met with Dr. Kelly, there was a connection.”

“Donatella and her family were so scared when they got here. But from the moment she met with Dr. Kelly, there was a connection.”

“Donatella and her family were so scared when they got here. But from the moment she met with Dr. Kelly, there was a connection.”

Donatella tears up when she speaks of the people she met at Saint John’s. “Everyone was so amazing. Dr. Kelly is marvelous. There are no words to describe him. And Ana was my angel.”

Maria Celeste adds, “Our home and family were far away, but the people at the hospital didn’t let us feel the homesickness. We felt right at home and spent our time there surrounded by cleanliness, efficiency, humanity and professionalism.”

“We do things like this all the time,” says Dr. Kelly, who is also director of the Pacific Neuroscience Institute—a specialty practice comprised of some of the region’s leading neurologists and neurosurgeons. “We get patients from around the world. They send us their records, and we get back to them within 24 hours. That’s our policy.”

Despite her intense fear of flying, Donatella returns each year, seeing Dr. Fischer for her checkup. “Who knows what would have happened if I had been treated in Italy,” she says. “I won’t go to another doctor. When I come back here, it’s like coming to see family. Everyone says, ‘Hi, Donatella!’ They recognize me and ask if I’m feeling OK. I know I’m in the right place.” •
Trustee Carole Schwartz Has a Big Heart and a Head for Numbers

WRITTEN BY NANCY BRANDS WARD
PHOTOGRAPHED BY KRISTIN ANDERSON
Outside the sitting room of Carole Schwartz’s Pacific Palisades home, the sun lays diamonds across an infinity pool and the Pacific Ocean beyond to create a mesmerizing view. Adding to the tranquility, sunlight filters across the open-architecture inside and slides over the stone Buddha faces of sculptures Carole has collected through her extensive travels throughout Asia.

In the midst of this serenity, Carole sparkles with energy as she talks passionately about Providence Saint John’s Health Center, where she’s been a Foundation trustee since 2010, and the John Wayne Cancer Institute, whose newly expanded board she joined this past fall.

Nowhere in Los Angeles can people find better care, better outcomes or have a better feeling about being in a hospital than at the Health Center, she says. That belief is based not just on the knowledge she’s gained while serving on the two boards but on the very personal ordeal of her husband’s care for pancreatic cancer before she ultimately lost him to the disease two years ago.

“The level of care he received was just beyond extraordinary,” she says. “There were times when I was living at Saint John’s for a month with my husband in intensive care. The doctors are in it 100% for you; the nurses are in it 100% for you. There’s such a caring, nurturing atmosphere.”

Carole’s vision for the Heath Center and John Wayne involves creating a “center of excellence” for cancer care. With the proposed expansion of the South Campus, there would be capacity for additional research programs as well as patient care facilities. “John Wayne has all the ingredients to rise to the next level of prominence—world-class scientists, physicians and an ability to collaborate with other world-class institutions on cutting-edge research that will ultimately benefit many people.”

She is honored to support doctors like Anton Bilchik, MD, PhD, who is one of the many gifted physicians who cared for her husband at Saint John’s. Connecting with a desire to help others who have experienced pancreatic cancer and committing time and financial resources to research and programs that ultimately contribute to the greater good feeds her emotionally and creates a legacy for her late husband.

Early in her career Carole discovered that indulging in her strong interest in health sciences provided a balance to the number-crunching work as a tax partner at KPMG LLP. “There’s no life and death in accounting, right?” she says with a laugh. “Volunteering my time and financial resources in health care connects me to that more meaningful aspect of life and the opportunity to make an impact for a lot of people.”

She’s been deeply involved with health care since her mid-20s, serving as chair of the All Children’s Hospital Foundation in St. Petersburg, Florida, president of the board of trustees for the Ronald McDonald House Children’s Charities of Tampa Bay and as a director on the board of National Jewish Health in Denver.

In 2002 she retired as a partner with KPMG LLP where she advised real estate firms and high net worth individuals from a tax perspective. She currently works with Schwartz-Mei Group USA where she continues to manage family investments.

From the time her youngest daughter Sophia was 8 weeks old, she has traveled extensively throughout Europe and Asia to support her late husband on business trips. Carole continues to travel to Asia with Sophia who has developed a love of the culture and language. She also has three grown children, Heather, Ian and Myles who also have become global citizens as a result of having traveled and lived in Europe and Asia at various points in their lives. With 14-year-old Sophia still at home, much of Carole’s life revolves around her daughter’s life, as any mother of a teenager can appreciate.

Carole’s commitment to the Health Center broadens her life beyond her personal life, enriching it through collaboration with many different people—scientists, local community leaders, physicians, hospital administrators—that she’d likely never meet if not for her participation on the boards.

“It is just an amazing group of people,” she says. “Once you realize how valuable that is to your own life, you continue on that path.” •
Tonian Hohberg Brings Business Acumen to the Foundation Board

WRITTEN BY NANCY STEINER

Tonian Hohberg is Chief Executive Officer, President and Founder of FIDM/Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising, an internationally recognized college with 5,000 students and 70,000 graduates. A private institute for specialized professional education, FIDM is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design. FIDM offers degrees in 31 disciplines, including a Master of Business Administration (MBA).

Tonian is also the Founder and President of the FIDM Scholarship Foundation and the FIDM Library & Museum Foundation. A four-term commissioner for the California Student Aid Commission, Toni was a member of the American Council on Education Governmental Relations Committee, Washington, D.C., and serves on the executive committee of the Central City Association. She has been honored by many, including the National Women’s Economic Alliance Foundation, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, THE MUSES of California Science Center, National Retail Federation Foundation Influencer and with the Spirit of Saint John’s Award.

What drew you to Saint John’s? How did you first get involved?
Wanting to establish a relationship with a medical facility when I first moved to Santa Monica from Ohio, everyone I asked for a recommendation described Saint John’s Health Center as the very best in Southern California—if not the world. Without an appointment, I decided to drop by the guard’s station at Saint John’s to ask for a tour. My first impression is my lasting impression. Everyone on that first tour was warm, well-informed and efficient. My association has flourished ever since.

Why have you remained involved for so many years at Saint John’s?
Because I believe in the mission of Saint John’s. It never disappoints for many reasons:
• A superb medical staff with an international reputation
• An excellent organization on every level
• Saint John’s culture of talent, energy and goodness is the rarest of the rare
• It is a privilege and is reassuring to live in the same city with so many medical leaders who are world-renowned

You have supported the Chautauqua Annual Retreat for many years with generous gifts designed by FIDM students. Why do you think it’s an important event for trustees? What do you enjoy most about it?
Chautauqua is a wonderful educational experience and so intellectually stimulating. Incredible minds describe medical breakthroughs, the future and research frontiers. Being in the presence of such learned decision-makers is thrilling, and this exposure increases one’s confidence as a trustee.

Saint John’s is celebrating its 75th year. What do you envision as the future for Saint John’s? Do you have any advice you’d like to share?
Saint John’s and the Providence partnership represent an exciting and prosperous future, assuring the road to the centennial is paved with excellence and continued dominance.

Can you tell me about how you developed the idea for a business and design college on the West Coast?
Anyone who really wants the answer to this question ... call me! It will take a visit to FIDM. We’ll plan a day of touring the campus, visiting FIDM Museum exhibitions and lunch. I’ll tell you a great story of how FIDM started with 24 students in downtown Los Angeles and now has 70,000 graduates all over the world.

We look to our trustees for business advice. How do you feel your experience contributes to your role as a member of the Foundation’s executive committee?
Colleges, businesses and medical organizations that thrive share similar dynamics. They are dedicated to hard work and develop meaningful relationships that make a positive difference in the lives they touch, influence and save. •
MEMORABLE EVENTS

CHAUTAUQUA WEEKEND

The annual Chautauqua weekend, sponsored by the Saint John’s Health Center Foundation, was held March 17–19 at the beautiful Ojai Valley Inn and Spa. Health Center leadership, trustees, donors and physicians mingled and enjoyed recreational activities, camaraderie, educational sessions and presentations on hospital and health care developments and trends.

The Chautauqua retreat has been held for 38 years. With hard work and planning from the Chautauqua Committee, the 2017 Chautauqua weekend was one of the best ever. It began on St. Patty’s Day in true Irish tradition—lots of food, drink and good times—before getting down to business. Attendees heard from a terrific lineup of speakers ranging from experts in primary care, neurosciences and immune-oncology, and the event finished with a look ahead at the latest trends and innovations in technology, health care and more.

Special guests included Erik G. Wexler; Ernie L. Prudente, MD; David Cutler, MD; Jonathan R. Cole, MD; Ruth Sorotzkin, MD; Leroy Hood, MD, PhD; Marcel Loh; James Uli; Robert O. Klein; Daniel F. Kelly, MD; Chester F. Griffiths, MD; Steven J. O’Day, MD, and Peter Diamandis, MD. Many thanks to the Chautauqua Committee for a wonderful event.

1. Sister Maureen Craig, SCL, Eddie Guerboian and Sister Therese Zimmerman, SCL
2. (From left) Dr. David Krasne, Fran Flanagan, Shannon Wickstrom, Bob Klein, Lisa Nesbitt, Dr. Ernie Prudente, Dr. Rob Amonic, Marcel Loh, Dr. Jonathan Cole, John Miller, Su-Z Schneider and Loraine Sinskey
3. Erik Wexler
4. Carol Smith, Mary Flaherty and Chris Newman
5. Dr. Jonathan Cole, Dr. Ruth Sorotzkin, Dr. David Cutler and Dr. Ernie Prudente
6. Dr. Amir Volkshoor, Sila Volkshoor, Pauline Kino and Dr. Russ Kino
7. Jerry Epstein and Dr. Peter Pelikan
8. Bob Klein, Putter Pence, Lisa Nesbitt and Stephen Nesbitt
9. Donna Schweers, Su-Z Schneider, Loraine Sinskey and Brenda McDonald
10. Tom Geiser, Lee Ault, Dr. Howard Krauss and Rachel Ault
11. Dr. Leroy Hood
12. Dr. Howard Krauss, Dr. Daniel Kelly, Dr. Peter Diamandis, Dr. Santosh Kesari and Dr. Chester Griffiths
13. Dr. Rob Amonic, Charlie Smith, Terri Grojean and Mary Davis
14. Kate Prudente, Dr. Rob Andrews and Kathy Yawitz
15. Dr. Steven J. O’Day
16. Mark Gibello, Allan Goldman and Bob Klein
17. (From left) Dr. Chester Griffiths, Dr. Steven O’Day, Dr. Ruth Sorotzkin, Erik Wexler, Bob Klein, Dr. Daniel Kelly, Marcel Loh, Dr. Leroy Hood, Dr. David Cutler, Dr. Ernie Prudente and Dr. Jonathan Cole
MEMORABLE EVENTS

PACIFIC NEUROSCIENCE INSTITUTE (PNI) LAUNCH EVENT

The Pacific Neuroscience Institute (PNI) Launch Event, sponsored by Saint John’s Health Center Foundation with Foundation trustee Jae Goodman, was held January 19. Supporters, patients, medical specialists and Providence leadership met at Creative Artists Agency to celebrate the launch of PNI at Saint John’s. After several years of planning and with the Foundation’s support, this outstanding group of physicians and researchers unveiled the Pacific Neuroscience Institute, an extraordinary and transformative collaboration that creates a remarkable Institute not only at Saint John’s but for the entire region. The PNI founders, Daniel F. Kelly, MD, Chester F. Griffiths, MD, Howard R. Krauss, MD, and Santosh Kesari, MD, PhD, gave attendees an inside look into the compassionate care and patient-focused values that are the embodiment of all that PNI has been founded on. Using a team approach featuring multidisciplinary specialties, PNI is devoted to the care of patients with a wide spectrum of neurological and skull base disorders and provides state-of-the-art care with a focus on minimally invasive surgical and interventional techniques as well as novel targeted therapies that aim to restore and maintain quality of life.
MEMORABLE EVENTS

ASSOCIATES FOR BREAST AND CANCER STUDIES (ABCs) ANNUAL “THE TALK OF THE TOWN” GALA

The 27th annual “The Talk of the Town” Gala was held November 19 at the Beverly Hilton hotel. Sponsored by the Associates for Breast and Prostate Cancer Studies (ABCs), this annual gala drew 500 attendees and honored friends of the John Wayne Cancer Institute. Honorees included Dame Joan Collins, who received the Spirit of Entertainment Award, and Academy Award-winning actress, director and author Anjelica Huston, who received the Spirit of Hollywood Award. Marcel Loh, chief executive, Providence Saint John’s Health Center and John Wayne Cancer Institute, was honored with the Spirit of Hope Award. The ABCs have raised more than $15 million for breast and prostate cancer research at the Institute.

BENEFACCTORS APPRECIATION RECEPTION

The Benefactors Appreciation Reception was held March 5 at the home of Donna Schweers, chair of the Saint John Health Center Foundation Board of Trustees, and her husband, Tom Geiser, chair of the board of directors, Providence Saint John’s Health Center. One extraordinary group of benefactors was recognized by two unique institutions: John Wayne Cancer Institute and Saint John’s Health Center Foundation. This year’s celebration brought together donors from the highest levels of giving to personally thank and recognize all that has been made possible through the decades because of their support. Attendees enjoyed a beautiful reception and the opportunity to mingle with Health Center physicians, Institute faculty and researchers, leadership, Wayne family members and other friends.
MEMORABLE EVENTS

AFFILIATION ENDOWMENT FUND (AEF) CHECK PRESENTATION BREAKFAST

Saint John’s Health Center Foundation held a breakfast event on January 12 to distribute checks totaling more than $1.1 million to Westside community health partners serving vulnerable and underserved populations. The donations were made through the Foundation’s Affiliation Endowment Fund (AEF). The Affiliation Endowment Fund was created when the sponsorship of Saint John’s transitioned from the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth to Providence Health & Services. The AEF committee identifies and reviews candidates for funding based on community needs and organizational capability and capacity.

THE HEALING JOURNEY: A SOLO ART EXHIBITION BY WATERCOLORIST GAYLE GARNER ROSKI

An art exhibition entitled The Healing Journey was held on March 12 at Providence Saint John’s Health Center. The exhibit featured the celebrated artwork of watercolorist Gayle Garner Roski and marked the inauguration of Providence Saint John Health Center’s new art program, launched during the Health Center’s 75th anniversary year. Gayle’s collection depicts imagery of beloved sites along the Pacific Coast Highway in Santa Monica and Malibu—a route along which the artist has continually experienced the healing powers of nature.

The Healing Journey is the first in a series of art exhibitions by various artists that will display at the Health Center over the coming years. Five art curators will partner with Saint John’s to bring artwork to the Health Center: Foundation trustees Putter Pence and Dallas Price-Van Breda as well as Kitty Keck, Gayle Garner Roski and Ruth Weisberg.

“At Saint John’s we believe that what takes place within a person’s mind and spirit has a great deal to do with his or her physical healing. Beautiful art within a hospital helps create an environment that ministers to the whole person—where patients and their families can find comfort and inspiration,” says Marcel Loh, chief executive of Providence Saint John’s Health Center.

The Healing Journey is on display through September. Putter Pence will be curating the next installation starting in September.
ANNUAL TRUSTEE DINNER AND MEETING

The annual dinner gathering of Foundation trustees, administrative leadership and physicians and researchers was held on December 8 at the Upper Bel Air Bay Club. About 250 people attended the dinner, which was followed by a program reviewing Foundation highlights and announcements from the year.

1. Dr. Timothy Wilson, Susie Guglielmino and Dr. Kevin Ehrhart
2. Dr. Santosh Kesari, Donna Schweers and Jim Fordyce
3. Sister Maureen Craig, SCL, and Ruth Weil
4. Jerry Epstein, Irene Bristol and Dr. David Tam
5. Dr. Gil Kuhn, Susie Guglielmino, Dr. Tiffany Grunwald, Dr. Karla Iacampo and David Grunwald
6. Dallas Price-Van Breda and Kathleen McCarthy-Kostlan

IRENE DUNNE GUILD THINK PINK FOR WOMEN’S WELLNESS

The 12th annual Think Pink for Women’s Wellness was held May 17 at the Upper Bel-Air Bay Club in Pacific Palisades. The event—a celebration of mothers, sisters, daughters and dear friends—was sponsored by the Irene Dunne Guild. A record number, 287, attended the annual event. The afternoon included presentations on health issues, a luncheon and boutique. Speakers included Sharon Weil, author of Changeability.
MEMORABLE EVENTS

VALVE CLINIC BLESSING AND DEDICATION

Saint John’s celebrated its new valve clinic with a blessing and dedication on November 15. The clinic is home to a state-of-the-art treatment center for cardiac valve procedures. Donors who make up the Million Dollar Club raised funds for the clinic.

BOARD OF ADVOCATES SPRING LUNCHEON

The Board of Advocates gathered for their biannual luncheon on May 24 at the Luxe Sunset Boulevard Hotel. Guests enjoyed a presentation by Rebecca R. Refuerzo, executive director of the Child and Family Development Center at Providence Saint John’s Health Center, about the life-enhancing programs the center offers low-income and minority children and families on the Westside. The Board of Advocates is comprised of friends and patrons of the Health Center and Institute who serve as ambassadors in the community and encourage the support of programs deemed to be of the highest priority by Health Center and Institute leadership.
JOHN WAYNE CANCER INSTITUTE AUXILIARY ODYSSEY BALL

More than 500 guests attended the festive, annual John Wayne Cancer Institute Auxiliary Odyssey Ball on March 25 at the Beverly Wilshire. The event honored award-winning actor, producer and screenwriter Vince Vaughn with the “True Grit” Humanitarian Award and internationally recognized medical oncologist and Institute faculty researcher Steven J. O’Day, MD, with “The Duke” Special Service award.

The "Best is Yet to Come" casino-themed gala was organized by John Wayne Cancer Institute Auxiliary ball co-chairs Martha Harper and Shirley Lipstone. The event grossed more than $700,000 to benefit the John Wayne Cancer Institute including a $100,000 donation from Dr. Miriam and Sheldon Adelson in memory of Donald L. Morton, MD, who co-founded the Institute, and a $50,000 donation from Ruth Weil, John Wayne Cancer Institute Auxiliary board member and past president.

ABCs MOTHER’S DAY LUNCHEON

The celebrated ABCs Mother’s Day Luncheon was held May 10 at the Four Seasons Hotel, Los Angeles. Hosted by the Associates for Breast and Prostate Cancer Studies (ABCs), the event raises funds to benefit the John Wayne Cancer Institute. The afternoon event, attended by 300 people, included a fashion show and luxury boutique. Actress Sharon Stone was honored with the Mother of the Year Award while the “True Grit” Humanitarian Award was presented to celebrity hair stylist Chaz Dean. The luncheon was hosted by actress and comedian Kym Whitley.
Janet Salomonson, MD, has forever changed the lives of children and families affected by cleft lip and palate. Starting her plastic surgical practice in Santa Monica in 1982, she had a special interest in cleft lip/palate repairs. She quietly attended the cleft palate clinics and team meetings and learned special skills from senior plastic surgeon Ben Edwards, MD, and craniofacial surgeon, Henry Kawamoto, MD.

Her warmth and interest in newborn, infant and childhood care were obvious, and she quickly mastered pediatric and family care skills. Coupled with her artistic talent and innovative surgical approaches, she improved the facial and speech outcomes for children and adults attending the Saint John’s Cleft Palate Center as well as other cleft palate centers across Los Angeles and around the world.

Dr. Salomonson was passionate about helping children with cleft palates and using her surgical skills to improve their lives. Cleft lip and palate are birth defects that occur when a baby’s lip and mouth do not form properly, resulting in openings or splits in the upper lip, the roof of the mouth (known as the palate) or both. According to the World Health Organization, cleft lip or palate affects 1 of every 500 to 700 babies.

Dr. Salomonson participated in teaching programs for the American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association, instructing plastic surgeons on her surgical skills as well as her empathetic personal skills. In 1997 she took over the medical directorship of the Saint John’s Cleft Palate Center from Les M. Holve, MD, medical director emeritus, who started the team in 1965.

When she passed away in 2013, Dr. Salomonson left an extraordinary gift that will continue to support the program. “She said she wanted all of her estate to go to charity,” says fellow Saint John’s physician Ellie Goldstein, MD, a close friend and trustee of her estate. “The first and major item on the list was the cleft palate program at Saint John’s. She felt the cleft palate program could accomplish more with more funding.”

In addition to her work at Saint John’s, Dr. Salomonson traveled internationally every year to conduct cleft surgeries pro bono. She worked with Faces of Hope and Rotaplast and participated with teams of medical professionals to work with and teach the local surgeons current surgical techniques and strategies for repairing individuals of all ages with cleft deformities.

“She worked tirelessly with the program and taking care of the kids,” Dr. Goldstein says. “It was a real joy for her.”

Her memorial Mass—held at Saint John’s chapel—was attended by more than 250 physicians, patients, families and co-workers. Mentor and fellow plastic surgeon Michael McGuire, MD, says, “All physicians care for their patients, but Janet truly loved them.”

Dr. Salomonson’s gift will become an endowment that provides support in perpetuity to the Saint John’s Cleft Palate Center. “That’s what she wanted her money used for,” Dr. Goldstein says. “She wanted something that would be meaningful and needed.”

The Cleft Palate Center makes a big impact serving children, regardless of their family’s ability to pay, while relying on private support for the program.

CREATE A BRIGHT FUTURE
Please consider including Saint John’s in your estate plan to improve the lives of patients and families for years to come. Contact Andy Trilling, vice president, principal gifts, at 310-449-5246 or Andy.Trilling@stjohns.org to learn more.
Would you like to support Saint John’s and receive income for life?

Secure Your Future & Help ensure we are here for future generations with a Charitable Gift Annuity:

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- Fund a gift with as little as $10,000 in cash or securities
- Receive an immediate charitable tax deduction
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Please call Andy Trilling, Vice President of Principal Gifts at (310) 449-5246 or email Andy.Trilling@StJohns.org for more information and a personalized illustration with no obligation.

You can also visit www.SaintJohnsFoundation.PlanMyLegacy.org as resource for your overall charitable estate planning.
Welcome to Saint John's
A friendly face greets hospital patients and visitors.

Bedside Manner
The beloved Pawsitive Pets program relies on community support.

SAINT JOHN'S HEALTH CENTER FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT
Providing leadership and philanthropic support to Providence Saint John's Health Center and the John Wayne Cancer Institute that serve as catalysts for exceptional health care and research.

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