

Fall 2017

Friends *for* Life

Inside this Issue

*Become a charter member of
Adelaide's Circle of Caring*
Page 6

*Mercy's Commitment to
Oncology*
Page 7

*Giving groups fund life-saving
and life-altering equipment*
Page 8

BIG THINGS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES (THE STORY OF ESPIE)



Esperanza and Hiroshi Naito

They say good things come in small packages. Well in this case, big things come in small packages with big hearts! And that is what Esperanza Nieto is.

Although petite in size, Esperanza (Espie) has a big heart of gratitude for the care her husband received while a patient at Mercy Hospital Southwest.

Espie spent many hours at his bedside at Mercy Hospital Southwest, caring for him as a loving wife of 10 years would. She was always appreciative of the staff, and what she described as such "kindness" to Hiro when sometimes, because of his illness and discomfort, he may not have been the easiest patient. Yet, as she recalled the care he received, she shed tears of gratitude for the gentle touch and kind words that were bestowed on her dear Hiro.

After he died, she found a letter from the Friends of Mercy Foundation in her mailbox inviting her to consider an estate gift. Although she was not interested in making an estate gift, Espie did

Continued on page 3...



**Friends of Mercy
Foundation.**

A Dignity Health Member

To make a gift online visit www.SupportFriendsofMercy.org
or call us at (661) 663-6700.

DEAR FRIENDS OF MERCY



Welcome to the fall 2017 edition of Friends for Life, our publication where we highlight the many accomplishments of the Friends of Mercy Foundation and the generosity of our donors.

Mercy Hospital has long been a cornerstone of our community and a resource for quality compassionate healthcare. Thousands of lives have been saved and lifestyles improved through the efforts of our caregivers and physicians. And because of friends like you, Mercy is able to provide state of the "heart" care using state of the art equipment and advanced technology.

Speaking of the touching one's heart, we are honored to bring you the incredible story of Espie and her husband Hiro. Espie spent hours at her husband's bedside, who was a patient at Mercy Hospital Southwest. After he passed away, she wanted to honor him, as well as the caregivers for the gentle touches and kind words given to her husband. You will read about how we may have shown Hiro and Espie human kindness, however her giving expresses kindness that will be treasured for years to come.

In this issue of Friends for Life, you will read about an exciting new campaign to develop the S.A. Camp Companies Robotic Surgical Center at Mercy Hospital. By recruiting specialized surgeons and purchasing the most advanced robotic surgical equipment available, the DaVinci Xi Robot, Mercy will become a regional center of excellence in GYN oncological surgery and Urogynecological surgery.

Also included in the following pages is an article about Adelaide's Circle of Caring. This was formerly known as the Mercy Heritage Society, recognizing donors who have made a gift to Mercy in their estate plans. The Friends of Mercy Foundation Board of Directors recently approved a plan to revitalize this critically important donor group by honoring Adelaide Karpe who left 1,163 acres of farmland to Mercy Hospital in her estate more than 30 years. Read how you can become a charter member of this special group of legacy donors.

Our three main annual giving groups have been growing steadily and continue to provide an amazing source of support and revenue to the Friends of Mercy Foundation. More importantly, they are responsible for ensuring quality care is provided to our patients through the state of the art equipment and technology they fund with their cumulative annual giving. **Read how these remarkable men and women continue to provide life-saving and life-altering equipment and technology through their donations.**

Last year the Foundation Board of Directors approved two major purchases from our restricted oncology services fund. **Articles on the following pages will show how Mercy has invested in improving oncology services and how donors make it possible for us to purchase technology and equipment that is not found anywhere else in Kern County!**

On behalf of the Friends of Mercy Foundation staff and Board of Directors, thank you for your support and commitment to Mercy Hospitals. You are continuing the legacy of giving that began so many years ago when Mercy Hospital was established by a philanthropic act from William Howell, Sr. Knowing their community needed a private hospital, William Howell, Sr. and other community leaders recruited four brave Sisters of Mercy to begin their hospital ministry right here in Bakersfield. From that desire to help mankind, Mercy Hospital began its legacy of providing quality and compassionate care to the community that has supported it since 1910.

Blessings,

Stephanie Weber,
Vice President
of Philanthropy

Pat Campbell,
Immediate Past Chairman
Friends of Mercy Foundation
Board of Directors

BIG THINGS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES

Continued from cover...

want to do something that would honor her husband. She called the Foundation office and spoke with Stephanie Weber about how she could place Hiro's name on "those beautiful donor walls" in the lobby of Mercy Southwest. After she and Stephanie spoke, it was agreed that Espie would consider it, talk to her advisors, and make a decision if she could afford to make a gift to qualify as a Founders Circle member (a minimum of \$10,000). Espie was not a wealthy person. She was left enough to live comfortably, but she felt compelled to do something "big" that would leave a legacy for Hiro and express her love for him.

A few months later, Stephanie received a call from Espie telling her she was ready to make a gift. This is the part about "big things come in small packages". The

The petite and soft spoken Espie arrived in the Foundation office with a check for \$10,000 to honor her Hiro.

petite and soft spoke Espie arrived in the Foundation office with a check for \$10,000 to honor her Hiro. Espie met with Stephanie, the Med/Surg Nurse Manager and the Manager of the Lab (both had been part of Hiro's care) and shared her story about how she and Hiro met, their marriage, and most importantly, the kindness she felt from everyone who touched her beloved husband in his final days on earth. **The pride in Espie's eyes when she handed over**

her check was what the Friends of Mercy Foundation is all about – people expressing gratitude for care they or their loved one received from our caregivers. We may have shown Hiro and Espie kindness, but her giving expressed the purest form of kindness and will be treasured for years to come.

COMING SOON: THE S.A. CAMP COMPANIES ROBOTIC SURGICAL CENTER AT MERCY HOSPITAL



The Friends of Mercy Foundation thanks the S.A. Camp Companies for their generous leadership gift to the S.A. Camp Companies Robotic Surgical Center Coming to Mercy Hospital Fall 2017.

No one wants to hear the diagnosis of cancer, but Mercy Hospital wants to provide the best care possible to ensure a full recovery. In addition to

the only Inpatient Cancer Unit in Kern County, and other advanced technologies such as the only Endoscopic Ultrasound Unit between Los Angeles and Fresno, Mercy is enhancing its oncology service line by expanding the specialty of gynecological oncology surgery and starting urogynecological surgery using the most advanced robotic surgical equipment available – the Da Vinci Xi. The aggressive recruitment of highly trained surgeons, coupled with this equipment, will make Mercy Hospital a Regional Center of Excellence for gynecologic and urogynecological malignancies. **This will allow patients to receive state of the art care with shorter surgical time, faster recovery and better outcomes – all while remaining close to their friends and families.** This is what our mothers, sisters, aunts, daughters and community deserves.

If you are interested in contributing to the S.A. Camp Companies Robotic Surgical Center at Mercy Hospital, please call our office at 661-663-6700 or go to our website at www.SupportFriendsofMercy.org and click on the "What We Support" tab for a full copy of the fundraising brochure.

FRIENDS OF MERCY FOUNDATION

2017-2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Vice Chair



Catherine Gay
Secretary



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Mikie Hay
Randy Richardson
Jim Weddle
Joe Ziemann

2017 ANNUAL FOUNDATION & HOSPITAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS DINNER

On September 11, 2017, the Friends of Mercy Foundation hosted the Annual Foundation & Hospital Board of Directors dinner at the beautiful walking park located at Mercy Hospital Southwest.

This dinner was extra special as it honored Vice President of Philanthropy Stephanie Weber, who will be retiring this fall after 28 years of dedication to the Foundation. It was our privilege to welcome Simona Dulcich, Joe Hay, Carolyn Pandol and Katie Werdel to the Foundation board to help further our fundraising efforts supporting Mercy Hospitals. Each of them brings a unique and important skill to the Foundation board and we are honored to work with them.

Additionally, we were able to honor outgoing board member Pat Campbell, who graciously served the Foundation for 14 years. She answered every call, came to the office at a moment's notice and participated in nearly every committee, task force and board meetings. Pat was not only a volunteer but an "advocate", sparing no words when talking to someone about her love for Mercy and why she supports the Friends of Mercy Foundation. Our deepest gratitude to you Pat for your commitment to the Foundation.

After 28 years, Stephanie Weber will be retiring from the Foundation. She will be greatly missed by our staff and donors. Please read her farewell letter located on the back cover.



Bruce Peters, Mike Campbell, Pat Campbell & Stephanie Weber



Mike Burger, Vicki Burger, Sharon Bush & Bill Bush



Jack Pandol, Carolyn Pandol, Catherine Gay, Jimmy Yee & Patti Yee

◀ David Gay & Lorie Kreiser

LEAVING YOUR LEGACY



Become a Charter Member of Adelaide's Circle of Caring



Adelaide Karpe's relationship with Mercy Hospital began in the 1970s when her critically ill husband, Arthur, was being cared for by compassionate nurses including Sister Marion Joseph, who was also a hospital administrator. **Eternally grateful for the care her husband received, Adelaide would hold Mercy dear to her heart until her death in 1979 when the hospital received a bequest from her of an 1,166-acre ranch.**

Almost forty years later Karpe Ranch, which is leased as farmland, continues to fund vital Mercy Hospital projects including state-of-the-art technology and equipment as well as outreach services provided to the poor by Mercy's Department of Special Needs and Community Outreach.

Like Adelaide, you too can leave a legacy of giving by remembering Mercy in your own estate plans.

The Friends of Mercy Foundation has unveiled a program to help ensure that Mercy Hospitals have the resources to continue to provide quality, compassionate healthcare to our community for

The Friends of Mercy Foundation is grateful to the following individuals who have named Mercy in their estate plans:

Mildred Ablint
Robert Abramst
Mary Abrunst
Emily Bidart†
Betty Bidart†
Bill and Sharon Bush
Pat Durando Campbell
Dolores F.† and Victor S. Cerrot
Phillips Dunford, MD†
Ray Eyherabide†
Frank Ghezzi
Toni Harper Dougherty
Mrs. H. S. Herron†
Mary Hoskins†
Jimmie J.† and Marjorie Icardot
Charles Kamensky†
Adelaide R. Karpet
Judy Michelt† and Chuck Michelt
Katharine Mitchell†
Vivian Niskanen†
Dorothy Parra†
Mr. † and Mrs. † Robert A. Potter
Joan S. Pracy†
Dr. John† and Alice Vaughtan†
Florence Ziemann

many years to come, just as Adelaide's generous gift has done. **Adelaide's Circle of Caring** (formerly known as the Mercy Heritage Society) was established as a way to honor Adelaide Karpe's generous gift and recognize donors who have remembered Mercy with a bequest or through a planned gift.

We invite anyone interested in creating your own legacy to become a charter member of Adelaide's Circle of Caring. It is a good program for donors, and it is a good program for the Mercy Hospitals' strong and promising future.

Members of Adelaide's Circle of Caring will be recognized in all of our mailings (with your permission) and will be honored at an annual Adelaide's Circle of Caring luncheon.

Please contact the Friends of Mercy Foundation at FriendsofMercy@dignityhealth.org or call (661) 663-6700 if you are interested in a no obligation consultation on planned giving, including options that can provide you with lifetime income and tax savings. To learn more about Adelaide's Circle of Caring visit www.SupportFriendsofMercy.org.

COMMITMENT TO ONCOLOGY

Friends of Mercy Foundation funds equipment to improve early detection of breast, pancreatic and stomach cancers

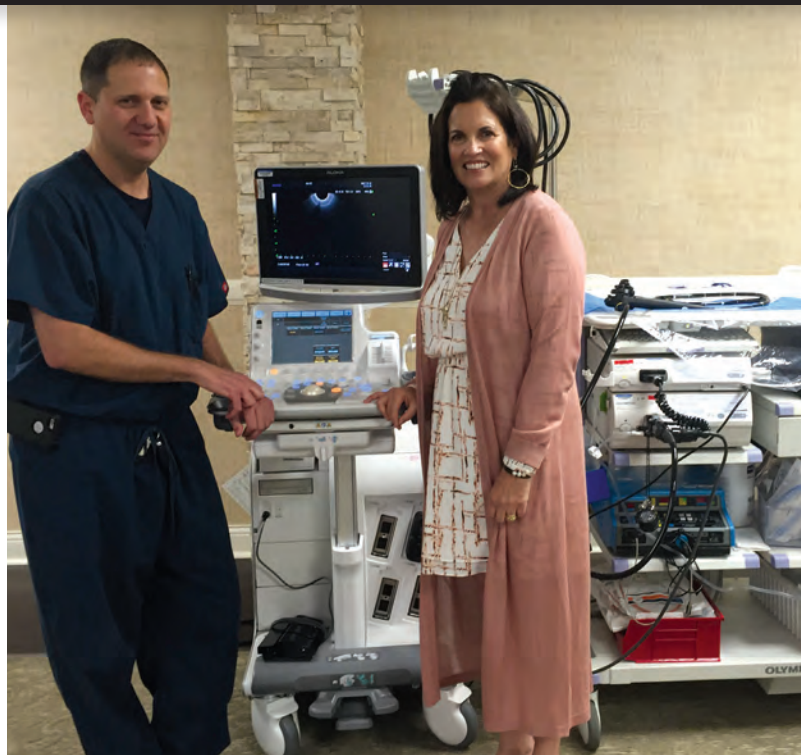
Mercy Hospitals is committed to staying on the cutting edge when it comes to technology, expertise, and equipment. As the only hospital in Kern County with an inpatient cancer unit, we understand the unique care needed of oncology patients from diagnosis to treatment and on their path to recovery.

Last year the Friends of Mercy Foundation proudly allocated more than \$500,000 from its restricted Oncology Services fund to purchase a cancer detecting Endoscopic Ultrasound Machine for the Gastroenterology Department at Mercy Hospital Downtown and 3D digital Breast Tomosynthesis for the Women's Imaging Center at Mercy Southwest.

Endoscopic Ultrasound Machine

An Endoscopic Ultrasound Machine (EUS) is a cancer-detecting unit administered endoscopically, utilizing a small transducer located at the tip of the scope. **One of the greatest benefits of using this machine versus a traditional ultrasound is that, in EUS, our physicians are better able to detect cancerous masses that might not otherwise show up using the external method.** Much like an x-ray, the EUS is able to detect masses from inside organs. For pancreatic tumors, EUS can also be a therapeutic tool. For example, medication can be injected into the celiac ganglion (mass of nerve tissue in the upper abdomen) to alleviate pain associated with pancreatic cancer.

The endoscopic ultrasound allows Mercy's physicians to detect cancers more quickly due to improved image quality. **"This equipment has vastly improved our ability of early detection, diagnosis, and staging of cancers of the stomach and pancreas,"** states Dr. Robin Matuk, Gastroenterologist at Mercy Hospital. The ability to see each image in high definition allows our physicians to make a better determination as to what extent treatment needs to take place, as well as how much of the area is affected.



Dr. Robin Matuk and Stephanie Weber with the Endoscopic Ultrasound

3D digital Breast Tomosynthesis

Digital Breast Tomosynthesis (DBT) is a non-invasive, three-dimensional imaging technique for the detection and diagnosis of breast cancer. DBT uses a low-dose, short x-ray sweep to project images that are processed electronically to reconstruct a three-dimensional representation of the entire breast.

Benefits of 3D Breast Tomosynthesis include:

- **Detection of small breast cancers that digital mammograms may miss**
- **Greater accuracy in pinpointing size, shape, and location**
- **Fewer unnecessary biopsies or additional tests**
- **Greater likelihood of detecting multiple breast tumors**
- **Clearer images of dense breast tissue**
- **Improved breast cancer detection rates, especially invasive cancers, at earlier stages when they are more treatable**

The Friends of Mercy Foundation is grateful to our donors that have made a gift in support of oncology services. To support the Friends of Mercy Foundation's commitment to oncology services call (661) 663-6700 or visit www.SupportFriendsofMercy.org.

LEGACY CIRCLE AT MERCY



Some of the 2017 Legacy Circle members

Mercy Hospital was established with a philanthropic act more than 107 years ago. Today, that legacy of giving continues with the Legacy Circle at Mercy, a group comprised of a new generation of philanthropists.

Since being established in 2013, the Legacy Circle at Mercy has raised \$87,500 in support of equipment and technology for Mercy Hospitals. This year's membership of 55 voted to use their cumulative gift of \$27,500 to fund the purchase of a state-of-the-art perinatal ultrasound. The unit will provide the best care to mothers experiencing complicated or high-risk pregnancies. Using advanced imagery, this ultrasound will allow a perinatologist to diagnosis any potential disorders the fetus may have in the womb during all trimesters of pregnancy. A key feature of this equipment allows images to be securely stored online, giving physicians the ability to view them from essentially anywhere at any time.

This equipment is an essential component to developing the Family Birth Center at Mercy Southwest into a level II birth center, providing care for high-risk antepartum, intrapartum and post-partum conditions. This level of Birth Center would be the first of its kind in Bakersfield.

If you are interested in joining like-minded, young philanthropists making an impact on patient care, please consider becoming a member of the Legacy Circle at Mercy by calling (661) 663-6700 or logging on to www.SupportFriendsofMercy.org.

2017 Membership

Ashley Anchordoquy*	Sofie Hay, Ph.D.
Mike Anchordoquy*	Connie Hayes
Sean Andrew	Loren Henderson
Yessica Avancena	Jill Houchin
Peter Bajwa	Morgan Houchin
Alex Balfour*	Jennifer King*
Adam Belter	Valerie Lallo
Stephanie Bouey	Anthony McNinch
Amanda Brock	Lauren McNinch
Chad Brock	Jessica Newton-Smith
Cindy Bush	Diane Nieblas
K. Samantha Cardenas	Katie Olcott
Anna Carrillo	Joe Peters
Justin Cave	Mystie Peters
Cayla Craft	Courtney Rayne
Vin Dang, O.D.	Aytom Salomon
Andreas Dauner	Farhan Shah, M.D.
Misty De La Torre*	Kristina Sinclair
Toni Harper Dougherty*	Tina Stout
Mark Durando	Katherine Thomas, M.D.
Igor Garcia-Pacheco, M.D.	Joe Trovato
Ralph Garcia-Pacheco, M.D.	Joel Turrubiates
Emily Gay*	Brandie Vigil
Francisco Gomez	Kristin Weber*
Michael Haddad	Joe Whittington
Michael Hansen	Diana Wolf
George Hay	Marcus Wolf
Joe Hay*	

**Charter Members*



WILLIAM HOWELL CENTURY CLUB

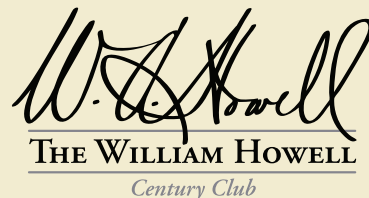


Philanthropic Men Continue William Howell, Sr.'s Legacy of Giving

This annual giving group was established in 2010 as a way to honor one of Mercy's first benefactors, Mr. William Howell Sr. Each year members are given the unique opportunity to tour parts of the hospital not normally seen by the general public, receive interactive demonstrations of the latest technology at Mercy and hear first-hand from physicians who provide care to our patients.

The 109 members of the 2016/2017 William Howell Century Club voted to use their cumulative gift of \$110,000 to fund new ultrasound technology for Mercy's PICC Line and Surgery departments. The PICC line ultrasounds will allow our caregivers to accurately visualize vessels, track needle trajectory and see the final tip location of PICC lines placed in our patients requiring long-term antibiotics or continuous blood draws. The ultrasound for the surgery department will allow anesthesiologists to accurately guide needles when injecting numbing block while avoiding nerves resulting in fewer side effects and reduction in post-surgical pain.

If you would like to join this group of philanthropic men please contact us at (661) 663-6700 or visit www.SupportFriendsofMercy.org.



2016-2017 Membership

Hal Aaron	Kamalnath Iyer, MD
Alpha J. Anders, MD	Tom Jamieson*
Steve Anderson	Ray Karpe*
Jeff Andrew*	Gurvir Khurana, MD
Kevin Andrew*	Geoffrey King
Robert Anspach*	Hemmal Kothary, MD
Tim Banks, II	Wayne Kress
Antonio Beccari*	John P. Lake
Michael Beckwith*	Ron Lallo
Thomas Berry, DDS	Bill Lazzerini
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Scott Black	George Martin
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Greg Braun	Angelo Mazzei
Mike Burger	Livio Mazzei
Les Burson, MD	Sean McNally
William Bush*	Jarrad Merriman, MD
Javier Bustamante, MD*	Donald Montano, DDS*
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Mike Campbell*	Joe Nahama
George Cappello*	Daniel Newton
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Arnold Cattani*	David Norris
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Steve Chen	Andrew Pederson
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Donald Collins	Lloyd Plank*
Michael Cooper	Dick Porter*
Alfred Coppola, Jr., MD*	William Reyneveld
Mark Costa	Randy Richardson*
Steve Del Papa*	Joseph Roberts*
Tunde Deru	Chas Sanders
Kirit Desai, MD	Bob Severs*
Vipul Dev, MD	Robert Sheldon, MD*
William DiNicola, MD*	David Shepherd
David C. Dougherty, MD*	Joe Smith, MD
Gordon Downs	David Stanley
Brian Ezell	Sandys Tang, MD
William Farr, MD*	Tim Terrio
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Ed Hopple*	Ray Dezember*
Donald Houchin	Warren Haupt
Adam Icardo	
Gary Icardo*	

*Charter Members

CATHERINE MCAULEY SOCIETY

Supporting Mercy Hospitals Since 2005



November 2017 will mark the 12th anniversary of the Catherine McAuley Society, a women's annual philanthropic group of the Friends of Mercy Foundation. Since this group's founding in 2005, more than \$1,284,000 has been raised in support of equipment and technology at Mercy Hospitals including, but not limited to, a

Breast MRI to assist with the early detection of breast cancer; a 4D Echocardiogram used in the diagnosis of heart disease; and a state-of-the-art ultrasound used to detect cancerous tumors, and heart defects in babies.

Thanks to the generosity of the 2016-2017 Catherine McAuley Society members, Mercy Hospital has new cancer detecting technology in the form of the Blue Light Cystoscopy System. This unit is the newest cystoscopic technology that provides enhanced capabilities for diagnosis and management of non-muscle invasive bladder cancer. The addition of this piece of equipment to our oncology service line makes Mercy the only hospital between Los Angeles and Fresno to have this potentially life-saving technology.

If you would like to join this special group of philanthropic women and share the joy of giving, contact the Friends of Mercy Foundation at (661) 663-6700 or log on to www.SupportFriendsofMercy.org.



2016-2017 Membership

Cherie Aaron	Robin Mangarin-Scott
Maureen Andrew	Dana Matuk
Antonette S. Anich*	Mary Mazzei*
Marcelle Ansolabehere*	Ronda Mazzei
Rosemary Anspach*	Louise McCarthy
Sandy Banducci*	Betsy McMurtrey
Kay Beavers	Theresa McNally
Kathryn Bernardino	Cindy Meek
Mary Berry	Mary Ann Mulkay
Edith Bianco	Beth Nahama
Lynda Bittleston	Lily Nahama
Tricia Bland	Marjorie Nixon
Michele Borel	Cheryl Palla
Doreen Boylan-Abrams*	Beth Pandol
Ann Braun	Carolyn Pandol
Brenda Brown	Mona Pankey*
Alissa Buckey*	Laura Pascoe
Vicki Burger	Barbara Patrick
Sharon Bush*	Patty Plank*
Beverly Camp	Becky Porter
Pat Campbell*	Judith Price
Debbie Cappello*	Sandra Reider
Naida Carlton	Mary C. Richardson
Patti Carroll*	Monique Roberts
Sylvia Cattani*	Linda Rojas
Susan Cerri-Buck	Arlene J. Roland
Jennice Cerrina	Chris Romanini
Julie Cesare	Erika Romanini
Becky Clark	Alexis Roy
Terri Collins	Barbara Sandrini*
Janet Craft	Florence Schroeder*
Kathy Crettol	Joellyn Schroeder
Sarah Crowley	Sandi Shepherd
Jennifer Culbertson	Juliet Smith
Linda Dane	Karen Stanley
Joan DeZember*	Sherry Stone
Fern DiNicola*	Sheryl Stuhr
Joyce Downs	Mora Tang
Jennifer B. Drake	Terry Thelen
Adel Durando*	Mary Lou Thomson
Mesha Elliott	Donna Tirp
Cherilee Ezell	Donna Toretta
Kathy Fahy	Brooke Trybul
Gina Fanucchi	Jane Uhalt*
Judith Fanucchi	Marilynn Unruh
Christine Farr	Kristin Varner
Kimberly Fiorini	Joan Wallace
Melissa Fortune	Lynn Ward
Sandra Foster	Stephanie Weber*
Debbie Fowler	Evelyn Weddle*
Marilyn H. Fowler	Kathy Wells
Judy Franconi*	Katie Werdel
Jan Froehlich	Sue Williams
Sheila Fry	Agnes Wu, MD
Mary Gamboni	Angela Wyatt
Catherine Gay	Patty Young
Cynthia Giumarra	Jennifer Zahry
Marcia Giumarra	Dominique Zaninovich
Keri Gless	Katy Zaninovich
Jan Glinn	Tammie Zaninovich*
Yolanda Griffiths*	Theo Zaninovich
Susan Hamilton	
Brenda Haskell	Honorary Members
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Jane Haupt	Sister Sherry Dolan
Mikie Hay*	Sister Josie Gonzales*
Elizabeth Hedden	Sister Judy Morasci*
Lauren Helper	Sister Mary Hope Sanchez
Ann Hine	Jane Toller*
Beth Hoffmann	
Patricia Houchin	Memorial Members
Debbie Hull*	Patty Bass
Christine Icardo	Bebe Burke
Cynthia Icardo*	Frankie Berchtold
Nancy H. K. Johnson	Jacqueline Coppola
Cindy Jones	Patricia Eagleson*
Germaine Kimm	Yolanda Griffiths*
Lisa King	Patty Plank*
Karen Krausse-Roesle	Margaret Philippe
Diane Lake*	Joan Pracy
Valerie Lallo	Ruth Ann Montgomery*
Dee Ann Lantz*	Judith Schwebel*
Marianne Laxague	Mary Lou Thomson
Mary Lewis	Caroline West
Lesa Mackessy	*Charter Members

27TH ANNUAL MERCY CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC



The 27th annual Mercy Charity Golf Classic broke previous event records with more than \$151,000 raised in support of The S.A. Camp Companies Robotic Surgical Center at Mercy Hospital.



Held on a beautiful Friday in June, golfers of all levels came out for a fun filled day of golf, food, contests and prizes. The morning began with golfers selecting their welcome gift of either a Titleist golf bag or a variety of golf accessories. Once on the course, the fun continued

as they tried their luck at the hole-in-one in hopes of winning a new mustang courtesy of Jim Burke Ford. All through tournament play, golfers stopped by the Bloody Mary and Mimosa Bars and the event favorite "BBQ with the Board" featuring Wood-Dale sausages and grilled pineapple. Post tournament, golfers enjoyed a delicious buffet lunch and kept their fingers crossed in hopes of winning one of the many great raffle prizes.

Thank you to our sponsors, raffle donors and golfers who participated in this year's tournament! The 28th annual Mercy Charity Golf Classic will take place on Friday, June 8, 2018 at Stockdale Country Club! If you would like to participate in next year's tournament contact the Friends of Mercy Foundation at (661) 663-6700.

Presenting Sponsor

- Comprehensive Blood and Cancer Center
Outsmarting Cancer

Masters Sponsor

- Nancy H.K. Johnson & Family
- Swinerton Builders, Cuningham Group & Devenney Group

Welcome Gift Sponsor

- SC Anderson Construction, Inc.

Program Sponsor

- Alpha J. Anders, M.D., FCCP
Comprehensive Pulmonary and Critical Care Associates

Tiger Sponsors

- Advanced Care Wellness
- Kern Radiology
- Mercy Orthopedic, Spine & Hand Center Physicians
- Premiere Anesthesia Medical Group
- Pinnacle Emergency Physicians of Bakersfield
- Sentinel Peak Resources

Nicklaus Sponsor

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- Clean Harbors Buttonwillow LLC
- Ron and Valerie Lallo/Lallo Investments
- Vanir Construction Management

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Comprehensive Pulmonary and Critical Care Associates

Putting Contest Sponsor

- Catherine & David Gay

Palmer Sponsors

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- California Fruit Depot
- Carney's Business Technology Center
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- Hoffman Hospice
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- Public Auction Bakersfield
- Serban Sound & Communications
- Staples Energy
- Total Landscape Maintenance
- Uma Varanasi, MD
- Wing Stop

Beverage Stop Sponsors

- Clifford & Brown
- Paul Dhanens Architect, Inc.

Raffle Sponsor

- Sharon & Bill Bush

Additional donors/sponsors on page 15.

FOUNDERS CIRCLE

The Friends of Mercy Foundation gives special recognition to its donors who have contributed a total of \$10,000 or more. We sincerely appreciate the support and generosity of our Founders Circle members listed on these pages.

FOUNDERS CIRCLE MEMBERS MOVE TO NEXT LEVEL OF GIVING

BENEFACTOR LEVEL

The following Founders Circle members have made gifts that qualify them for an individual glass tile at the Benefactor Level:
S.A. Camp Companies

PATRON LEVEL

The following Founders Circle members have made gifts that qualify them for an individual glass tile at the Patron Level:
The Laxague Family

SPONSOR LEVEL

The following Founders Circle members have made gifts that qualify them for an individual glass tile at the Sponsor Level:
Bruce Peters
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Uhalt

NEW MEMBERS

We are truly grateful to the following donors, who with their generous donations have recently become members of the Friends of Mercy Founders Circle:

Gary & Antonette Anich
Sandra M. Banducci
Michael & Vicki Burger
James and Beverly Camp
Catholic Health Association of the United States
Jim & Julie Cesare
Drs. Ramani & P. R. Chandrasekaran
Clean Harbors, Buttonwillow, LLC
Rey E. de Claro
Paul & Diane Dhanens
Gordon & Joyce Downs
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Fanucchi
Michael & Debbie Fowler
Marcia Giumarra
Tom & Beth Hoffmann
Louise McCarthy
Timothy & Theresa McNally
Cynthia M. Meek
Joe & Beth Nahama
Kevin & Laura Pascoe
Hiroshi and Esperanza Naito
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Romanini
Michael & Alexis Roy
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DEAR FRIENDS,

It is with mixed emotions that I write my farewell article to all of you who have so generously donated to the Friends of Mercy Foundation throughout my 28 year career. I am excited, yet a bit sad, to announce that I am retiring on November 3. For the past several months, I have reflected on the experiences I've enjoyed over my tenure. The ones that stand out the most are when donors share why they chose to make a philanthropic gift to Mercy. I heard how grateful they were for the care they, or someone they loved, received while a patient. Others told me that they gave because they believed in the healing ministry of Mercy and wanted to support its efforts in providing the kind of quality, compassionate care that our community needs and deserves. I also heard that our donors want to make an impact on the lives of those who need our services; they want to make sure that the hospital has the most state of the art equipment and technology available. Still others shared with me their desire to support our ministry of serving the poor. **In all cases, I was honored to hear their stories and privileged to steward their gifts.**

My career has given me the opportunity to see the abundant goodness in people. I've seen those with limited financial resources reach deep in their pockets to support a program or service offered here at Mercy. I've also seen those with tremendous wealth give generous gifts that have allowed us to reach new heights in healthcare delivery.

As I leave a career that has afforded me opportunities to see the best in people, **I want to thank you all for giving beyond your own desires to those whose faces you will never see, but whose lives will be touched by your generous heart.**

I wish you all abundant joy and good health.

In Gratitude,

Stephanie Weber
Vice President of Philanthropy