

Spring 2011

**Wishes  
into  
Reality**

## Catherine McAuley Society Funds \$115,000!

The Catherine McAuley Society met on March 23, 2011 at Stockdale Country Club to vote on what to fund with their combined gift of \$115,000. This society started with 54 members five years ago and today has 119 members. Since establishing the society, members have raised \$434,000 for various projects at Mercy Hospitals.



There were 3 proposals presented for funding and members chose to fund technology & equipment for the family birth center; specifically a Medfusion Syringe Pump Upgrade, 12 NeoPuffs, a HeartStart NICU Defibrillator, a Panda Infant Warmer and a SimBaby (used for educational training). These pieces of equipment can all be used immediately and will improve quality and allow the staff in the Birth Center to provide perfect care to our youngest patients.

## The Healing Garden - Unique to Kern County

The only hospital healing garden in Kern County is now complete at the Mercy Truxtun Campus. The garden was funded from a substantial gift from Diane Lake. She wanted to build a healing garden to honor her daughter, Catherine Lake, who had been treated and cared for during her fight with cancer at the Florence Wheeler Cancer Center. Mrs. Lake has been a generous benefactor of Mercy Hospitals over the past several years, including charter membership in the Catherine McAuley Society.

The garden location was chosen because of its accessibility to patients and their families, staff, physicians, volunteers, and the public. It will serve as a passageway from the parking lot to the hospital entrance for anyone who wishes to walk through it. It is intended to be a quiet and reflective place.



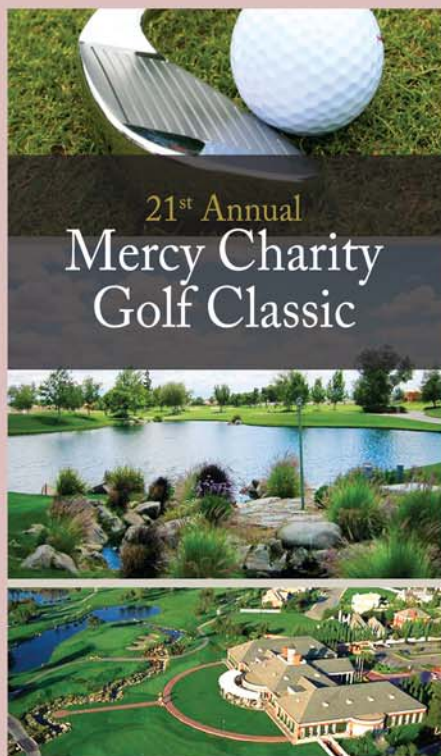
Pictured on the right:  
Stephanie Weber, Executive Director &  
George Cappello, Board Chair

**Recently, the Friends of Mercy Foundation has funded \$1,061,328 for the following projects:**

1. Visualization Software for the Stroke Center
2. Bed Surfaces for 2W and 3W
3. Specialized Bed Surfaces for ICU
4. Two Urinalysis Machines
5. Four Hematology Analyzers
6. Two Back-up Chemistry Analyzers
7. SimBaby (Baby simulator)
8. Panda Infant Warmer
9. NICU Defibrillator
10. Neo-Puffs for NICU
11. Software to upgrade Syringe Pumps in NICU
12. The Healing Garden
13. Cancer Center Software
14. Med/Surg Remodel

**This funding came from the Catherine McAuley Society, William Howell Century Club, Mercy Auxiliary, private donors and unrestricted funds held within the Friends of Mercy Foundation.**





## 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Mercy Charity Golf Classic

The **21st Annual Mercy Charity Golf Classic** is Monday, June 6th at Seven Oaks Country Club. This year's tournament will feature several new additions as well as all the traditions that make it a fun event!

Since 1990, we have raised more than \$1,000,000 to fund programs and services at Mercy Hospital; most notably The Florence R. Wheeler Cancer Center. Once again tournament proceeds will support the Wheeler Cancer Center, the only hospital-based radiation therapy center in Kern County. This is the Foundation's only special event and our goal is to make this year the most successful to date.

We are actively seeking sponsorships. If you are interested or have a potential sponsor, please let us know at 663-6700!

## The William Howell Century Club

At their February meeting, members had an opportunity to tour our Interventional Radiology Suite with Dr. Art Fontaine, Sam Gentry, & Nadim Saway. The tour showed what treatment options are available to treat stroke patients through highly specialized procedures utilizing the Merci and Penumbra devices. With their combined gift of \$52,000, the club voted to purchase new Advanced Visualization Software for our CT Scanners to enable full CT-profusion at both campuses that will support Mercy's stroke program.



Pictured above: William Howell, Sr..  
Mercy's first major benefactor  
with his son.

Special Thanks to the following who made our William Howell event a success: Dr. Art Fontaine & Sam Gentry for the presentation in the Interventional Radiology Suite; George Cappello, Bruce Haupt, Russell Judd, Jeremy Zoch & Ron Pimentel for presenting and being charter members in the William Howell Century Club; Dr. Srivastava and Colleen Goodman for coordinating the PSA testing; Josephina Robles, Tillie Perez & Sean Kenny for the Community Wellness Screening; Fred Pruitt, Danyell Hassman, Lucas Migneault & Nicholas Crynock for your help. Thank you!

One of the recipients of this year's **Sister Phyllis Hughes Grants** (a grants program administered by the Friends of Mercy Foundation) was St. John Missionary Baptist Church. Renee Thomas, a nurse at Mercy Southwest saw the email soliciting for nominations and sponsored the church's grant proposal. Renee has been an active member of the congregation for over 23 years and leads the Health and Fitness ministry. The church will expand their health fair and be able to purchase an Automatic External Defibrillator. Renee said she "had a calling to teach and show people how to be healthy." She has created mini lectures that address many of the high-risk conditions that face the congregation of 3,500. If you are interested in sponsoring an organization please call the Foundation at (661) 663-6700 to see if you qualify.



A special thank you to **Mary Culp** whose donation was the most generous of this year's Spirit of Giving Campaign. Her portion contributed to the purchase of a regular bed surface which will keep patients comfortable and safe for many years to come. In addition to a new surface her funds also purchased a number of hygiene kits for the Homemaker Care Program.

