

The Benevolent Voice

The Borgess Foundation newsletter connecting with friends and employees of Borgess Health.

Spring 2007

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BORGESS
Foundation



The Benevolent Voice is a regular publication of the Borgess Foundation, the philanthropic organization dedicated to supporting Borgess Health. We welcome your opinions and input regarding this publication. Please address all correspondence to:

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Borgess Physicians Honor and Recognize the Legacy of Dr. August "Gus" Roty, Jr.

Dr. August "Gus" Roty, Jr. was a gifted surgeon, great teacher and esteemed colleague. Even more than that, he truly knew how to care for people. The devotion he showed to his patients and the dignity he used when treating them revealed his warm and loving nature. These words were shared at Dr. Roty's eulogy shortly after his death in May 2004. Today, Dr. Roty's caring legacy continues at Borgess Medical Center through the work of his physician colleagues and the recent dedication of Borgess Medical Center's Outpatient Surgery Center in his memory. The dedication was made possible through generous contributions from Borgess physicians, Borgess Health and Foundation Boards, and friends of the Roty family through the Borgess Foundation's *Habitat for Healing* Campaign.

Over 150 physicians, board members, friends, staff and members of the Roty family witnessed the unveiling of a special plaque honoring the memory and life of Dr. Roty. Chris Roty thanked the gathering on behalf of the Roty family for memorializing his father in this special way. He acknowledged that his father "loved Borgess and that he would be humbled by the special honor and recognition."

Daniel Stewart, MD, former Borgess Chief of Staff and student of Dr. Roty's, shared how he and many of his colleagues were fortunate to have such a gifted surgeon and teacher as their mentor. "I am a better surgeon because



Dr. Roty's son, Chris (left), helps Dr. Daniel Stewart unveil the plaque honoring his father's life.

of what I learned from Dr. Roty," said Dr. Stewart. "It was an honor for me to lead the physician component of this campaign knowing that we were honoring Gus at the same time."

As a result of Dr. Stewart's leadership and the support of many of his physician colleagues, Borgess physicians committed over \$800,000 (exceeding their \$500,000 goal) to the *Habitat for Healing Campaign*. "The proceeds from this campaign will benefit all physicians because it will support our efforts to build an even stronger workplace," Dr. Stewart added. "Gus would have liked us coming together like this to benefit Borgess and the patients that we serve."

Dr. Stewart recruited a number of physician volunteers to help promote and support the Borgess Foundation campaign. "Our physicians showed tremendous leadership

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Dear Friends and Colleagues:



Spring is here, marking a time of more sunshine, warmth and activity. Spring reminds me of how we are warmed and energized by your many gifts of support, all of which translate into Borgess providing greater access to the highest quality healthcare in southwestern Michigan.

In this issue of the *Benevolent Voice*, spring's sunshine illuminates how our physicians, through philanthropy, honored the caring legacy of one of our former colleagues. We share how one family is healing the wounds caused by mental illness, with the help of Borgess Behavioral Medicine Services—and how they plan to help others along the way. We're also very proud to shine a spotlight on our nurses who play a critical role in our ability to provide the best patient experiences. Through the inaugural *Friends of Borgess Nursing* awards dinner, we will kick-off the Borgess Foundation's efforts to establish a Nursing Endowment Fund to recognize stellar Borgess nurses and support additional training and certification for nurses throughout the year.

Also, be sure to read the profiles about two members of our dedicated Board of Trustees and help us salute Mary Joan Walsh, SSJ, Borgess Vice President of Mission Integration, who will retire from years of devoted service to Borgess Health.

Finally, we hope you will also be inspired by the article that highlights the expansion of the Faith Community Nursing Program through Borgess Visiting Nurse & Hospice. Important programs like the Faith Community Nursing Program would not be as successful, inspirational and operational without loyal community support. I hope you enjoy our spring update, and as always, we thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,



Tony McDonnell, Executive Director
Borgess Foundation

P.S. I've got my ticket for the *Friends of Borgess Nursing* awards inaugural dinner event, set for May 8 at the Rose Street Market in Kalamazoo. Please join us by calling The Professionals, who are accepting reservations for this event, at 269.226.8135. Select Option 1 for event and ticket information.

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Sisters of St. Joseph

Borgess Health Grateful for Leadership of Mary Joan Walsh, SSJ



Mary Joan Walsh, SSJ, with Paul Spaude, President & CEO, Borgess Health

For many years, she's been a familiar professional at the forefront of significant growth and advancement at Borgess Health. As of June 30, 2007, Mary Joan Walsh, SSJ, will retire. However, her spiritual support, quiet dedication and leadership will continue to focus on Borgess Health.

"I will continue to serve on the Ascension Health Board of Trustees," she states. "I plan to continue the role I've enjoyed on that board for the past eight years." Sister Mary Joan was a member of the charter committee connecting the Sisters of St. Joseph of Nazareth and the Daughters of Charity in forming Ascension Health in 1999. "As a whole, it's been a good move and the Sisters of Saint Joseph have supported this effort as a way of

continuing and strengthening our original mission of Catholic health care," she adds.

"It's been challenging to combine the cultures and to be part of a larger health care system. Ultimately, we have created a strong, state-of-the-art health care system with an emphasis on quality and patient safety. At the same time, we carry on the spirituality in our health ministries, which is the core of the work started when the Sisters first founded Borgess in 1889."

Sister Mary Joan joined Borgess in 1995 as Corporate Ombudsman for Borgess Medical Center and for the past decade, she has served as Vice President of Mission Integration for Borgess Health. In addition, she has been an influential member of the

Borgess-Lee Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees since 1989 and previously served as a Trustee for Borgess-Pipp Hospital.

"With her input, Sister Mary Joan has helped make Borgess a stronger and more compassionate health ministry," said Paul Spaude, President & CEO, Borgess Health. "She has worked diligently in collaboration with other members of the administration and she will be very much missed by all of our associates."

Marking their outstanding heritage of servant leadership, the Sisters of St. Joseph have been active in many aspects of Borgess Health since they founded the hospital, generously giving of their time, talents and funds to help make Borgess Health what it is today. Scores of Sisters have worked as professionals, volunteers and fundraisers to grow and strengthen the Borgess mission over the years. The Sisters have always maintained a representative on the Borgess Health Board, with that role currently filled by Suzanne Zieske, SSJ.

As for her retirement, Sister Mary Joan said, "I will embrace whatever new duties and opportunities come my way in our congregation. I plan to wait to see what the needs are and where I can continue to serve."

Borgess Visiting Nurse & Hospice

Grant Support Enables Faith Community Nurses to Move Forward with Hispanic Outreach Project

At Borgess, spiritual values constitute the core of our uniqueness in health care. Since 1995, Borgess Health has sponsored a Faith Community (Parish) Nursing outreach in the community. Faith Community Nurses, also known as Parish Nurses, help heal more than peoples' bodies. They help soothe souls and troubled minds as well.

In August of 2006, the inaugural Borgess-sponsored Basic Faith Community Nursing Preparation class of 16 graduates began serving within their respective churches and communities, which ranged from Wayland to Sturgis and from Battle Creek to Benton Harbor. These qualified, caring professionals reach out to individuals, groups, the

congregation as a whole, and the community it serves with a ministry of health, healing and wholeness. Over the past year, 1,975 hours of Faith Community Nurse consultation and support have been provided without charge to 23 area churches. The Faith Community Nurse serves as a member of a congregation's pastoral staff in the role of health and spiritual advisor, health educator, personal health counselor, health advocate, a source of information and referral to community resources, and developer and facilitator of volunteers and support groups.

Housed within and supported by Borgess Visiting Nurse & Hospice, the Faith Community Nursing program mirrors the Borgess Health

commitment to creating servant leaders in an organizational culture that is values-based, integrating a spiritual heritage with contemporary standards of professional excellence. Like Borgess Visiting Nurse & Hospice, the Faith Community Nursing Program also serves the counties of Allegan, Barry, Berrien, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph and Van Buren.

The Faith Community Nursing Program has also recently expanded its collaborative efforts with the Hispanic Caring Network Outreach Project. This community collaborative seeks to apply Catholic Family Services' very successful Caring Network Mother-Friend Program to an underserved population. The Hispanic Outreach Project seeks to help pregnant women with limited English proficiency access essential prenatal healthcare and birthing services more easily. Funded in part by a generous \$5,000 grant from the Young Women for Change (a Kalamazoo program of the Michigan Women's Foundation), the project is recruiting bilingual Hispanic mothers to be friends and motherhood mentors for pregnant Hispanic women.

Gifts to the Borgess Foundation, along with grants such as the one from the Michigan Women's Foundation, help Borgess Health to co-sponsor these life-changing projects.



Inaugural class graduates of Borgess-sponsored Basic Faith Community Nursing Preparation

Borgess Foundation

Introducing Our Board of Trustees

The Borgess Foundation would like to recognize and highlight two outstanding members of our Board of Trustees—Shirley Larkins and James Devlin. Both individuals have provided long-term, invaluable leadership to Borgess Health.

Shirley A. Larkins, First Vice President, Comerica Bank



Ms. Larkins first joined the Foundation board in 2003, and has brought with her over 20 years of financial experience at Comerica Bank. At Comerica, she is also Group Manager for West Michigan Private Banking. In addition, she has served in various capacities on several Borgess boards since 1995. Larkins, who chairs the Borgess Foundation Investment Committee, has always been active in community fundraising activities, including efforts for the Kalamazoo Symphony, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Greater Kalamazoo United Way and the YWCA Domestic assault program.

Larkins received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from California State Polytechnic University in Pomona. When she is not investing her time and talents at Comerica or helping the Borgess Foundation efforts, you'll find Shirley enjoying a good book, embroiled in the latest culinary creations or bringing new beauty to life in her gardens. She and her husband, Darrell, have two grown children and reside in Texas Township.

James L. Devlin, Vice President and General Manager, Green Bay Packaging



Mr. Devlin was appointed to the Borgess Foundation board in 2003 and has loyally served as an integral part of Borgess boards and committees since 1993. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in History and Political Science from the University of Michigan and a Master's in Public Administration from George Washington University. Devlin began his career with Green Bay Packaging in 1981 and served as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, instructing midshipmen in seamanship and navigation at the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland.

Along with his extensive business expertise and service to Borgess Health entities and the Foundation, Devlin has also shared his talents with the Greater Kalamazoo United Way, Northside Business Association, Kalamazoo Labor-Management Committee, Goodwill Industries, and the Kalamazoo Regional Chamber of Commerce Manufacturing Council.

He and his wife, Barbara, live in Portage and have three adult children.

The Borgess Foundation is grateful for the long-standing, devoted service provided by Shirley, Jim, and all of our Borgess Foundation Trustees and volunteers.

Donors Help Fund Excellence

Borgess Medical Center was named one of the nation's 100 Top Hospitals® for cardiovascular care by Solucient®, a Thomson healthcare business. The annual Solucient award objectively measures performance on key criteria at the nation's top performing acute-care hospitals. This is the third time BMC has received this award. Hundreds of Borgess professionals make us a national cardiac care leader," said Paul Spaude, President & CEO, Borgess Health. "I want to thank these devoted individuals who make our service outstanding and also thank patients who have entrusted Borgess with their heart care." Borgess Foundation Executive Director Tony McDonnell adds, "Ongoing support from our donors and the community funds the margin of excellence signified by these awards."

Awards Borgess received in 2006 include:

- For the third consecutive year, Borgess Health has been named as one of West Michigan's 101 Best & Brightest Companies to Work For by the Michigan Business & Professional Association.
- Borgess Medical Center again earned several Michigan Peer Review Organization (MPRO) Governor's Awards of Excellence, including the Governor's Award for Improving Care in the Emergency Department Setting for Acute Myocardial Infarction.
- For the sixth straight year, Borgess Health has been named to the list of Top 100 U.S. Integrated Healthcare Networks (IHN 100).

Borgess Health

May 8 Awards Dinner Honors Nursing Excellence

The first *Friends of Borgess Nursing* award endowment dinner will be held on May 8 at Rose Street Market. It will honor Borgess nursing excellence and leadership. Nominations were gathered by a committee of active nurses and nurse alumni who created this endowment fund through the Borgess Foundation to support training, education, research and recognition for Borgess nurses. Honorary chairperson of the Committee and long-time nurse advocate is Betty Veenhuis, SSJ. The following will be awarded at the inaugural *Friends of Borgess Nursing* award dinner:

- **Sisters of St. Joseph Legacy Award**—to recognize a retired Borgess Health RN who has raised the bar for excellence in nursing practice
- **Dr. Phyllis Nicolaou Leadership Award**—to recognize a nurse leader who possesses extraordinary passion, creativity and dedication
- **Rising Star**—to recognize an RN early in her/his career who exceeds expectations of her/his current role
- **Excellence in Clinical Practice**—to recognize excellence in clinical practice by an experienced RN

The *Friends of Borgess Nursing* will also present an award for advanced education and training for a nurse to further his or her specialty.



Betty Veenhuis, SSJ, Patient Visitation & Values Liaison, recently recognized as the 23rd recipient of the YWCA Lifetime Women of Achievement Award. "I am honored to chair this event recognizing the long-standing service of nursing care at Borgess Health. This endowment will help to assist our nurses with obtaining advanced specialty credentialing."

The active nurses and nurse alumni and committee is promoting sponsorships and ticket sales for the May event to establish initial funding for the endowment. In addition to ticket sales, corporate sponsorships are available. According to Committee Co-Chair, Jill Eldred, MPA, VP, Borgess Regional & Extended Healthcare Services, "Today's Borgess nurses all share their dedication to providing committed, comprehensive care to meet the needs of every patient." Along with Eldred,

the effort is co-chaired by Lois Van Donselaar, MSN, VP, Patient Care, Chief Nursing Officer and Tony McDonnell, Executive Director, Borgess Foundation.

Individual tickets (\$75.00) for this exciting inaugural event and official sponsorship brochures may be obtained through The Professionals at Borgess, who are handling reservations for this event, by calling 269.226.8135 (Select Option 1).

Honor & Remember



Borgess Medical Center

Comfort and Healing Focus for Fundraising Project on Borgess One North

In memory of their mother, the family of Annie Martin Callaghan Soderberg has embarked upon a fundraising project, administered through the Borgess Foundation, for the Borgess Inpatient Geriatric Psychiatry Unit, located on One North at Borgess Medical Center. The focus is on upgrading specialty equipment and new furnishings for the inpatient behavioral medicine facility and the adjacent patient and family lounge.

After being admitted to Borgess Medical Center, Annie was finally, correctly assessed and diagnosed with bipolar disorder at age 95 and properly treated. Throughout her life, Annie and her family suffered from her extreme mood swings. Her mental health challenges required the professional intervention and expertise found through Borgess Behavioral Medicine Services. “We are so thankful for the caring Borgess staff on One North for what they did for our mother, and for us, during the last year of her life,” Annie Soderberg’s daughter, Mary Eagle said. “Through the compassion and expert care at Borgess, we finally got our mother back.”

The demand for geriatric mental health care is growing, and Borgess Medical Center is the only local hospital that provides inpatient behavioral medicine services. With the average length of stay per patient increasing each year, the need for extended care places constant demands on the equipment and infrastructure of One North. Patients with behavioral issues are

often found to have other urgent medical needs, such as cardiovascular disease or diabetes. Such patients can gain immediate access to the comprehensive health services available at Borgess.

Annie received inpatient care on One North for three weeks until she stabilized. “It was an amazing period that followed,” Eagle said. “My mother was able to feel normal for the first time in her life. Being able to share that with her, even for a short time, was healing for all of us.” In December of 2006, Annie died at age 96.

According to Becky Lopez, MA, LLP, Administrative Director of Borgess Behavioral Medicine Services, the 52-bed One North unit is consistently full. “We are pleased that Annie’s family wants to remember her by helping others who still need our care,” Lopez said. “No matter how well we budget for our priorities, the growing patient load creates constant wear and tear on our specialized equipment and furnishings. We try to provide a safe, healing place that feels more like home rather than an institutional setting.”

The inpatient One North unit at Borgess was initially established with the help of a significant gift from the Dorothy Upjohn Dalton Foundation.

“The end of life care that my mother received at Borgess really made an enormous difference for our family,” Eagle states. “Many families have experienced what we have gone through, but it was once socially

taboo to publicly discuss such private behavioral issues. It has been amazing to hear how many other people have shared such similar mental health challenges. We hope to provide healing to others by helping the Borgess One North staff provide even more comfort as they care for their patients.”

To learn more or to make a gift to this project, contact the Borgess Foundation at 269.226.5126.

Goal to Raise \$30,000 for Borgess Behavioral Medicine Services—One North

Please consider a gift that will support the purchase of these essential items:

- Lumex Clinical Care Recliners—geriatric wheelchairs specifically designed to meet the needs of elderly patients (\$775 each)
- Patient lounge furniture—i.e. two rocking chairs (\$650 each), lounge chairs (\$400-\$580 each), two wing chairs (\$600 each), two recliners (\$1,100 each), two assisted lift-out chairs (\$1,200 each), one television stand (\$600) and several lamps (\$200)
- Two DINAMAP® ProCare 400 vital signs monitors with warranty, mounted with rolling stands and cuffs (\$2,845 each)
- Whirlpool tub with modern safety features, including easily accessible side access doors for individuals with mobility challenges (\$14,000)

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during this early phase of our campaign,” said Tony McDonnell, Executive Director of the Borgess Foundation. “Not only did they surpass their goal, there also were a high percentage of physicians participating in the campaign. I think that was a result of the opportunity to honor Dr. Roty.”

Besides Dr. Stewart, other physicians who play a volunteer leadership role in the campaign include: Mark Austin, MD; Terry Baxter, MD; Thomas Berglund, MD; William B. Campbell, MD; Sanjay Dalal, MD; Brij M. Dewan, MD; Richard Dirrenberger, MD; Bryan Dunlop, MD; Robert Fabi, Sr., MD; Krishna Jain, MD; Arthur James, MD; Azzam S. Kanaan, MD; M. Michael Khaghany, MD; Naim Koymen, MD; Steve Kujacznski, DO; James McLaren, MD; Edward Millermaier, MD; Russell Mohney, MD; Dale Rowe, MD; Robert Strung, MD; Sanford Tolchin, MD; and Jon Walsh, MD.

Each of these physician leaders made presentations to their physician groups and specialty practices. “We’re very proud of our Borgess physicians for their dedication,” said McDonnell.

“Once again, they stepped forward in a big way to lead this vital campaign in its early stages.”

The special plaque honoring Dr. Roty can be seen in the Borgess Medical Center’s Outpatient Surgery reception area. The names of all the physicians and friends who made a gift in honor of Dr. Roty are included on the plaque.

“We will have more exciting information about the *Habitat for Healing Campaign* in the next issue of *Benevolent Voice*,” said McDonnell.

“In the meantime, we wanted to share the wonderful legacy of Dr. Roty and showcase how proud and grateful we are of our physicians for their leadership and support.”

Watch for the fall issue of the *Benevolent Voice* for updates and information on how you can make a difference through the ongoing *Habitat for Healing Campaign* at Borgess. For more information, contact the Borgess Foundation at 269.226.8100.



Dr. Roty’s wife, Barbara, and son, Chris, at the dedication ceremony.