December 2016 Munson Healthcare Foundations

Inside: Meet a Child Life Specialist Mobile Hearing Clinic on the Move Permission to Love Again

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Members of the Munson Community Health Center staff are excited about a \$14 million renovation to the facility that will take place in 2017. All public areas will be given a facelift to improve the patient experience at the outpatient center.

Major Munson Community Health Center Renovation Set for 2017

"I like the idea that it is a health center – these services are the future of health care." - Phyllis Foster

On the cover:

Representing Munson Community Health Center departments slated for renovation are (left to right):

Jen Richardson Lee Buckrop Dawn Gilbert Jodi Radtke, RN Janette Ransom Nicholas Erikson Melanie Engels Erica Barker April Clover Phyllis Bertram, RN Suzanne Bolser Larry Boyd



Nicholas Erikson, director of Munson Medical Center Outpatient Services, reviews renovation plans with Phyllis Foster of Frankfort. The Foster Family Foundation jump-started the project with a generous gift.

A \$14 million facelift for Munson Community Health Center (MCHC) is set to get underway sometime next year. Phase One of the two-phase project includes a generous gift from the Foster Family Foundation that will help transform the facility into an outpatient Center of Excellence.

"We expect this to be the flagship ambulatory campus in northern Michigan," said Munson Medical Center Outpatient Services Director Nicholas Erikson.

With 60,000 patient visits a year, the facility is showing wear-andtear from heavy use.

"We want to make sure the patient experience at MCHC is a Munson caliber experience," Erikson said. "I'm excited about the energy this renovation is going to create. Right now the building feels tired. The people working there are terrific – we've got the right people and this will give them the right tools."

Munson Healthcare's Front Door

In many ways, Munson Community Health Center is the front door to services provided at Munson Medical Center and elsewhere in the Munson Healthcare system. People from around northern Michigan use Munson Community Health Center for pre-operative testing, pain procedures, rehabilitation therapies, urgent care, sleep disorders, and many other diagnostic services.

With greater emphasis on wellness, disease prevention, and chronic

disease management, people now receive more of their health care services in the outpatient setting. This is increasing demand for coordinated, integrated outpatient services.

That shift in care delivery and urgency of the need for improved space for outpatient services is what motivated the Foster Family Foundation to support the project.

"I like the idea that it is a health center – these services are the future of health care," said Phyllis Foster. "This center is providing services where patients have a say in how they want to live and a role in taking care of themselves. We think that's important because a healthy community is a strong community and a place where people want to live."

"A renovated MCHC will have a huge impact on growing the services we provide to the region," said Munson Healthcare President and CEO Ed Ness. "Phyllis and Rob Foster have both been tremendously generous over the years. Rob was a board member who provided vision and leadership to think in big picture ways to increase access to health care in our communities. Phyllis has built upon this legacy with their family foundation's incredible generosity to enhance outpatient services."

A River Runs Through It

The main corridor of the renovated facility will simulate the flow of a

river and will help connect the north and south entrances of the building. Midway, an open staircase will make for an easier transition from the north entrance's ground floor to the south entrance's first floor.

"We have redesigned the facility to make it cohesive, special, and unique – in line with best-inclass outpatient care facilities," Erikson said.

The \$6.2 million first phase will include renovation of all public space and waiting areas, relocation and expansion of the café, relocation of the library to the ground floor near the north entrance, and renovation of existing classrooms into flexible community meeting spaces.

Perhaps most noticeable will be the expansion and renovation of Urgent

"We have redesigned the facility to make it cohesive, special, and unique – in line with best-in-class outpatient care facilities." - Nicholas Erikson Care with greatly improved patient flow. "We want the Urgent Care waiting area to be empty because people move so quickly back to an exam room," Erikson said.

The second phase of the project will expand space for cardiac rehab, revamp the registration area near the south entrance to maximize privacy, complete the "river" corridor, create space for two additional clinics, and renovate the current rehabilitation area, including moving the locker rooms next to the therapy pool.

"We have a great mix of outpatient services at MCHC," Erikson said. "As we continue working to decompress the main Munson Medical Center campus, there may be other outpatient services that could come to MCHC because that location provides an easy in and out experience for patients."

An open staircase along a river-like corridor will connect the facility's north and south entrances, which are on different levels.

More than Child's Play: Child Life Services Added at Munson Medical Center



Lisa Gates' job may look like child's play, but it's that and a whole lot more.

Lisa is a Child Life Specialist at Munson Medical Center. She is central to the hospital's new Child Life Program funded by a threeyear grant from Munson Healthcare Foundations.

Families are not billed for her services or for the books, toys, pillows, and other comfort items she gives to children.

Lisa's goal is to make the hospital a less scary, confusing place for children and teens – and their parents.

"For most kids, starting the IV is the hardest part," she said. "I try to make their whole stay kid-friendly. It paves the way for future great encounters."

She works directly with pediatric patients in the Emergency Department, as well as hospitalized children and teens. "We love seeing Lisa in the Emergency Department because we know the pediatric patient's stay will go more smoothly," said ED Nurse Rachelle Seymour. "As busy as we nurses are, we cannot provide the time that we would like at the bedside to calm patients and families, provide indepth teaching, and answer questions. Lisa helps fill that gap."

For instance, when a 6-year-old needed stitches and was extremely upset, Lisa convinced him that his superpower was holding still. "After spending 30 minutes talking and rehearsing his superpower, he was ready and he talked and was happy the whole time. His fear vanished."

When a 17-year-old was adamant that he wasn't going to sit still for stitches, Lisa talked to him at length about video games. After building some trust, she pulled out a Nintendo DS, a popular hand-held game console, and offered it as a distraction while a physician worked on his knee.

Sometimes Lisa just takes a child's lead. One youngster's default coping mechanism when under stress was beatboxing (vocal percussion). When he needed a painful series of rabies vaccines, Lisa asked him to show her his skills during his injections. "Sure enough, our patient impressed all of the staff with his musical talent all during his rabies immunizations," Lisa said. "It gave what could have been a scary and very dreaded situation a positive spin. Each time the patient followed up for his shots, I'd provide support and encouragement while he beatboxed."

One of her most memorable patients was a young girl with a severely

A Grateful Mom's Story

"My daughter, Audrey, is epileptic and suffered a cluster of absence seizures. On the way to the ER, she had a major grand mal unlike any other experienced. To say it was frightening is mild. She had been seizure free for 4 years; it was an emotional day and night for our family.

Lisa Gates visited us in the ER, and it was greatly welcomed. Her friendly, calm demeanor bonded instantly with Audrey, allowing my husband and I the opportunity to leave the room to talk freely in the hallway about the day's events and create a plan for the immediate future. Lisa's timing was impeccable, and we could tell that Audrey was comfortable with her.

When Lisa learned we had to leave home under immediate conditions with no chance to grab anything and that Audrey was experiencing anxiety, Lisa gave her a blanket to hold. The blanket still rests at the foot of Audrey's bed, a nice reminder that even in the worst of circumstances, it will be okay."

- Tracy Kurtz, Traverse City

New Children's Activity Room Honors Memory of Amy Calder

broken leg. The girl was anxious about her injury and also afraid of the IV that needed to be started. She faced an additional challenge: she was diagnosed with autism and had sensory issues.

"I will never forget this patient and how proud she made me to be a child life specialist," Lisa said. "We prepared for each step by using pictures, stuffed animals, and actual medical supplies she would encounter so she would become more familiar and comfortable with each procedure."

"She made it through each procedure exclaiming, 'I did it!' or 'That was easy!' after each dreaded step. The family left feeling grateful. More importantly, our patient left feeling confident."

The grant-funded program currently only pays for one position. Lisa said the hardest part of her job is leaving at the end of her work day because she'd like to have more coverage for children at night.

"I'll do whatever I can to help," she said. "I love my job. I feel privileged to help kids by doing what kids do best - playing. We get them through whatever they have to get through."

If you would like to support the Child Life Program, call Munson Healthcare Foundations at 231-935-6482.



Amy Calder

husband moved to Traverse City in 2008 to begin their family, she brought her interest in child life programs with her.

Mac Calder, DO, started working in Munson Medical Center's Emergency Department and the couple reconnected with one of Amy's high school friends, Ben Lamphere, MD, a hospitalist at Munson Medical Center. Amy and Ben talked about the need for a child life program at the hospital, agreeing it would be an easy way to improve care for pediatric patients.

They visited child life programs at other hospitals and discussed the need with hospital administrators. "They got the ball rolling," Mac said. "Amy pushed it, but with three young boys at home, she was devoted to raising them. She planned to get back into it after the kids were in school."

When Amy passed away from cancer in October 2015 at age 37, her young family included six-yearold Griffin, three-year-old Fletcher, and one-year-old Ewan.

Many family members and friends wanted a way to honor Amy,

Amy McLean Calder embraced her work as a child life specialist at Children's Hospital in Detroit. When she and her

who is remembered as a loving wife, mother, and daughter, and a compassionate friend who loved to dance, sing and joyfully savor life.

More than \$30,000 in memorial gifts has been directed to establishing an activity room for children at Munson Medical Center. "It was one of the things Amy was passionate about," Mac said. "I work at the hospital and it's the hospital our kids will use, so I think she'd be happy with that. It's a fantastic honor."

Mac sees firsthand the benefits of the new Child Life Program at Munson Medical Center that Amy helped to inspire. He often calls upon Child Life Specialist Lisa Gates to assist him with pediatric patients. "It's a real time saver to have her explain what's going on to parents and patients. Lisa comes in cool and



calm. It makes my life easier and the patients love her, so it's a better experience for the patients and the providers."

Call 231-935-6482 to learn how you can help.

Cadillac Cardiopulmonary Rehab Gets Major Upgrade



Long-time Cadillac residents and donors Dave McCurdy and Mariette Potvin did the ribbon-cutting honors at an open house in September.

The newly renovated Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation unit at Munson Healthcare Cadillac Hospital is getting great reviews from patients and staff alike.

The \$350,000 project was funded almost entirely by philanthropy from community members, employees, and volunteers at Cadillac Hospital. The project transformed the rehabilitation unit into a modern, bright, safe, inviting, and open space. "I'm very happy with it," said Cardiopulmonary Manager Todd Cross. "It's a safe environment for patients and staff."

Small rooms were converted into one large space, with better alignment of exercise equipment. "People in our Phase III program really like it because it fits their need to socialize while they work out," Cross said.

New safety features include piped in oxygen, eliminating the need for oxygen tanks. The project included replacing some worn equipment, installation of lockers for patients, new private work areas for staff, and private space for patient orientation and education.

The Cardiopulmonary Rehab unit has about 12,000 patient visits a year from people who are working to improve their health in a medically-supervised program following a diagnosis of heart or lung disease, or recent heart surgery.

"Our community is going to benefit greatly with these new renovations" said Cadillac Hospital President Tonya Smith. "The new space will allow us to better serve our patients and provide a more patient-centered rehabilitation facility for our patients and our community."

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We're All Ears: New Mobile Hearing Clinic Hits the Road



The new mobile hearing clinic will be visiting businesses, schools and community events to provide hearing testing for all ages.

Businesses, schools, and communities in the five-county Grand Traverse area are being served by a new mobile hearing clinic thanks to a \$314,000 grant from The Carls Foundation. The William and Leni Carls Hearing Clinic debuted in November and offers convenient on-site hearing tests for all ages.

The mobile clinic is staffed by specialists, including audiometric technicians, and is equipped with the latest in hearing screening technology. Microprocessor testing allows for complete record-keeping and up to four people can be tested at a time. The mobile clinic can help companies stay in compliance with OSHA requirements, and is equipped with specialized audiometer capabilities for testing school children.

The hearing clinic gift is the latest in a long list of support totaling more than \$4 million to Munson Healthcare from The Carls Foundation for a variety of projects. In 1986, a gift from The Carls Foundation established the William and Leni Carls Speech and Hearing Clinic at Munson Medical Center. The Carls Foundation has supported many speech and hearing programs around the state, a special interest that stemmed from the hearing impairment of Bill Carls' first wife, Marie.

Past gifts from The Carls Foundation include a \$1.5 million gift to the Cowell Family Cancer Center, as well as support for the Women's Pavilion, outpatient Diabetes Education, an endowment fund for Patient Services, Munson Manor Hospitality House, and the Emergency Department.

Bill Carls was a German immigrant who co-founded Numatics Operating Valve Company in Milford in 1945. His 1949 groundbreaking air valve design is still used worldwide in manufacturing everything from automobiles to textiles. Bill died in 1995 at age 92. The mobile hearing clinic shares the name of his second wife, Leni, who continues to reside locally.

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Elk Rapids Rotary: 'They are Genuine People'

Elk Rapids Rotary has donated \$25,000 to Munson Healthcare in recent years.

Rotarians in Elk Rapids enthusiastically live out their motto to "do good and have fun." This relatively small 54-member club is a powerhouse in its community.

"This is the third Rotary club I've belonged to, and the first time I've felt like a Rotarian," said former club president Jim Nothoff. "This group goes out and does things – they make it happen."

"We've got unbelievable members," added current club president Gary Chenoweth. "I feel like I should go get my PhD in community service just to keep up with these people."

"They really seem to care and I really like that about them – they are genuine people."

- An Elk Rapids Interact student

The club was founded in 1950 and has changed the face of Elk Rapids, often with sweat equity in addition to financial support. When making grants from its Good Works Fund, the club focuses on three avenues of service: youth, community, and international.

Serving Youth

The club not only provides Elk Rapids students with scholarships to Northwestern Michigan College, it also funds and mentors two high school organizations – the Robotics Club,



Elk Rapids Rotarians were given a construction tour of the new Cowell Family Cancer Center by Senior Leadership Giving Specialist Beth Karczewski (center) after they supported the project with a \$15,000 gift.

which provides hands-on learning and team-building skills, and Rotary Interact, which is open to any student who wants to perform community service. Teens and Rotarians work side by side to help their neighbors and improve their community.

Serving the Community

Nearly anywhere you look along the Elk Rapids waterfront and parks, you'll find Rotary's fingerprints. The club recently helped to fund a handicap-accessible walkway to the beach, adding to its previous legacy of harbor and park development projects, including a playscape for children which they helped to build.

In recent years, the club also looked beyond the village limits to help fund two Munson Healthcare projects. The club donated \$10,000 in 2010 to purchase cardiac rehabilitation equipment and followed that up with a \$15,000 donation to the Cowell Family Cancer Center. "This was our opportunity to get in on the ground floor of something big," Nothoff said. "We embrace Traverse City – it is part of our greater Elk Rapids area."

"We love the enthusiasm and civicmindedness of the Elk Rapids Rotary," said Munson Healthcare Foundations President Des Worthington. "They are fun to work with and we sincerely appreciate their support."

Serving the World

Elk Rapids Rotarians support clean water and hygiene education projects in Haiti. They also have supported a school construction project, solar lights for students to study after sundown, and micro-financing loans for small businesses in Malawi.

Elk Rapids Rotary raises about \$60,000 a year through two annual events – a variety show and a chicken BBQ.

"We don't have a lot of money, but we are community activists," Nothoff said.

Munson Hospice Gives Couple Permission to Love Again

What do you do when the love of your life dies after 62 years of happy marriage? Cadillac residents Pat Steinhour and Don Lakin each faced that question on the same day. Eventually, they both found the same answer: You dare to love again.

Don's wife, Patricia, died of leukemia on June 30, 2013. A few hours later, Pat's husband, George, died following a heart attack. Both families were served by the same funeral home. Both funerals were held at the same church on the same day – one in the morning, the other in the afternoon. Ironically, the families had never met.

Pat and Don had been devoted to their spouses and were devastated by their losses. In time, they each reluctantly agreed to attend the Munson Hospice Grief Support Group in Cadillac.

"I didn't think I wanted to do that," Don recalled. "The hospice person asked if I needed any help – as time went on, I knew I did."

Pat and Don attended a 9-week Grief Support session. Pat was still too much in shock to absorb the information. During her second time through the program, she latched on to advice that would change her life. "The facilitator said 'give yourself permission to love again.' That became my motto."

"I really cannot say enough good things about the grief recovery program," she added. "You really need someone to listen. With the grief group, I feel I have a whole community around me." When a few members of the group decided to go out for lunch, Pat and Don visited at lunch, but he was leaving the next day for two months in Hilton Head where he and his wife had gone for 20 years. "I didn't want to go but I'd already paid for half," he said. "It was a pleasant trip – I had other friends who were there at the same time, but it wasn't the same."

Don kept thinking about Pat up in Cadillac, but he didn't have her phone number. He knew where she would be on Tuesday mornings, though – meeting with the grief support group at the Big Boy Restaurant. One Tuesday morning he called the restaurant and asked to speak with her. "The waitress announced, 'you have a phone call," Pat said.

When Don returned, they began spending time together, nurturing the slow development of a lovely relationship. "We ended up finding so many things in common," Pat said. "Since George and I had also worked together for so many years, I needed someone to share my life. It's so wonderful to have a companion to love again."

"I loved my wife very much," Don said. "But the camaraderie of having another special person fills such a big void in my life. It's been a real godsend. I'm the luckiest 86-yearold alive."



To learn more about Munson Hospice Grief Support Groups throughout northern Michigan, call **800-252-2065**, email **hospicebereavement@mhc.net**, or visit **munsonhomehealth.org**. To make a gift to Munson Hospice, call **231-935-6482**.

Board Member Profile: Paul Lerg



Paul Lerg

Paul Lerg thinks everyone should give back to the community in some way. "If everybody does something, it makes the entire community better."

Paul is something of an expert on giving back. He currently sits on three Munson Healthcare boards, two American Hospital Association committees, and is president-elect of Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel.

Paul has been active in the Grayling community for 48 years. He arrived in 1968 fresh from Michigan State University to teach math and physics in the Crawford AuSable School District. During his tenure as the district's assistant superintendent, he also became a director of a national bank in Grayling. Because of his banking ties, he was asked to sit on Grayling Hospital Board's finance committee in 1978.

"I was interested in it because I didn't understand health care and since I did the contract negotiations for the school district, I wanted to learn about it," he said. "I also did it because I thought the hospital was good for the community. Hospitals and schools work together because if you don't have good schools, you can't attract good doctors."

Paul has served on the Grayling Hospital board for more than 30 years

and also represents Grayling Hospital on the Munson Healthcare Board of Directors and Munson Healthcare Foundations Board.

"Paul is a big picture thinker and a tireless advocate for top quality health care close to home," said Des Worthington, President of Munson Healthcare Foundations. "He is always kind and optimistic, even during times of great change and anxiety. I can always count on him to have supportive, inspiring words of encouragement both at board meetings and within our communities."

Paul is enthusiastic about the enhancements made at Grayling Hospital over the years. "I think we've seen just incredible advances in quality and access," he said. "Now that we're fully integrated into the Munson Healthcare system, some new procedures at Grayling Hospital are really making a difference for people – especially for the bulk of our population who live on the east side of Roscommon County. Now they can have daily infusions at the hospital, and a cardiology office is opening in Grayling so people don't have to drive two hours for these services."

He's also pleased about the industrywide move to population health and new efforts to keep people healthier and out of the hospital. "It's a wonderful shift to community health. It's a very challenging thing to do and it depends on having a huge network of primary care providers. I wish the payment system was keeping up with all of the work that's being done with chronic disease management."

Going forward, Paul believes the biggest challenge will be maintaining access to services and quality in the face of shrinking reimbursements. "That's one of the reasons we have to reach out for philanthropy – we aren't going to be able to meet the needs without philanthropic support."



You Can Make the Gift of a Lifetime

Did you know that you can create a legacy at Munson Healthcare without changing your will or parting with any assets now?

You can designate your Munson Healthcare local hospital or Munson Hospice as a beneficiary of your retirement plan assets. You do not need to modify your will or living trust, and you can name Munson Healthcare as the sole beneficiary or one of several. This allows you to give while still providing for family or loved ones.

If you are over 70-1/2 years of age and do not need your required minimum distribution, you can make a tax free gift from your traditional IRA. Thanks to a tax law extension passed in December 2015, the "IRA Charitable Rollover" option has become permanent. You can transfer up to \$100,000; it must come directly from your IRA administrator to the Munson Healthcare Foundations. The gift will not be taxed as income to you.

Staff members at Munson Healthcare
Foundations are available to answer
your questions about gifts of retirement assets. Please contact us at
231-935-6448 or legacy@mhc.net.

Legacy Society Members

The Legacy Society represents a list of donors who have named Paul Oliver Foundation or Munson Healthcare Foundations in their will or estate plans to support Kalkaska Memorial Health Center, Munson Hospice, Munson Medical Center, or Paul Oliver Memorial Hospital. It also includes those who have made a Charitable Gift Annuity or other life income arrangement. If interested in becoming a Legacy Society member, call our office of Legacy Giving at 231-935-6448.

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Community Events: Having so much fun for a cause



Volunteers hosted the 27th annual Grayling Hospital Golf Classic in June at Fox Run Country Club. The event raised \$12,506.



Volunteers Raise Big Bucks

Munson Healthcare Grayling Hospital Volunteer Services raised \$53,201 this year through various fundraisers, such as the Grayling Hospital Golf Classic, Lights of Love, bake sales, uniform sales, book sales, silent auctions, and proceeds from the Window Shoppe.



Black Bear Gran Fondo

Dale LaPointe rode 101 miles in the Black Bear Gran Fondo in July to raise \$2,505 for equipment at the Crawford Continuing Care Center.



The Munson Hospice Grayling Breakfast took place at the Camp Grayling Officers' Club in August and raised \$2,784.





Cadillac Power of the Purse

Munson Healthcare Cadillac Hospital Volunteer Services hosted the 4th annual Power of the Purse in August at the Cherry Grove Event Center with almost 300 people in attendance. Two hundred purses were sold raising \$29,000. Proceeds benefitted Cadillac Hospital's Family Birth Center and Breast Imaging and Diagnostic Center.











Classic Car Cruise-In

Munson Healthcare Cadillac Hospital recently received a gift of more than \$3,000 from Culver's Restaurant of Cadillac and its 6th annual Classic Car Cruise-In, held in August. It was the largest event to date with more than 160 registered classic cars and hundreds of spectators enjoying the sights, sounds, and tastes of an era gone by. All proceeds from the event benefit Cadillac Hospital's Emergency Department Fund, to help pay for equipment and technology upgrades.

13th Annual Golf Outing

Benefitting Munson Healthcare Cadillac Hospital Pediatric/OB Fund and Munson Hospice, the event was held in June at the Cadillac Country Club. It was hosted by Bill Rzepka, Mickey Putman, Pete Eliot, and Dan Alto.

Community Events: Having so much fun for a cause



Power of the Purse – Frankfort

Paul Oliver Memorial Hospital Auxiliary held its first Power of the Purse Fundraiser in July at the Oliver Art Center. The event featured silent and live auctions of purses and related accessories. Almost \$9,000 was raised to benefit the Paul Oliver Memorial Hospital's Radiology Department.

Charlevoix Farm-to-Table Dinner

More than \$16,000 was raised for the surgery and lab expansion project at Munson Healthcare Charlevoix Hospital during a scrumptious Farm-to-Table dinner at the beautiful Jordan Valley Barn in East Jordan. The July event was attended by 65 people.





Chip in Fore Hospice

The 6th annual Chip in Fore Hospice Golf Scramble presented by Schmuckal Oil and LochenHeath Golf Club was held in September. This year's event, expanded to two days, raised more than \$137,000 to benefit Munson Hospice.





Blankets for Cancer Patients

In conjunction with Subaru Loves to Care event, Serra Subaru of Traverse City donated 50 blankets to the Cowell Family Cancer Center. These blankets will be given to patients at the cancer center who are being treated for leukemia and lymphoma.

Pink Out Volleyball

Kalkaska High School held its 2nd annual Pink Out volleyball game. The volleyball team vs. the football team game raised \$3,000 for the Cowell Family Cancer Center.





Dig Pink Dinner

Traverse City West Student Senate held its 2nd annual Dig Pink Fundraising Dinner in October at Bagger Dave's restaurant.



Mohawks for Munson North Peak Brewing Company held Mohawks for Munson in May, raising \$25,000 to benefit the Cowell Family Cancer Center.



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Thank You!

During a visit in November, Wayne Webber (center) was given an update about what has been accomplished with the \$8 million gift from the Wayne and Joan Webber Foundation. New technology includes 3-D echo equipment, which helps significantly during surgery for mitral valve repair. Mr. Webber toured the Webber Heart Center and met with (left to right): Cardiovascular Surgeon Daniel Drake, MD; grateful patient Bernie Ochs; Cardiologist Dino Recchia, MD, FACC; and Cardiologist Steven Mast, MD, FACC.

ECHO-GUIDED MITRAL REPAIR We all thank you so very much!