

# Consider

Winter 2008



## Inspiration From Illness

It was cancer. After months of general uneasiness, Mike Donovan and his wife Jackie Scott, both local attorneys, were stunned by the diagnosis. At just 52 years old, prostate cancer was the last thing Mike expected.

Surgery quickly followed, carrying with it the hope for a complete and lasting recovery. But Mike and Jackie soon realized that their lives could never be the same. The cancer had ignited something inside of them—a passion for others that was rooted deep within their souls and was now surfacing in new ways, and with a new urgency.

Mike's recovery had barely begun when the couple approached the Metro Health Hospital Foundation with an idea for helping other patients and families dealing with cancer.

“One of the things we noticed, as we tried to cope with this disease, was how difficult it was to find dependable, up-to-date information and reading materials dedicated to helping those fighting cancer,” said Jackie, long-time Metro Health Hospital board member. “There was a real need for a central resource to educate and empower others in their battles.”

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## Inspiration from Illness

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Mike, Jackie and Foundation supporters joined forces to meet that need, and Metro Health's cancer library was born in collaboration with the Warren Reynolds Cancer Library—a place of solace, encouragement and empowerment for patients of all ages and with all types of cancer, as well as their families.

But just as the cancer library began to take shape, Mike and Jackie again received devastating news. Less than a year after surgery, tests indicated that Mike's cancer had returned. Now faced with critical decisions on his course of treatment, Mike didn't hesitate.

“Metro has the newest Cancer Center with the most advanced equipment. Why wouldn't I go with the place that can offer me the latest and greatest treatment with a great staff of people that I have absolute confidence in?”

While Mike's confidence in Metro made his choice for cancer care easy, he knows the fight in front of him is not. As he gears up for a new treatment regimen, he and Jackie draw strength from their relationship with Metro and their devotion to helping others. Their focus directed outward, this selfless couple continues to grow its partnership with the Foundation, leading efforts to expand, improve and promote community prostate cancer screenings, especially among those with limited access.

“There are a whole bunch of people out there who do not have easy access to health care like I do,” said Mike. “I don't want to see them going through the things that we've had to go through when simple, regular testing and improved access can prevent that. Early detection is the key.”

Two cancer diagnoses changed their lives. While threatening Mike's health, these diagnoses also moved the couple to action—their biggest struggle becoming their greatest inspiration. And now they fight, not only for Mike's recovery but for the health of a community, defying a devastating disease and carrying the promise of health to countless men and their families.

*“I don't know how many chances you get in life, so I needed to make the best decision that I could. I had a lot of options in West Michigan, as well as through the Mayo Clinic, but I felt like I was at home at Metro.”*

*—Mike Donovan*



## Cancer Care Without the Chaos

The word can trigger anxiety and fear. The diagnosis can send emotions spiraling into exhaustion. The disease can throw life into instant chaos. It's cancer. But there is new relief in the grueling battle against this disease, and it is found right here at the new Cancer Center at Metro Health Village.

Metro has joined forces with one of the premier names in cancer treatment—The University of Michigan Health System—to bring the best care for cancer closer to home for West Michigan residents.

With input from cancer patients and survivors, every design element, from architecture to furnishings, was chosen to promote healing and comfort. Donors like Bob and Paulette Israels, moved by their own experiences with cancer, helped to create an atmosphere that promotes healing from the moment you enter the building. The Paulette Israels Lobby, furnished by the family's generous donations, welcomes patients and their families, offering a restful haven where they can confidently begin their journey toward healing.

The entire facility is specially designed to counteract the commotion and dread often associated with cancer treatment, offering the latest in cancer-fighting technologies and sophisticated treatment options in a low-stress environment. The clamor of crowded and inconvenient treatment centers is replaced by the tranquility of a natural, wooded setting. The need for long trips to multiple sites for treatments and appointments is eliminated with various cancer services brought together in a single location. The convenient locality, soothing design, and superior, personal care of the Metro tradition combine to create a truly unique destination for patients and families battling a frightening disease.

Cutting-edge care from University of Michigan oncology radiation specialists, matched with the compassionate and personal treatment that patients know and expect from Metro promise to bring unprecedented services to cancer patients and their families.

“This partnership with the University of Michigan Health System is about raising the level of quality patient care, collaboration and community access,” said Michael Faas, president and CEO of Metro Health. “Physicians throughout our region can now refer their patients to the University of Michigan for radiation therapy without leaving the area.”

Together with the community, Metro is changing the way cancer care is delivered—restoring peace and instilling resolve in patients facing a tough battle for their health, for their lives. If you're interested in learning how you can help, please call Scott Halquist at 616-252-5007.



DR. MICHAEL ZAKEM, DIRECTOR OF THE CANCER CENTER AT METRO HEALTH VILLAGE AND DR. THEODORE LAWRENCE, CHAIR OF UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MEDICAL SCHOOLS DEPARTMENT OF RADIATION ONCOLOGY

“This partnership with the University of Michigan Health System is about raising the level of quality patient care, collaboration and community access.”

— Michael Faas  
President and CEO  
of Metro Health



## Feelin' Grand 2008—Hope in Bloom

Our annual Feelin' Grand event took place on Saturday, September 20 with a record number of attendees — more than 900. The crowd enjoyed dinner followed by entertainment from “On Broadway” and dancing with music provided by the band “Trilogy”. We would like to take an opportunity to thank everyone involved with our event, which resulted in more than \$400,000 in funds raised, helping to bring the latest technology available for the early detection of breast cancer to patients seeking care at Metro Health Hospital.



DOYLE HAYES, HOSPITAL BOARD CHAIR AND KATHY FORE, LAURA STASKIEWICZ, CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER AND TODD STASKIEWICZ



GUESTS ENJOY DANCING TO MUSIC BY THE BAND “TRILOGY”



THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE EVENING WAS ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED BY “ON BROADWAY.”



PAULA AND BILL LEWKOWSKI, CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER, JENNIFER HASCALL, FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBER AND DAG HASCALL, CHRISTINE SACKETT AND BOB SWEEZIE, FOUNDATION BOARD CHAIR



## Thank You Feelin' Grand Sponsors



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JOYCE WEISE WITH HUSBAND JOE**



**"ON BROADWAY" PERFORMS SCENE FROM SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE**

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*And a heartfelt thank you  
to all the additional donors  
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acknowledge.*



## Side Notes

You have helped so many people and touched numerous lives. I am deeply grateful for all you have helped accomplish this year.

Thank you for restoring health to those who seek care at Metro Health Hospital. You are bringing hope and joy, and you are saving lives.

We join those you are helping in letting you know how grateful we are for your support.

On behalf of our patients, their families and everyone here at Metro Health, I extend best wishes for a happy, healthy holiday season!

*Laura*

Laura Staskiewicz  
Chief Development Officer



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Our appreciation to the following donors for making memorial and tribute gifts between July 15, 2008 and November 15, 2008.

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**In Honor of Dr. Karlin E. Sevensma**  
Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Johnson

**In Honor of Dr. Matthew W. Sevensma**  
Ms. Linda Biek

**In Honor of Dr. Kenneth F. Shockley**  
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel K. Barnes  
Ms. Katherine McKenzie

**In Honor of Dr. Douglas Shumway's 80th Birthday**  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Scutch

**In Honor of Dr. Jeff Stevens**  
Mr. Larry Bensink

**In Honor of Dr. Ronald L. Steury**  
Rev. Kendall C. Downing and Rev. Lillian  
A. Downing

**In Honor of Nurse Sue**  
Mr. Robert Obrien

**In Honor of Dr. Har Swamp**  
Mr. and Mrs. Earl W. Withey

**In Honor of Susan Thompson**  
Mr. and Mrs. Jacob C. DeKorne, Jr.

**In Honor of Dr. Timmer**  
Ms. Marion A. Frechafer

**In Honor of Dr. L. Vaughn Tremper**  
Mr. G. L. Brown and Mrs. Michele Tremper  
Brown

**In Honor of Dr. Steven N. Triesenberg**  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael R. Hampton

**In Honor of Dr. Katie Ugolini**  
Mr. and Mrs. Gene M. Boven

**In Honor of Dr. Gilbert J. Vanderveen**  
Ms. Mollie B. Jordan

**In Honor of Dr. Steven C. VanNoord**  
Ms. Lavina Boldt  
Mr. John R. Dewinter  
Ms. Ann C. Hatfield  
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher J. Kuiper  
Mr. Vernal Miller  
Mr. Gene Zoet

**In Honor of Dr. Dennis S. VanWormer**  
Ms. Joyce E. Horn

**In Honor of Dr. Peter S. Vasiu**  
Mr. and Mrs. Randall R. Redburn

**In Honor of Dr. Janice K. Wabeke**  
Ms. Virginia M. Eady  
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher J. Kuiper

**In Honor of Dr. Eric T. Walchak**  
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Glashower

**In Honor of Dr. Ralph T. Walsh**  
Ms. Verna Armitage

**In Honor of Dr. Weber**  
Ms. Jo Ann Manino

**In Honor of Dr. Norman A. Weber**  
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth K. Kogler

**In Honor of Dr. Bennett L. Willard**  
Mr. and Mrs. J. David Kiefner  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Messinger

**In Honor of Monica Willett**  
Mr. Ronald Utley

**In Honor of Dr. Adam T. Wolfe**

Mr. and Mrs. James A. Accorsi  
Ms. Catherine F. Austin  
Ms. Shelly L. Belstra  
Ms. Jean S. Hansen  
Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Klamer  
Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Nieuwkoop  
Ms. Cheryl Nygren  
Mrs. Bernadine Pearson  
Mr. Lyle C. Shanks

**In Honor of Dr. John C. Woodworth**  
Ms. Joyce A. Curtis  
Ms. Elsie Marie Dewitt  
Ms. Myrtle M. Freeman  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul E. Geddes  
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel T. Miller  
Ms. Joyce Semeyn  
Mrs. Lois M. Vincent

**In Honor of Dr. Kathleen J. Yost**  
Ms. Barb L. Mattice

**In Honor of Dr. Michael H. Zakem**  
Mr. Frederick J. Alberts  
Ms. Regina M. Fisher  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard O. Jaeschke  
Mr. and Mrs. J. David Kiefner  
Mrs. Dorothy M. Michael  
Mrs. Laura M. Staskiewicz

**In Honor of Dr. Pamela S. Zelasko**  
Ms. Kimberly R. Gall

**In Memory of Annette Blaschka**  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Walters

**In Memory of Russ Borpee**  
Mrs. Jean B. Hopkins

**In Memory of Janet Bouch**  
Metro Health Hospital Medical Staff

**In Memory of Willie Browning**  
Mr. Darrell Browning

**In Memory of Marianne Casarez**  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael L. Door  
Ms. Anne M. Gallagher

**In Memory of Lyle Cerda**  
Dr. and Mrs. Jeffrey N. Holtzman

**In Memory of Dr. Robert A. DeJonge**  
Dr. Joanne Grzeszak and Metro Health  
Hospital

Kent County Osteopathic Association

**In Memory of Mr. Lloyd and Mrs. Maude Fortune**  
Mr. Gene M. Fortune

**In Memory of William Grimes**  
Ms. Lisa J. Snyder

**In Memory of Maynard Guy**  
Ms. Carol M. Guy

**In Memory of Karol Nelson Haught**  
Ms. Dolores L. Woolley

**In Memory of Doyle Hoopengartner**  
Mrs. Elaine Hoopengartner  
Metro Health Hospital Medical Staff  
Kent County Osteopathic Association

**In Memory of Delores Johnson**  
Mr. and Mrs. Roy E. Johnson

**In Memory of Annette Laidlow**  
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. Laidlaw

**In Memory of Laurence E. Marshall**  
Mrs. Patricia A. Marshall

**In Memory of Robert Martin**  
Ms. Angela Gravelyn

**In Memory of John Reyes, Sr.**  
Ms. Guadalupe Herrera

**In Memory of Paul Louis Rudy**  
Mrs. Ingrid K. Cheslek

**In Memory of Eidean J. Zimmerman**  
Metro Health Hospital

These gifts are a celebration of life, health and hope. They are often made to commemorate a milestone such as a birthday, wedding, graduation or anniversary — or to remember a deceased loved one. If you're interested in making a memorial or tribute gift, please complete the enclosed envelope and mail with your check. The accuracy of this list is very important so please contact us at (616) 252-5000 if an error has been made. Thank you.

## A “Wii” Diversion in Hard Times

Thomas Gilbert is a sensitive and fun-loving 12-year-old. But life hasn't seemed very fun lately. This summer, his mom Stacie was diagnosed with breast cancer.

The months following have been filled with surgeries and chemotherapy, and Thomas has been by her side every step of the way. Worry and feelings of helplessness drive him to accompany his mom to the Cancer Center in Metro Health Village for all her treatments.

“Cancer is a very scary thing, especially for a child,” said Stacie, 38. “He feels like he needs to be with me during my treatment, just to make sure I’m okay.”

Those days can be long and distressing. Thomas sits for hours with his mom, watching the IV medications, his thoughts racing: Is the chemo working? How sick will she be this time? What is going to happen to her? The anxiety can be overwhelming. But at their last trip to the Cancer Center, Thomas found an escape from his worries—a diversion that came in the form of a Wii.

The gaming system, made available to cancer patients and their families by generous donations from Foundation donors, brought a welcome distraction for Thomas during his mom’s last treatment. His eyes filled with excitement and the stress immediately began to melt away as he lost himself in the video games. The day passed faster, his worries were lighter, and cancer wasn’t the only thing on his mind. Thomas was twelve again, and life wasn’t quite so scary, if only for a short time.



FAMILIES FIND ESCAPE FROM WORRIES.



## Give and Receive: The Benefits of Giving

When you make a charitable gift to the Metro Health Hospital Foundation, you are entitled to significant tax savings while supporting our lifesaving mission. The assets you give will determine your deductions when you itemize. For example:

- **Cash.** Your gift is fully tax-deductible up to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income (AGI) in the year you make your gift. You are allowed to carry over any excess deduction for five additional years.
- **IRA Gift.** The Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 extends a beneficial provision for making IRA gifts to charities during 2008 and 2009 calendar years. The new legislation expires December 31, 2009, offers donors who are 70 1/2 or older the opportunity to support Metro Health through their IRA savings.
- **Stock.** A gift of long-term appreciated stock offers two tax savings. First, you avoid capital gains tax. Second, you receive an income tax deduction—based on the increased value of the stock instead of its lower cost basis—of up to 30 percent of your AGI, with a five-year carryover for any excess.
- **Real estate.** With real estate, you can deduct the value of your gift up to 30 percent of your AGI, with a five-year carryover. For real estate held more than one year, you generally receive a deduction based on the property's fair market value and pay no capital gains tax.
- **Tangible personal property.** By giving personal property related to our tax-exempt function, you may be eligible for a deduction for its fair market value up to 30 percent of your AGI, with a five-year carryover, and avoid capital gains tax. For a gift unrelated to our function, the deduction is limited to your cost basis up to 50 percent of your AGI.

For more information on making a year-end gift, contact Scott Halquist at the Foundation office, 616-252-5007 or [scott.halquist@metrogr.org](mailto:scott.halquist@metrogr.org).

## Metro Health Hospital Foundation Legacy Society

The following individuals and families have named Metro Health Hospital Foundation in their will or trust. Their foresight and thoughtful commitment to the future of health care at Metro Health Hospital is extremely appreciated and will be felt for generations to come.

*Dr. Donald & Ellen Arlinsky  
Brad & Tia Cavender  
Dr. William & Norine Cunningham  
Dr. Paul & Jennifer Dwyer  
Cynthia L. Fish  
Scott & Kristi Halquist  
Doyle Hayes  
Donald & Mary Lu Herzog  
Dollye Johnson  
Carol Karr and Kevin Briggs*

*Vic and Joan Krause  
John & Barb Leegwater  
Donald G. Marsh  
Jeff & Alice Morrill  
Franklin P. Randall  
Todd & Laura Staskiewicz  
Warren & Shelly Westbrook  
Gerald & Beverley Whitten  
Michael H. Zakem, DO*

## A Giving Date To Keep In Mind

By timing your charitable gifts before December 31, you will see a tax break for the year when you itemize deductions.

- **Write a check.** The postmark on the envelope you mail is the date of the gift.
- **Charge your credit card.** A fast and easy way to make your gift. Just call us at: 616-252-5000 or use the secure on-line donation at [metrohealth.net](http://metrohealth.net) - Make a Donation. The day the charge is authorized is the gift date.
- **Contribute appreciated securities that you have held more than one year.** You can claim deductions for their full fair market values and avoid any tax on appreciation. Securities gifts are deductible on the date they are transferred to our account.
- **Make a tax-free IRA gift.** Those 70 1/2 years and older can make a tax-free gift up to \$100,000 from their Individual Retirement Account (IRA).

The Foundation will be open until 3:00 pm on December 31, 2008. Please contact us at 616-252-5000 with questions.



## *Metro Live!*

Have you visited or toured the new Metro Health Hospital? Do you have friends who would like to experience the difference? Call the Foundation office today to schedule a free one-hour lunch and tour of the Metro Health Hospital facility to learn more about our life-saving mission and the difference that a holistic approach to healthcare can make.

All Luncheon Tours begin PROMPTLY at Noon.

RSVP to Cindy Fish at 616-252-5002 to reserve your seat today.

### **LUNCHEON TOUR DATES**

Thursday, January 22, 2009  
Thursday, February 26, 2009  
Thursday, March 26, 2009  
Thursday, April 23, 2009  
Thursday, May 28, 2009  
Thursday, June 25, 2009  
Thursday, July 23, 2009  
Thursday, August 27, 2009  
Thursday, September 24, 2009  
Thursday, October 22, 2009  
Thursday, November 19, 2009  
Thursday, December 10, 2009

## *What if ... ?*

### **Save The Date!**

You are cordially invited to “*What if ... ?*” our first annual luncheon to support the mission of Metro Health Hospital. The goal of this **FREE** event is to educate people about the good work we do to ease pain, conquer life-threatening diseases and save lives.

Join us for this memorable and inspirational event and learn the answer to the question, “*What if ... ?*”

**Wednesday, March 4, 2009**  
**12:00 Noon – 1:00 p.m.**  
**Crowne Plaza Grand Rapids**  
**5700 28th Street SE**  
**Grand Rapids, MI 49546**

Please call Cindy Fish at (616) 252-5002 if you'd like more information or would like to serve as a Table Host.

