



Gratitude

ROBIN D. PERRY, ESQ.

A Man *in Motion*



St. Mary Medical Center
Foundation
A Dignity Health Member

Summer 2019



Message from the Hospital President & CEO

This summer will mark my second year of tenure as President and CEO at Dignity Health – St. Mary Medical Center. I am proud of the accomplishments of the leadership team of St. Mary Medical Center. I am proud of the commitment of our board members, both the community board, the foundation board, and the board of ambassadors. I am proud of our dedicated team members, physicians and volunteers, who come to the hospital every day and provide high-quality, compassionate care to everyone who enters our facilities, just as the Sisters did nearly 100 years ago.

Earlier this year, St. Mary helped breakground on a new housing development on Long Beach Boulevard, which has plans to include an extension of our current Family Clinic. “The Spark at Midtown” will consist of nearly 100 apartments for low-income families and individuals who have experienced homelessness. Expected to be completed next year, this partnership with LINC Housing aligns with St. Mary’s mission and will serve as a place for our faculty and our residents to practice their healing ministry of providing health care for those in our community that are the most vulnerable.

Thanks to a unique opportunity with a Dignity Health facility in Las Vegas, St. Mary received its first Da Vinci for robotic surgery. Although robotic surgery is not new technology, it is a new capability for St. Mary and we are proud to offer the benefits of minimally invasive procedures to our community.

Then, of course, there is our beloved CARE Center, which just received a record-breaking level of support from the Annual Easter Walk, led by Long Beach Drag Queen, Jewels and long-time St. Mary Foundation board member, Gina Smith. This year’s additional contributions were thanks to Tito’s Care Foundation, CARE Chair Tim Aldrete, and Mayor Robert Garcia, whose \$2,500 check allowed fundraising to surpass \$36,000, which all goes directly to support our CARE clients.

I’d also like to share that the hospital is working toward becoming a Comprehensive Stroke Receiving Center. Currently, St. Mary is a primary center. Becoming a Comprehensive Stroke Center will allow us to provide a higher level of care to those suffering from a stroke. We recently welcomed Dr. Wally Wazni, who is an interventional neurologist, to the St. Mary team. Dr. Wazni is working closely with the Cath Lab team to launch new thrombectomy capabilities for acute ischemic stroke, which will be available 24/7. Everyone knows spotting a stroke fast is critical, but getting to a hospital with the capabilities for interventional treatment is proven to reduce the long-term, and oftentimes debilitating, effects of a stroke.

One of the things I admire most about St. Mary is our commitment to the Greater Long Beach Community. St. Mary Medical Center partners with our community by providing numerous grants and benefit programs. ours is a hospital whose donors such as yourselves live, work and play in Long Beach; a hospital whose staff is reflective of the diversity of this great city of Long Beach, and a hospital whose family environment has many people saying it feels like home.

I am looking forward to many more exciting things in the future of St. Mary, especially as the newly-formed CommonSpirit Health improves and transforms health care as we know it.

Carolyn Caldwell, FACHE

Hospital President & CEO

Dignity Health - St. Mary Medical Center

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Approaching our 50th Anniversary!

2020 will be a special time for the Foundation as we celebrate a half century of growth, accomplishments and commitment to providing care and philanthropic stewardship to our community. Stay tuned for special events and opportunities for you to join with us as we commemorate this milestone together!



 **St. Mary Medical Center Foundation**
A Dignity Health Member
— **50th Anniversary** —
1970 - 2020

Words of comfort, skillfully administered, are the oldest therapy known to man. **Louis Nizer**

Gratitude is the biannual magazine of St. Mary Medical Center Foundation, 1050 Linden Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90813. Please contact the Foundation office at 562.491.9225 for information about supporting Dignity Health - St. Mary Medical Center or visit our website at supportstmary.org.

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News and Notes

Welcoming Our New Chief Medical Officer



Dignity Health – St. Mary Medical Center announced the appointment of Charles K. Anderson, MD, FACHE as Chief Medical Officer (CMO). Dr. Anderson is an established physician leader who is known for his strategic approach and clinical excellence. Among his numerous achievements in his previous role with Tenet Healthcare, he worked with the senior leadership team and medical staff on strategic planning and quality improvement initiatives, which led to better outcomes in numerous areas.

Dr. Anderson was also instrumental in establishing five medical residency programs while working collaboratively with the leadership team at Tenet (family medicine, internal medicine, neurosurgery, neurology and emergency medicine).

Dr. Anderson holds a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of North Dakota, a Master of Business Administration degree from George Washington University and is a Fellowship-trained cardiothoracic anesthesiologist. He is also a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE).

Please welcome Dr. Anderson to the St. Mary family.

Unveiling George Murchison Way

On Friday, March 8, St. Mary Medical Center hosted a ceremony to unveil a street sign honoring longtime Medical Center and Foundation board member George Murchison. The event – a surprise for the community leader and businessman – was attended by city dignitaries, St. Mary executives and staff, board members, physicians, friends, and the extended Murchison family.

and sustained impact on the community, including Dignity Health - St. Mary Medical Center,” said Hospital President & CEO Carolyn Caldwell. “How fortunate we are to have someone so accomplished and supportive of the Long Beach community permanently recognized on the Dignity Health - St. Mary Medical Center campus.”

Tribute speeches were given by Dignity Health - St. Mary Medical Center President & CEO Carolyn Caldwell, Monsignor Kevin Kostelnik of St. Joseph Catholic Church, St. Mary Foundation Trustee Paul Carter, son Michael Murchison, and Long Beach Vice Mayor/6th District, Dee Andrews, whom George coached when Dee was a high school athlete. The ceremony was followed by lunch, refreshments, and a Champagne toast.

George Murchison Way is located near the intersection of Atlantic Boulevard and 10th Street near the entrance of the original hospital.

The Murchison street sign effort was initiated by city officials and hospital leaders two years ago to show their appreciation for George’s many decades of service to St. Mary and dozens of other local organizations and nonprofits.

“George has such a strong history of making a positive



George Murchison takes a first look at the new George Murchison Way street sign alongside his son Michael Murchison and Vice Mayor Dee Andrews. Photo courtesy of City of Long Beach



Lloyd H. Dean, CEO of CommonSpirit Health cuts the ceremonial ribbon at the new Dignity Health Sports Park.

Dignity Health Announces New Exclusive Health Care Partnership

On March 2, Dignity Health and AEG executives attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony and Opening Day celebration to reveal the newly named Dignity Health Sports Park in Carson. Dignity Health, St. Mary Medical Center's parent company, has obtained exclusive naming rights to the stadium (formerly the StubHub Center) and is the official health care partner of the LA Galaxy. The partnership has been specifically designed to give back to Los Angeles communities and will include the implementation of a wide range of health and wellness programs.

"It is with great excitement that Dignity Health joins the LA Galaxy and AEG as their exclusive health care partner," says

Lloyd H. Dean, President and CEO of CommonSpirit Health, parent company of Dignity Health. "It is our hope that we will deepen our ties with the communities we serve in the greater Los Angeles area through the Dignity Health Sports Park. Together we will promote greater health and wellness for all."

LA Galaxy players will make regular visits to Dignity Health hospitals each year, meeting with patients and support staff. Viewing parties will also be held at Dignity Health hospitals for select LA Galaxy games. For additional information, please visit dignityhealthsportspark.com.

Welcoming Our New Senior Director of Strategy and Business Development



Dignity Health - St. Mary Medical Center has named Mike Verbitski its new Senior Director of Strategy and Business Development. Mike is responsible for increasing physician engagement and alignment, increasing access for the community with service line development and capital planning, and supporting revenue growth.

Mike brings with him a wide range of health care experiences, with an understanding of both clinical and administrative operations in acute care and other health care settings. For the last four years, he served in multiple capacities at JFK Memorial Hospital in Indio, including Emergency Department Business Manager, Director of Patient Access, Food and Environmental Services, Disaster Preparedness, and ADA Coordinator.

This broad experience gained him admission into Tenet Healthcare's Leadership Academy from which he was a 2018 graduate. In addition, he was featured last year in *Palm Springs Life Magazine's* "40 Under Forty."

While living in the Coachella Valley, Mike was an active member of the community and supported various non-profit organizations. Most notably, he served as the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Inland Empire Ronald McDonald House, where he earned the distinction "Board Member of the Year", in 2017.

"I am excited to be a part of a great team and enthusiastic to contribute to the diverse Long Beach community," he said. "I'm eager to get to work in supporting our staff, physicians, and volunteers in providing excellent service to the community." Mike, an East Coast transplant, is a former college football player and an active sports fan, cheering on the USC Trojans and LA Lakers.

Man in Motion

Robin D. Perry, Esq. talks about his vision for a healthy Long Beach and a vibrant community.

The enthusiasm emitted by Robin D. Perry, Esq., Vice-Chair of the St. Mary Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees, is contagious. Whether he is discussing the growth of downtown Long Beach and the community he loves, touting the importance of staying physically fit and active, or speaking with passion about providing the underserved with access to health care, Robin brings vitality and fervor to his every effort.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Robin relocated from Orange County to Long Beach in 2000, where he founded and now serves as president of the Law Offices of Robin D. Perry, Esq. & Associates. In addition, he is a former past President of the Long Beach Civil Service Commission and a volunteer for RISE (Restoration Initiative for Safety and Employment), which offers Long Beach residents free legal help to clear low-level criminal convictions.

Robin and his wife, Chiyeko, are active volunteers with Dignity Health - St. Mary Medical Center. Chiyeko volunteers with the Low Vision Center, which provides free vision testing to area schools. Robin, having served as a Foundation Ambassador since 2011, now serves as the Foundation Board's Vice-Chair and as an advocate and fundraiser for Team St. Mary at the Long Beach Marathon. The couple's two children, Miles and Rachel, are students at Long Beach public high schools.

In the last 20 years, Robin says he has seen tremendous change in the city and the community, and he anticipates more. "The best is yet to come in terms of residential and economic growth," he says. Part of the growth he anticipates will include a higher profile for Dignity Health - St. Mary Medical Center and the programs and services that the hospital provides to everyone regardless of their ability to pay.

Q and A with Robin D. Perry, Esq.

How did you become involved with Dignity Health - St. Mary Medical Center?

I love the idea of being able to help others. There are so many people and entities that have reached out and helped me along my way – with college, with my career, just looking out for me – and I want to give that back as best I can.

Dr. Felton Williams, LBUSD Board Member first recommended that I become involved with St. Mary. When I looked at volunteer opportunities, I realized that the hospital was associated with an organization called 100 Black Men of Long Beach. I was interested in the role the hospital was playing in connecting with the community. I think the programs that are most effective are those that reach communities that otherwise would not have access to preventative care, in a comfortable environment.

What about your involvement with Team St. Mary at the Long Beach Marathon?

I've always been passionate about exercise and fitness. I bike the marathon each year, and I really love getting doctors and people at St. Mary involved in the marathon. Through my participation and leadership, Team St. Mary was able to raise significant funds to benefit the Medical Center. It's a good way to bring the hospital, the doctors and the Foundation into the community spotlight. It's a natural fit: exercise and health care go hand-in-hand.

What do you think of Long Beach's ongoing expansion and revitalization?

Long Beach is a great city. I see so much new development in terms of housing and job opportunities. We're becoming a younger city, and we have the opportunity to develop healthcare and tech jobs for a new generation of residents. I think we also have potential to continue to grow our thriving arts district. But our city still has a tremendous problem with homelessness; it's one of the biggest challenges we face. We need to work together to provide housing and support services to help those most in need.

What would you like to see at Dignity Health - St. Mary Medical Center in the next five years?

In the next five years, I'd love to see us expand the programs that we do so well – the programs that bring help and caring into the community. One of the unique things about St. Mary is that, historically, we've always served the underserved who lacked access to high quality care. That type of care and compassion is needed more than ever in our community. We also need to publicize what we are doing. Not just because what we do is good and we are good at it, but because there are so many more people who could benefit from our care.

If we can get the word out about what we are doing, then the sky's the limit for Long Beach and the greater community.



Foundation Vice-Chair Robin D. Perry, Esq; an avid Long Beach cyclist.



Deborah Munoz, shown with Dr. Joseph Naim, credits her recent laparoscopic sleeve surgery as nothing short of life saving.

A Change for the Better

Surgical Weight Loss Center restores health and transforms lives

Deborah Munoz had always had issues with her weight, but they became magnified after her mother passed away several years ago. “She died from complications of diabetes,” Munoz recalled. “And a few years before that, my father had quintuple bypass surgery.” After reaching an all-time high of 215 pounds, Deborah says, “I realized that if I didn’t take control of my eating, that was going to be me in a few years.” Munoz works as a patient experience manager at a hospital in Los Angeles, so she knows all too well what can result from living with obesity.

Munoz learned about gastric sleeve from her friends, and it sounded like the drastic change she knew she needed. “With my insurance, I could have gone anywhere in Southern California,” says the Yorba Linda resident. “But I learned that bariatric surgeon Dr. H. Joseph Naim was top notch, so I booked an appointment with him.” It was a decision that changed her life for the better.

For people who have tried and been unsuccessful at a variety of weight loss programs, bariatric surgery is a viable option for losing and keeping the pounds off. The good news is that there have never been more bariatric surgery options for weight loss. St. Mary’s Surgical Weight Loss Center has five physicians on staff allowing the center to offer all procedures, along with impressive success rates.

“Most of our patients lose one-third of their weight, and over 90 percent of them maintain their weight loss over the long term,” notes Joseph Naim, MD, Medical Director of the Surgical Weight Loss Center. Dr. Naim has performed more than 3,000 bariatric surgeries using the latest techniques and devices. Dr. Naim credits the success of St. Mary’s program to a comprehensive approach, which includes an introductory education session and physician consultation, psychological evaluation, nutrition counseling with a dietitian, weight loss surgery and post-surgery support groups.

Most insurances cover these services. At St. Mary, surgical weight loss options include gastric sleeve, gastric bypass, Fobi-Pouch and Adjustable Lap-Band®, as well as non-surgical procedures, such as gastric balloon (Orbera & OBalon). Specialized staff at the center perform approximately 300 bariatric cases per year.

St. Mary’s program has earned accolades for its excellence in patient care, including the designation as a Bariatrics Surgery Center of Excellence® by the Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Accreditation and Quality Improvement Program (MBSAQIP). This accreditation is important because it means a Center of Excellence has demonstrated high-quality care in a

multidisciplinary format. In addition, St. Mary’s bariatric program has been named a CIGNA JPMC Bariatric Center of Excellence and a Blue Distinction® Center for Bariatric Surgery by the Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies for delivering quality care with better outcomes. Dignity Health - St. Mary Medical Center also enjoys Healthgrades® Patient Safety Excellence Award.



Dr. H. Joseph Naim and the staff of Surgical Weight Loss Center.

To attain effective weight reduction and improvements in health, bariatric surgery patients must commit to lifestyle changes, such as nutritious food choices and regular exercise. That was exactly the commitment Deborah says enabled her to lose 82 pounds over one year. “I really had to look at what I was eating and make better choices. Thankfully Dr. Naim and the St. Mary staff were so supportive. Bariatric surgery was the best decision I ever made in my entire life,” she says. “It was like being given a fresh start!”

The community can learn more about St. Mary’s surgical weight loss services the second Saturday of each month during an informational seminar at the Medical Center led by the bariatric team.

For more information, call 855.615.9562 or visit dignityhealth.org/stmarymedical/swl.



— 50th Anniversary —
1970 - 2020

VISIONARIES



George Murchison



Sheila Hanley



John Wallace

Behind every foundation's public face is a dedicated team of volunteers whose time, energy, and vision are a driving force behind its mission. Next year, St. Mary Medical Center Foundation will mark 50 years since its formation.

In this issue of *Gratitude*, and subsequent issues leading up to our 50th anniversary, we will reflect upon the formative years of the Foundation and the individuals who have had the most impact. Drawing from diverse backgrounds, experiences, and talents, they helped the Foundation, and St. Mary Medical Center, grow to become what it is today. Since its inception, these individuals have been instrumental in supporting the Foundation in its efforts to raise upwards of approximately \$160 million which has helped to provide essential facilities, equipment, renovations, and modernizations. Moreover, our members developed meaningful connections and friendships that engendered good will and a deep sense of commitment to the Long Beach community.

We are grateful for the hard work, generosity, and dedication of our founding members and of our entire Foundation family.

George Murchison

Reading George Murchison's resume can leave one a little out of breath. The St. Anthony High School and UCLA graduate has served on more than 50 boards and public authorities throughout his lifetime, all while founding and running the public accounting firm Murchison & Marek and raising his family. Throw in four years as Harbor Commissioner, stints as an accounting instructor at Cal State Long Beach and Long Beach City College, his terms as president of both the Long Beach Symphony and the Long Beach Civic Light Opera, as well as his leadership of the Long Beach Transportation Co., Long Beach Community Partnership, and the Advisory Committee for Public Art, and you'll see what we mean. (And did we mention he was co-founder and chairman of Harbor Bank and chairman of Queen City Bank and its holding company, QCB Bancorp? There's more, but we'll stop there.)

Fortunately for St. Mary Medical Center, the Long Beach businessman and community leader was dedicated to serving its philanthropic needs as well. "The St. Mary's commitment was very personal for me," he said. "Our son was born there in 1964, and I had heart surgery there in 1959. Its Catholicity and community presence further enforced that inspiration." George joined the hospital's first Board of Trustees in 1968 and has remained active ever since; his 50-plus year tenure includes a term as Foundation Board Chair from 2012-2013. Joyce, George's wife of nearly 60 years (and high school sweetheart), is also deeply active within the Foundation's Circle of Philanthropy.

George's love for Long Beach runs deep. He was six years old when his father, a welder during World War II, was transferred to the Long Beach Shipyard from New Hampshire in 1942. George credits his early career with teaching him the importance of giving. "After I graduated from UCLA in 1958, I went to work for a community-based accounting firm which gave me an opportunity to realize the importance of community and leadership," he said. "The door was opened wide for me to develop that understanding and skill set."

Perhaps the Murchisons' most meaningful contribution to St. Mary was their gift to help establish the Women's Heart Center, which opened in 2011 as a legacy to their daughter. Kellee Murchison Bennett was 35 when the mother of two suffered a fatal heart attack in 2004. The center offers comprehensive screenings, consultations, and other services to help women understand and manage heart disease.

George, who was awarded the St. Mary Medical Center Lifetime Achievement Award in 2008, almost seems surprised at the depth and breadth of his community involvement. "I guess I'm not your typical accountant," he said, chuckling. "I had a drive. I just grew up in an environment professionally where connecting with community was essential. The more I did it, the more I wanted to do it."

Today, George oversees two private charitable foundations and is a member of both the Community and Foundation Board of Dignity Health - St. Mary Medical Center. He also enjoys traveling, reading, pilates, and spending time with his family. "Our son, Michael, his wife, Tracy, and our five grandsons are the love and joy of our life," he said.

True to style, George looks to the hospital's future with enthusiasm and ambition. "I'm convinced St. Mary provides the highest quality of healthcare in our community," he said. "Now, let's move forward with plans for a new hospital facility and continued growth in our basic and specialized medical services."



Joyce and George Murchison at the 2018 Sr. Alphonsus Tallon Holiday Luncheon.



George and Bishop Oscar Solis enjoying the 2016 St. Mary Medical Center Foundation Gala.

Sheila Hanley

Not only is Sheila Hanley one of the most beloved members of the St. Mary family, she is one of its most accomplished trailblazers. Smart, humble, and generous, it is easy to see why the 96-year-old has become a legend in hospital circles.

But beneath her sweet disposition is a woman who is clearly a powerhouse, raised six children, managed her husband's medical practice, and served in numerous fundraising and leadership roles that shaped St. Mary's success.

Among her accomplishments: founding and running the Foundation Gala Auction for 33 years; spearheading the Hospice Program at St. Mary, the first of its kind in Long Beach; and becoming the first woman to chair the Foundation's Board of Trustees.

Born in Bristol, England, Sheila grew up in a musical home. Her father was an opera singer and her mother was a pianist. Together, they performed throughout Europe. The family moved to Detroit when Sheila was a young girl and eventually settled in Long Beach, where Sheila and her brother attended school.

In 1952, while working at Bellflower Medical Group as a bookkeeper, Sheila met Dr. William (Bill) Hanley, who practiced obstetrics and pediatrics. When he and his partner decided to form their own practice, they hired Sheila as their office manager. By 1958, Bill and Sheila were married. Sheila took a break from working at Bill's medical office to raise their six children in Long Beach; their three daughters went on to become registered nurses locally.

In 1970, a member of her church invited her to join the St. Mary Guild. Inspired by the devotion of the Sisters, Sheila became very active in the Guild, holding many positions, including president. She became close friends with Sr. Alphonsus Tallon, whom she describes as "the most giving, fabulous person in every way. She was so human. So open. So loving."

In 1975, after the tragic loss of three friends to cancer, Sheila introduced the idea of a hospice program to St. Mary CEO, CCVI Sr. Lucille Desmond, who agreed to explore the possibility. By 1981, the St. Mary Hospice Program became a reality after Dr. Albert Kakkis raised some funds through a small dinner auction. Inspired by his success, Sheila teamed up with friend Gordon James and, together, they took it to the next level, launching the first St. Mary Hospice Auction at the Long Beach Terrace Theater. Sheila, Bill, and an army of volunteers worked year-round on what became St. Mary's signature event, hosting thousands of guests and raising \$12 million net revenue to support hospice and other important St. Mary programs. Remarkably, Sheila was dedicated to the event for 33 years.

Sheila also joined the Foundation's Board of Trustees, where

she became the first woman Chair in 1983. In 2001, Sheila was awarded Catholic Healthcare West's "Spirit of Sharing Award."

In 2017, after delivering more than 6,000 babies during his career, Dr. Bill Hanley passed away. He and Sheila had been married 59 years; their family has grown to include thirteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Looking back, Sheila is happy to have given so much to St. Mary. "It is such a tremendous source of care and comfort to the community," she said. Moreover, she deeply appreciates the friends she made along the way. "I am most grateful for my friendships with Sr. Alphonsus, Sr. Lucille, and all of the volunteers," she said. "It was perfect."



Sheila Hanley with her late husband Dr. William (Bill) Hanley.



(L-R) Don Carlos with his late wife Dr. Iuminida Martin, Sheila Hanley, Sr. Lucille Desmond, CCVI, and Sr. Edith Judge, CCVI.

John Wallace

“Give the credit to the Sisters.” That’s about all John Wallace will say when asked about his three decades of service to St. Mary Medical Center. Even today, when he speaks about the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, John is visibly moved by their example. “There was a feeling in this town that existed because of the Sisters,” he said. “I’ve never seen anything like it.”

As the son of Carleton Wallace, who co-founded the Boys and Girls Club in 1939, John grew up with a heart for service and hard work; he remembers helping his father develop the first programs for the Boys Club back in the 1940s. While attending Poly High School, John helped to run the Pro Shop at the Virginia Country Club. He impressed an executive of Petrolane, who offered him a job. After graduating from Stanford and serving in the Korean War as a tank commander, John took that executive up on his offer. John would stay with Petrolane for 36 years, becoming CEO and growing Petrolane into a large, publicly held company.

With his keen administrative abilities and his commitment to volunteering, John was a natural fit as a St. Mary Medical Center community ambassador, a group he joined in the late 1960’s. In fact, he was the one who realized the Medical Center needed a foundation to maximize its fundraising opportunities. In 1970, along with Sr. Alphonsus Tallon, John helped to organize the St. Mary Medical Center Foundation, serving as its first Chair. John continued to volunteer in numerous fundraising and leadership roles, including chairing the hospital Community Board and chairing Catholic Healthcare West’s Regional Board, which oversaw the operations of five hospitals. He also spearheaded a hugely successful 75th Anniversary capital campaign in the 1990s, raising \$28 million for St. Mary.

Through the years, his relationship with St. Mary became more personal as both his first wife and father passed away at the hospital. John had six children with wife Jacqueline, who died from a sudden illness at the age of 40. It was during this time that he met Sr. Alphonsus Tallon. “She was right by my side through it all,” he said. “She was a great comfort to me.” As a tribute to Jacqueline Wallace, Sr. Alphonsus named a pediatric recovery room in her memory.

This year, John will celebrate 36 years of marriage to his beloved wife, Alice. Like John, she is a Stanford grad who is passionate about golf and serving their community. Between them, they raised eight children and now have seven grandchildren. The family enjoys gatherings in Montana, where many of them live and where John and Alice have a vacation home. Today, the couple continues to serve the Boys and Girls Club – John only recently retired from its board after 42 years.

John has fond memories of his years with St. Mary. “It was easy to raise money for the hospital,” he said. “I consider any success from my involvement the direct result of the reputation of St. Mary.”

Above all, John is grateful for the friendships he formed with the Sisters, the physicians, and his fellow volunteers. “Everything was a pleasant experience at St. Mary,” he said with a smile. “It was a happy adventure.”



John and his wife Alice will celebrate thirty six years of marriage this year.



(L-R) Tournament founders Dave Shlemmer, John Wagner, Vince Esposito, MD, Steve Shea, MD and Pat Cahill, MD.



Vince Esposito, MD with Sr. Alphonsus Tallon.

A Drive to Serve

St. Mary's annual golf tournament exemplifies the giving spirit of the Esposito family

Twenty-seven years ago, Dr. Vince Esposito's dream came true. The St. Mary Medical Center radiology physician had been trying for years to develop a fundraising golf tournament to support pediatric programs at St. Mary. Finally, in 1993, with the help of St. Mary CEO Bill Nicely, the inaugural St. Mary Charity Golf Tournament kicked off at the Palos Verdes Country Club, attracting 144 golfers and netting nearly \$40,000 its first year.

Vince dedicated the tournament to the memory of his father, Dr. Leslie Esposito, who had passed away two years prior. Vince presented the first Leslie V. Esposito, MD Memorial Trophy to the tournament's winning foursome, a tradition that continues to this day. Leslie, who practiced family medicine at St. Mary for 42 years, and his wife, Filomena, had seven children and were beloved members of the Long Beach community. They gave their time, talent and treasure to multiple causes and organizations including St. Anthony High School, St. Mary Medical Center Guild, and Casa Youth Shelter in Los Alamitos.

Vince and his dedicated crew – including Dan Ridder, Randy Stricklin, Pat Cahill, MD, Stephen Shea, MD, Dave Shlemmer, Bernie Jones, and Dan O'Callaghan – worked tirelessly to continue the success of the first tournament.



(L-R) Bob Fronke, Dan Ridder, Sr. Alphonsus Tallon, Vince Esposito, MD and Bernie Jones.



The 2019 Leslie V. Esposito, MD Memorial trophy winners pictured (L-R) Marc Esposito, Michael Esposito, MD, Steve Martinez and Mike Solomon.



(L-R) Pat Cahill, MD, Luciann Maulhardt, Steve Shea, MD, Janet Esposito (Vince's wife), Dave Shlemmer and John Wagner.



(L-R) Sr. Alphonsus Tallon, Luciann Maulhardt and Philomena Esposito (Vince's mom).

Thanks to their hard work, and the efforts of dedicated committees, volunteers and sponsors, the tournament has raised millions of dollars for pediatrics and other programs at St. Mary (see related sidebar). Through the years, the tournament enjoyed many beautiful venues beyond Palos Verdes, such as Pelican Hill, Rolling Hills, Old Ranch, and its current location, the Virginia Country Club in Long Beach.

In June 2010, Vince announced his retirement from the tournament and from his 33-year career in medicine. "Eighteen holes is a round of golf," he said. "Eighteen years completed my very rewarding round as Chair of this great tournament." Vince passed away three years later, in 2013.

The St. Mary Golf Tournament lives as a testament to the giving spirit of the Esposito family and the entire St. Mary community. This year's event was chaired by fellow Foundation board members Steve Shea, MD and Tim Aldrete, and held on June 3rd at the Virginia Country Club.

The following are just a few areas that have benefitted from past golf tournaments

- Labor & Delivery Renovations
- Fetal & Infant Monitors
- Labor & Delivery Mural
- Nurse Scholar Program
- Pediatric Playroom & Games
- Short Stay Unit Renovation
- Community Pediatric Clinic
- St. Mary Heart Program
- Cancer Outreach & Education
- Healthy Kids Coalition
- Maternal Child Health Clinic
- Pediatric ICU Equipment & Monitors
- Pediatric Unit Renovation
- Student Intern Program
- Emergency Department Renovation
- Community Benefit Programs

Celebrations

Physician/Leadership Holiday Party

St. Mary Medical Center Foundation board members were joined by the Medical Center’s physicians and board members for the annual Holiday Party on December 7th at the Long Beach Hyatt Regency.



(L-R) Foundation Trustees Honorable Joan Comparet-Cassani, Louis Cassani, Robert and spouse Jan Waestman.



St. Mary Medical Center Chief of Staff Douglas McFarland MD and his wife Carol.



St. Mary Medical Center Hospital President & CEO Carolyn Caldwell, FACHE toasts to the evening.



(L-R) Nona Datta, MD, Jyoti Datta, MD and medical staff volunteer Lynne Hamilton.



St. Mary Medical Center Foundation Ambassadors Vice Chair Marianne Gastelum and her husband Ron Gastelum.

Celebrations

Sr. Alphonsus Tallon Holiday Luncheon

Current and new members of the Sr. Alphonsus Tallon Circle of Philanthropy gathered for their annual holiday luncheon on December 12th at Parker's Lighthouse.

The Sr. Alphonsus Tallon Circle of Philanthropy is named after Sr. Alphonsus Tallon, who helped to found the St. Mary Foundation, and who personally cared for St. Mary's first legacy donors. The Sr. Alphonsus Tallon Circle of Philanthropy honors those who provide for St. Mary in their charitable estate plans.



(L-R) Son Alan Lentzner, MD pictured with his father Gene and mother Ann Lentzner.



Josie Inouye takes home one of the prizes from the event's holiday games.



(L-R) Alan Lentzner, MD, Gail McGill, JoAnn Clark, Denise Scandura and Lynette Rausch enjoy holiday trivia.



Foundation Trustee Gina Araujo Smith and wife Arnie Araujo Smith

Celebrations

Employee Giving Campaign

Employee donors giving at the Partner Level and above enjoyed the festivities at the Employee Giving Celebration. Sister Celeste Trahan, CCVI and Pam Fair were recognized as Co-Chairs of the campaign. Hospital President & CEO, Carolyn Caldwell recognized employee donors for their philanthropy which helped the campaign exceed its \$260,000 goal!



(L-R) Stephanie Glass, St. Mary Hospital President & CEO, Carolyn Caldwell and Eddie Felix.



Employee Giving Campaign Co-Chair Pam Fair.



St. Mary COO Bonnie Panlasigui and CNE Nancy Valla.



Environmental Services and Cardiology employees celebrate together.



Employee donors, Nina Oberst and Karen Smith.



Message from the Foundation Chair

As I reach the end of my first year as Chair of the St. Mary Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees, I realize the significance of this particular point in time – namely, the approaching 50th anniversary of our St. Mary Foundation. This half century milestone, which we will mark in 2020, provides a unique opportunity to highlight the generosity and dedication of our extensive Foundation community.

In this issue of *Gratitude* we have reflected upon the formative years of the Foundation by highlighting some of the individuals who have had a lasting impact on our mission. Three such individuals – George Murchison, Sheila Hanley and John Wallace -- along with Dr. Vince Esposito, who founded our St. Mary Golf Tournament, have provided the vision, leadership and support that have been crucial to the success of the Foundation. We have also highlighted one of our dynamic future leaders, our current Vice Chair, Robin Perry. Future issues of *Gratitude* will do more of the same.

I am very grateful for your commitment to our mission and to the well-being of the greater Long Beach community, and I look forward to celebrating with you our Foundation's 50th Anniversary Year.

David Lalonde

Chair
Foundation Board of Trustees

St. Mary Medical Center Foundation Board of Trustees and Leadership

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With heartfelt thanks.



We deeply appreciate the support of our sponsors, golfers, Trustees, and volunteers whose generosity made this year's St. Mary Golf Tournament a huge success. Since 1993, this event has raised nearly \$4 million for innovative programs and services at St. Mary Medical Center.



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GIVES**
**24 HOURS TO MAKE A
DIFFERENCE**

**Long Beach Gives
is coming!
Save the Date 9/19/19**

Please support Dignity Health - St. Mary Medical Center
as your charity of choice.