

Legacy

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Heart Strings

Local donors support cardiac care in the community they call home

A community inspired by legend and motivated by legacy, the Monterey Peninsula has a long-standing tradition of naming its achievements. If unacquainted with the names of those who came before, we are introduced to them on the buildings and organizations they endowed, and imbued with their stories by those who keep their names, their contributions, their work alive.

When William and Susanne Tyler made the decision to make an anonymous donation to Community Hospital that would support its comprehensive heart program, they understood the significance of their contribution and the impact it could have on the community. Particularly since William Tyler had, himself, been a recipient of cardiac care.

“I identified with the importance of top cardiac services,” says Tyler. “Eight years ago, I was diagnosed with a heart condition, an arrhythmia in the upper chamber, which required an ablation. It’s not dramatic and not life-threatening if managed, but it was very disconcerting and certainly ratcheted up our awareness of heart issues.”

What the Tylers, who moved to the Peninsula four years ago, did not yet understand, was the impact not only their contribution but also their name could have on the community.

“When we spoke with Chief Development Officer Al Alvarez,” says Tyler, “he explained that by putting our name on our gift, we might encourage others to do something on behalf of other



Bill Tyler’s own heart condition helped prompt his donation to Community Hospital’s comprehensive heart program.

hospital needs.” To that end, Community Hospital is pleased to announce the establishment of the Tyler Heart Institute.



Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula

The institute includes all the cardiac services the hospital has provided for decades — a wide array of education, wellness, diagnostic, treatment, and

rehabilitation services — as well as the cardiac catheterization lab, which opened in 2005, and now the open-heart surgery program that began February 13.

The Tylers believe that the story lies not in their donation but in the impact it will have on the hospital and the welfare of the community.

“When we moved to the Peninsula,” says Tyler, “we were shocked to find that people who lived a stone’s throw from

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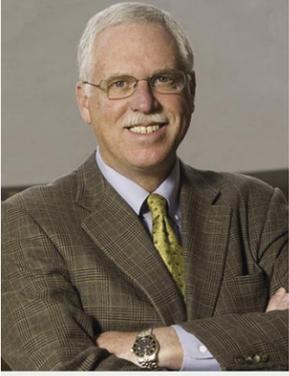
Shawn Silvey

Warming hearts and heads — one hat at a time

BACK COVER

Community Hospital Foundation is the nonprofit, tax-exempt parent company of Community Hospital and related entities, and the recipient of all charitable gifts on behalf of the hospital. The foundation and the hospital are governed by the same Board of Trustees, comprised of local leaders and community members committed to the importance of philanthropy in fulfilling the mission of the hospital. The foundation enables the hospital to build and is there to support the organization as it grows.

For information on donating to Community Hospital, please call the Development office at 625-4506 or go to www.chomp.org.



**FROM COMMUNITY
HOSPITAL FOUNDATION'S
CHIEF DEVELOPMENT
OFFICER —
ALBERT J. ALVAREZ**

A few years ago, more than 400 charities and philanthropists from around the country participated in a national study on donor relations. The survey was designed to gather statistics and anecdotal information on donor recognition and communication. Organizations of all types and sizes participated, representing a wide variety of nonprofit disciplines.

When the results were calculated, the vast majority of donors indicated their strong desire to receive meaningful communications regarding the impact of their gifts. Taking our cue from this feedback and from our own experience, I am pleased to introduce the first newsletter produced and published by Community Hospital Foundation for the benefit of you, our donors.

Three times a year, you will read in these pages about the commitment of people in the community and on our hospital staff. These are people who continually dedicate their time, treasure, and talents to make a difference in the overall care and personal experiences of our patients and their families.

We hope you will find the stories uplifting, educational, and inspiring. Moreover, we hope you will come to understand and appreciate the different ways in which people who, like you, take action when there is a need, enhancing the ability of Community Hospital to meet our vital mission in the community through philanthropy.

Albert J. Alvarez, Chief Development Officer,
Community Hospital Foundation

Open for Service

The community celebrates the opening of South and Forest pavilions

The attendance of more than 600 people at the October 11 ribbon-cutting ceremony and opening celebrations of the new South Pavilion at Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula is an excellent indication of the community's interest and involvement in the hospital's future. Among the guests were all three hospital CEOs who have stood at the helm of the hospital's past, present, and future — Tom Tonkin, Jay Hudson, and Steven Packer, MD.

Perhaps even more telling, however, is the \$24 million donated by the local community — residents, hospital volunteers, doctors, and employees — toward the realization of the \$170-million project.

This community has a history of putting its money where its heart is.

New Emergency Department

The new Emergency department, four times the size of its former self, is designed to accommodate between 48,000 and 55,000 patients a year, replacing a 1962 design built to serve a mere 12,000.

The main level of the new Emergency department includes a Clinical Decision Unit, an expanded Express Care Clinic, and additional support areas, all equipped with state-of-the-art technology and equipment. The expansive new department features 20 new patient rooms, three express-care rooms, and

an expanded waiting area with spaces designed for private conversation and a room for children that includes child-size furniture, books, and toys.

Eight New Surgery Suites

Another major component of the new pavilions is the addition of eight new surgery suites. Two are designed for orthopedic and neurological surgery, two are specifically equipped for cardiovascular surgery — including endovascular surgery — and the other four are for general surgery.

Expanded Intensive Care Unit

The South Pavilion also houses an expanded Intensive Care Unit, with 20 patient rooms, each of which opens to a forest view.

Forest Pavilion

This spring, the hospital opened the other half of the Pavilions Project, Forest Pavilion. The 100,000 square-foot addition houses 120 new state-of-the-art patient rooms.

Through the Pavilions Project, what was a 317,500-square-foot hospital has become a 515,000-square-foot facility, effectively increasing the size and scope of the hospital by 62 percent. The project, whose plans began more than a decade ago, supports the hospital's ongoing mission to meet the changing healthcare needs of the community at present and into the future.

Community Hospital Foundation

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Jay Hudson and Tom Tonkin, both former CEOs of Community Hospital, and Steve Packer, MD, current president/CEO, officially open the new pavilions with a ceremonial ribbon cutting.

Community Hospital Auxiliary

Saying “thank you” for decades of giving

When Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula announced its plans for the Pavilions Project, a \$170-million expansion, the hospital Auxiliary pledged and later presented a \$1-million contribution.

Charitable giving remains one of the many things the 51-year-old volunteer support system does best. Indeed, it is an ever-growing corps of more than 400 auxiliary members known throughout the hospital community for its unending and largely unsung support.

In addition to a tradition of caring and kindness — it is the silent society that guides patients and guests throughout the hospital campus — the Auxiliary is also a financial force that has supported hospital growth since its inception. Let’s wander through the highlights of the Auxiliary’s journey of charitable giving.



Auxiliary member, Helen Rucker, greets a visitor at the hospital reception desk.

The hospital is growing. The Auxiliary needs to grow, too.

But we can do that in many different ways.

Have you often thought about volunteering for the Auxiliary, but just don’t have the time? Become an associate Auxiliary member, which allows you to become part of 51 years of giving back to the hospital — without being obligated to provide volunteer hours.

Annual membership dues are only \$15 per person or \$25 per couple and contribute in a variety of ways, including providing scholarships to students in the healthcare field and to junior Auxiliary members who are pursuing their education. The Auxiliary has also generously donated more than \$5.5 million over the years to a number of programs and services at the hospital.

For more information about becoming an associate member, please call the Auxiliary office at 625-4555.

NOTE: The current need is a new Community Hospital bloodmobile. Associate member dues will help fund the purchase of a new one.



Auxiliary Milestones

december 1955

The Women’s Auxiliary first convened to equip and staff a mobile library and the information desk at Peninsula Community Hospital. Less than a year later, the nascent organization raised \$2,000 to pay for new isotope lab equipment and two years later, contributed \$4,250 (raised at their first Treasures & Trinkets auction) to the new Community Hospital fund.

april 1960

The Auxiliary published its new, illustrated community directory, financed by selling ad space. The directories sold for \$1.04 each. That November, the Auxiliary pledged \$25,000 toward hospital construction and gave an initial \$10,000 from directory sales. The group soon raised another \$5,000 by staffing booths at Laguna Seca Raceway.

march 1961

The organization sold \$1 admission tickets to spectators at the Concours d’Elegance to raise funds toward the construction of the new hospital.

august 1965

The Auxiliary funded the newly expanded snack bar at the Fountain Court Café. In September 1967, it pledged \$100,000 toward the hospital expansion, which involved doubling the floor space and adding 74 additional beds at a total cost of \$1.6 million.

january 1970

The Auxiliary presented the hospital with a check for \$101,701 to satisfy its 1967 pledge, plus a second check for \$17,500 to help finance the linking of the hospital communication system to other hospitals, ambulances, and emergency vehicles.

november 1972

The Auxiliary presented the hospital with a check for \$35,200, which completed a \$65,000 pledge to buy a nuclear camera useful in detecting tumors. The funds were raised through snack bar and gift shop revenues.

november 1976

The Auxiliary pledged \$100,000 to purchase a new scanner, formally known as the whole body computerized axial tomographic (CAT) scanning system.

november 1977

A year later marked the “first infiltration” of 24 men into the organization, among a total of 413 volunteers.

january 1979

The Auxiliary pledged \$132,000 to double the size of the main conference room, followed by a June award of \$8,350 in college scholarships to 19 women and two men.

may 1980

The Auxiliary continued its scholarship program with \$16,750, divided into awards ranging from \$300 to \$1,000. In October of that year, the Auxiliary pledged \$250,000 over five years toward the construction of the new Outpatient Pavilion. It was the largest single gift in the Auxiliary’s 25-year history.

september 1996

With each passing decade, it seemed, the funding only became more substantial. Thanks in part to a \$500,000 contribution by the Auxiliary, the “high-tech, high-touch” Family Birth Center opened.

march 1997

A \$4.2-million bequest enabled the Auxiliary to increase college scholarship grants by \$400,000. By winter 1999, then president and CEO Jay Hudson wrote, “The success of the campaign to raise funds for the (Comprehensive) Cancer Center was a confirmation of the community’s and the Auxiliary’s commitment to making the center a reality. Thanks in part to the pace-setting donation of \$600,000 from the Auxiliary, our \$7.5-million campaign goal was exceeded 18 months ahead of schedule.”

winter 2001

The Auxiliary paid its first of five \$200,000 installments toward the construction of the new South Pavilion through Fountain Court Café, gift shop, and donor revenues. In June 2004, the Auxiliary scholarship program continued by awarding 43 scholarships totaling \$40,000.

december 2006

“The Auxiliary raised the bar by completing its groundbreaking \$1-million contribution toward the Pavilions Project,” says Chief Development Officer Albert J. Alvarez. “Were the Auxiliary an individual, surely it would have had a building or two named after it by now.”

Shawn Silvey Warming hearts and heads one hat at a time

Her first thought after hearing she had cancer was her hair. She simply couldn't bear the idea of losing her signature long, thick, shiny brown mane. And it was one of the reasons she kept delaying her treatment. She was scared — of the whole process, but mostly about losing her hair.

But when her sister said, "What's more important — your hair or your life?" she got it. It wasn't about how she looked or what strangers thought. It was about fighting this thing. She started chemotherapy.

heart as she wore them throughout a battle valiantly fought and, ultimately, won.

Three years later, Silvey has crocheted more than 100 caps herself, which she has donated to Community Hospital to be given to other women trudging through cancer treatments and wishing they, too, had hair.

Silvey has also donated crocheted scarves and recently came up with a matching set of socks and a hat.

“I like to give back what was given to me,” she says. “Sometimes I get letters from girls like, ‘Your hat feels nice on my shiny bald head.’ That does it for me.”

It was her patient navigator, a cancer survivor who had volunteered to guide her through her journey, who told her the hair loss was nothing to fear — it was the chemo, not the cancer taking her locks, and it was actually a symbol and reminder that the chemo was doing its job. She got that, too.

But she also got cold.

So her mom crocheted her some pretty little hats, just the way she had taught Shawn to do when she was a child. And the colorful caps warmed her head and her

“It's sort of like ‘bedding in a bag,’ only I do socks in a hat,” she said. “When I went through chemo, my feet got so cold. So I make socks to match the hat. I get all kinds of patterns off the internet and crochet them in all sorts of colors.”

Silvey's most compelling gift is likely her “Awareness Angels,” tiny crocheted angels she ensconces in a handmade box with windows on the side to give to every woman who receives a cancer diagnosis at Community Hospital's Breast Care Center.



Shawn Silvey with her creations from the heart, made for patients diagnosed with breast cancer.

Inside the box she tucks a note with a little heart that reads, “Hope is believing in a brighter tomorrow.” And then she writes, “Awareness Angel. October 29, 2003, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. I just wanted to do something from my heart for all the other women who are on this journey, so I crocheted this angel

just for you. If my words had wings, they would fly to you each day. Shawn Silvey 2006.”

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Heart Strings from page 1

Community Hospital were having to drive to Salinas or San Francisco for major heart surgery. Now, the hospital has a heart program that will stand shoulder to shoulder with other major heart programs in the country. That is significant.”

One of the first things the Tylers noticed about the Monterey Peninsula when they arrived was that it felt like home. Part of that is because, although they've lived

in many places and traveled to more, they both grew up in the Golden State. Yet mostly it's because they found that the people of this community seem to value, above all else, one another.

Having realized they had reached a point in their lives where they were ready and able to give generously, to do something of significance, they understood that their work should begin at home.

“Wherever you grow up in the world,” says Tyler, “you have ownership of that place and in those experiences for the rest of your life. It's part of who you are. Despite all the places I've lived and traveled over the years since my boyhood in El Centro, California, those years fade compared with the colorful and unforgettable growing-up years.

“So, moving back to California, to the Monterey Peninsula, was our coming home. It is just so natural, so right to be here. This is where we live, this is our home, this is the community where we should leave our legacy.”