

health Connections

FALL 2021

Seasonal Newsletter of Spencer Hospital



**RURAL & COMMUNITY
TOP HOSPITAL 2021**
SIX-TIME RECIPIENT

 THE CHARTIS GROUP



Introducing...

**A NEW SURGEON
AND NEW SURGICAL
TECHNOLOGY!**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Meet the Behavioral Health Providers of Spencer Hospital
- Congratulations to Hospital Hero Dr. Sonia Sather
- SHIP Volunteers Help Navigate Medicare Enrollment
- Reach Out & Read: Doctors Promote Child Development

Mako™

SURGERY CENTER ADDS ORTHOPEDIC ROBOTICS



These Orthopedic Surgeons of Northwest Iowa Bone, Joint & Sports Surgeons of Spencer Hospital are using this new robotic system on some of their procedures. Pictured left to right are: Dr. Jason Hough, Dr. Chris Rierson, Dr. Michael Dirkx, and Dr. Andrew Pick.

As humans, we can be tough on our joints. For many of us, years of wear and tear can eventually lead to the need for joint replacement surgery for improved comfort and function.

The orthopedic surgical team at Spencer Hospital has expertly performed thousands of joint procedures over the years. Yet, though each surgeon has two highly skilled hands to use, for some procedures it's helpful to have an extra hand, or specifically, an extra arm - such as the Mako Smart Robotics arm.

This fall the Spencer Hospital Surgery Center added the Mako system to its high-tech surgery center. The purchase of the Mako system is an addition to the robotic capabilities the hospital has offered for gynecological and general surgery cases since 2015. The implementation of the orthopedic robotic system is part of a routine multi-million dollar upgrade to the surgery center.

The Mako system is being used by four orthopedic surgeons with Northwest Iowa Bone, Joint & Sport Surgeons of Spencer Hospital, assisting them with total hip and knee replacement and partial knee replacement procedures. Through CT-based 3D modeling of a patient's bone anatomy, surgeons can use the Mako system to create a personalized surgical plan.

“The software allows us to preoperatively perform the surgery without ever making an incision,” explained Dr. Andrew Pick. “We are able to fit the knee or hip to the patient’s personal anatomy prior to the surgery.”

Dr. Jason Hough explained that in addition to the preoperative planning the Mako software provides, during surgery the program confirms anatomy to determine in real time if any adjustments are required. Then, the surgeon uses the robotic arm to aid in the precision of surgical cuts and implant alignment. Dr. Michael Dirx, who joined the Spencer orthopedic team in August, trained on the Mako system during his surgical residency. “It allows for a more balanced, personalized knee every case by providing us freedom to perform individual bone cuts that traditional knee replacements don’t allow,” Dr. Dirx explained. “The preoperative planning allows us to see any potential challenge before surgery and how we can avoid them.”

Dr. Chris Rierson also has experience using the Mako system. “For me, it is an invaluable tool in my practice,” he said. “We can all do manual total knees and hips very well, but for me this tool adds significantly to the experience.”

Dr. Hough said the surgeons have traditionally experienced exceptional recovery time among their patients; however, the robotic system will help them maintain those excellent outcomes into the future. The surgeons also noted that the use of the new system helps reduce radiation exposure for the patient and surgical team, requiring less imaging time during a procedure.

Spencer Hospital orthopedic surgeons have been performing joint replacement procedures since the mid-1970s. Since that time, the hospital’s surgery center has been the most selected facility for those services by patients in northwest Iowa, helping the hospital and healthcare team to achieve its mission of helping community members enjoy optimal health.



FOUNDATION HELPS FUND SURGERY CENTER ENHANCEMENTS

The purchase of the Mako system was part of a surgery center enhancement project which include upgrades in technology and a refresh of surgical suites, funded, in part, through a grant from the Spencer Regional Healthcare Foundation.

“Upgrades in equipment, technology and facilities are routinely performed throughout Spencer Hospital each year, and several upgrades are planned for the hospital’s surgery center in 2022,” commented hospital president Bill Bumgarner. These enhancements include:

- Upgrading cameras, scopes and other technology associated with laparoscopic and arthroscopic procedures.
- Upgrading to 4K video technology in every surgical suite.
- Replacing surgical booms and lighting in all the surgical and procedure rooms.
- An electrical system update and a refresh of flooring and doors in all surgical suites.

The Spencer Regional Healthcare Foundation supported the project with the grant of \$500,000.

“It’s exciting to learn how Spencer Hospital continues to enhance and expand services to meet those who live in and travel to our region for healthcare services,” expressed Pat Reno, Foundation board president. “It’s rewarding to see our community members show their appreciation for the fine medical facilities we have locally through their generous support of the foundation. We’re thrilled we could provide significant support to the surgery center enhancement project.”

Bumgarner added, “Spencer Hospital’s surgery center is an active facility, typically averaging over 500 procedures in a variety of surgical specialties each month. Our highly skilled surgeons and professional staff touch many lives through their commitment to our patients. Spencer Hospital strives to provide surgeons and our hospital team with the state-of-the-art technology and facilities they need to offer the very best in surgical care each day.”

NORTHWEST IOWA BONE, JOINT & SPORTS SURGEONS WELCOMES DR. MICHAEL DIRKX



DR. MICHAEL DIRKX HAS JOINED NORTHWEST IOWA BONE, JOINT & SPORTS SURGEONS - SPECIALIZING IN HAND SURGERY, ROBOT ASSISTED TOTAL JOINT REPLACEMENT AND GENERAL ORTHOPEDICS.

Dr. Dirkx, a Carroll, Iowa native, earned his undergraduate degree at Buena Vista University where he competed for the Beavers baseball team. Dirkx attended medical school at Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine. He completed his residency at McLaren Macomb Hospital at Michigan State University.

Dr. Dirkx will be serving patients in Spencer and Storm Lake. He resides in Spencer with his wife, Rachael, and their daughter, Claire.

Welcome, Dr. Dirkx!

DR. PLUCKER-BILLUPS JOINS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AT SPENCER HOSPITAL



DR. SERGIO PLUCKER-BILLUPS JOINED SPENCER HOSPITAL AS THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF THE PSYCHIATRY DEPARTMENT IN OCTOBER.

Dr. Plucker-Billups, of Sioux Falls, earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of South Dakota. He received his medical degree from the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. Dr. Plucker-Billups completed his residency in Psychiatry at the University of South Dakota, serving as the chief resident for the program.

Dr. Plucker-Billups and his wife Amber, a family practice physician, moved from Sioux Falls to Northwest Iowa.

Welcome, Dr. Plucker-Billups!

SPENCER HOSPITAL PROVIDES INPATIENT AND OUTPATIENT SERVICES FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

DO YOU FIND YOURSELF STRUGGLING WITH ANXIETY, DEPRESSION OR ANOTHER BRAIN HEALTH CONDITION? YOU'RE NOT ALONE. NEARLY ONE IN EVERY FIVE AMERICAN ADULTS WILL HAVE A DIAGNOSABLE MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION IN ANY GIVEN YEAR, AND 46 PERCENT WILL MEET THE CRITERIA FOR A DIAGNOSABLE MENTAL ILLNESS IN THEIR LIFETIME.

Also, you're not alone in your healing and treatment journey. A local team of healthcare professionals are available to help.

Avera Medical Group Spencer of Spencer Hospital provides behavioral health outpatient services each weekday. And, if needed, Spencer Hospital offers adult inpatient care at the hospital's 15-bed Behavioral Health Center. Crisis assessments are available 24/7 in the hospital's emergency department and tele-psychiatry is provided in conjunction with Care Connections of Northern Iowa.

Spencer Hospital's Multidisciplinary Behavioral Health Team includes:

- Psychiatrists and psychiatric mental health nurse practitioners focused on providing treatment for brain health, offering in-person and tele-psychiatry visits.
- Registered nurses who specialized in understanding brain health, patient care needs and treatment planning.
- Behavioral health techs who lead the activities and educational groups on the unit each day.

- A social worker who assists patients with treatment and discharge planning, leads group therapy with patients, and helps patients and families access community resources.
- A music therapist who leads group activities to aid in relaxation and provide entertainment.
- A substance use counselor provides assessment and referral options for patients who need this specialized care in addition to their mental health care.
- Occupational therapists are specially trained to assist with coping skills for stressors in daily living.
- Dietitians who assist with nutritional needs and provide an educational group to encourage healthy eating.

"Our mission is to provide a safe environment, medication treatment, and support services while assisting the patient in recovery," explained Deb Brodersen, Spencer Hospital's Behavioral Health Services director. "The adult inpatient unit provides 24/7 supportive and experienced nursing care in a comfortable, safe and secure environment so you or your loved one can focus on healing. Our outpatient clinic services include diagnosis and treatment, provides post-hospitalization follow-up care, and medication management."

The Behavioral Health Clinic at Avera Medical Group Spencer is open Monday - Friday from 8:30 am - 5:00 pm. To schedule an appointment, please call (712) 264-3515.



Matt Baltés is a Board Certified Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner at Spencer Hospital. He received his BSN from Allen College and his Master of Science - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner from Walden University.



Mark Hepworth is a Board Certified Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner at Spencer Hospital. He received his BSN and his Master of Science - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner from Allen College.



Dr. Anand Joshi, MD is a Psychiatrist that provides telemedicine counseling and treatment services to Behavioral Health patients at Spencer Hospital. He received his Doctor of Medicine from St. Matthew's School of Medicine and completed his psychiatry residency with children at Sanford School of Medicine of the University of South Dakota.

DR. SONIA SATHER NAMED AN IOWA 'HOSPITAL HERO'



RATHER THAN A CAPE, THIS HERO TYPICALLY WEARS A LAB COAT WITH A STETHOSCOPE DRAPED AROUND HER NECK, AND SHE CAN TYPICALLY BE FOUND BY A PATIENT'S BEDSIDE RATHER THAN LEAPING A TALL BUILDING. YET DAILY, DR. SONIA SATHER IS HEROIC IN THE CARE AND COMPASSION SHE PROVIDES. IN EARLY OCTOBER, DR. SATHER WAS HONORED FOR HER COMMITMENT TO HER PATIENTS WHEN SHE WAS RECOGNIZED BY THE IOWA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION AS ONE OF ITS 2021 HOSPITAL HEROES.

"Dr. Sather been a hero to many, helping patients manage complex medical conditions, while doing the extra things that exemplify her compassion," commented hospital president Bill Bumgarner. "She is an extraordinary and skilled physician who takes a personal interest in each of her patients."

The nomination for Dr. Sather included three letters of support, each sharing a number of stories of how Dr. Sather showed special concern and took extra steps to ensure a great experience for her patients.

In her letter of nomination Carole Feldhacker, one of the nurses on the hospitalist care team, noted, "Sometimes it's the little things. We had a patient who wanted gum but due to having dentures, couldn't chew the kind we had available. Dr. Sather queried him to determine his preferences and went out and got it herself."

She continued, "Other times, it's the big things. A year or so ago, we had a hospice patient who needed inpatient care. It was diffi-

cult for the family to be with their loved one. Dr. Sather personally checked for hospice volunteers, music therapy, clergy and others who could sit with the patient in family's absence. And, she personally spent as much time as she was able to with the patient. Dr. Sather even sang to her and played music from her phone for her!"

Jennifer Dau, Vice President of Patient Care at Spencer Hospital, also wrote a letter supporting Dr. Sather's nomination. She shared this story in her letter: "There are so many examples of her kindness. Here's one that comes to mind. We had a long-term skilled care patient who had been in and out of our facility and a tertiary facility in Sioux Falls for months. Dr. Sather made sure the family had her personal cell phone number and often contacted the patient's spouse during off hours. When the patient's birthday rolled around, she made a raspberry cheesecake, purchased a gift, and coordinated the staff singing Happy Birthday."

Another letter of support was from Linda O'Clair, a registered nurse who worked alongside Dr. Sather during her years as a family practice physician at Avera Medical Group Spencer. Linda mentioned in her letter: "There's so many stories and examples of kindness and thoughtfulness that Dr. Sather did for others that it's hard to pin it down just a few. She has a down-to-earth demeanor and is approachable; always seeking ways to go above and beyond for others. Our community is so fortunate to have Dr. Sather as part of the healthcare community."

In true hero form, Dr. Sather was modest about her accomplishments.

"When I learned of my designation as a hospital hero, I was both humbled and honored by the recognition," she mused. "I'm so fortunate to be surrounded by such a great team of caretakers in this hospital who work together to make excellent patient care their top priority. They are the ones who inspire me each and every day to be present for my patients, to strive harder and to care more compassionately by following their examples. It takes a village to care for the whole patient and I am proud to be part of the village of Spencer Hospital."

She continued, "The last year and a half has presented significant challenges for all of us in healthcare, stretching us both physically and emotionally as we've cared for our patients during this COVID pandemic. Often they've not been allowed to have visitors, and all of the staff have gone out of their way to compassionately care for patients and support their families during this difficult time. In the end, it's the little things that become the big things when you have the privilege of caring for someone. So again I feel so blessed to be a part of this Spencer Hospital team who inspires and uplifts me daily, making me a better person and physician."

Dr. Sather was one of 11 Iowa health professionals who were honored by the Iowa Hospital Association as a 2021 Hospital Hero. IHA initiated the Hospital Heroes Award in 2007 and through 2019, more than 100 healthcare professionals have been recognized.

DAISY AWARD HONORS OUTSTANDING NURSES

TWO NURSES RECEIVE DAISY AWARD FOR PROVIDING COMPASSIONATE CARE

CONGRATULATIONS TO SPENCER HOSPITAL'S LATEST DAISY AWARD WINNERS, TYNE KABRICK AND BRITTANY KENYON! TWICE EACH YEAR SPENCER HOSPITAL AWARDS TWO OUTSTANDING NURSES WHO HAVE BEEN NOMINATED BY PATIENTS, FAMILY MEMBERS OR PEERS FOR THEIR INCREDIBLE CARE AND KINDNESS.

Tyne is a nurse at the Birth Center who was nominated by a patient who was grateful for Tyne's care during a long labor. Here's what she wrote: "It was a long induction and I was the most impatient miserable and annoying patient in the world. Tyne was so kind and patient with me. She was constantly encouraging me and explaining what was going on, what was going to happen next, and offering to do anything she could to help. One thing I found particularly impressive with Tyne was her professionalism. She was terrific in managing the relationship between patient and physician. I am so thankful that she was my nurse during my time here."

Brittany Kenyon, a Behavioral Health Services nurse, was nominated by a patient who appreciated her attention to her care. Her nominated noted: "Brittany has been a fantastic resource and provider of care and assistance with all of my needs. This means coordinating with the pharmacy at times and retrieving

those scripts. It means her ability to exercise an uncanny almost super outward ability to appear at just the right moment I need her. Furthermore, she is completely humble, focusing clearly on her next task at hand and obviously anticipating the needs I may have and my expressed care-related wishes."

The Daisy Award was created by the family of Patrick Barnes to honor outstanding nurses in appreciation of the care Patrick received. Anyone can nominate a nurse by picking up a form at Spencer Hospital or submitting one from the website: SpencerHospital.org.



Tyne Kabrick



Brittany Kenyon

GEM AWARD RECOGNIZES SENSATIONAL STAFF

GOING THE EXTRA MILE TO PROVIDE EXCEPTIONAL SERVICES TO OUR PATIENTS



Beth Magnuson



Chad Smith

IN AUGUST SPENCER HOSPITAL RECOGNIZED ITS TWO MOST RECENT GEM AWARD RECIPIENTS. THE GEM AWARD HONORS TWO STAFF MEMBERS SEMI-ANNUALLY TO RECOGNIZE INDIVIDUALS WHO "GO THE EXTRA MILE" TO PROVIDE EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE TO OUR PATIENTS.

Beth Magnuson in Valet was nominated by a coworker who wrote: "While I was out doing my mail rounds I came across a really sweet interaction between Beth and a young patient too scared to walk through the hospital doors. They were out in the hallway, hands shoved down deep in their pockets, refusing to come in. You could see how scared the patient was. Although I couldn't hear their conversation, I could see how patient Beth was

with them. Whatever she did worked and got the patient to come through the door for their visit. When I was coming back that way, I stopped and told Beth that her interaction really stood out to me. The compassion that Beth showed to this young patient was exceptional and I absolutely think she is deserving of our GEM award. She truly was and is a GEM!"

Chad Smith from Information Technology Services was nominated by two of his coworkers. The first one noted: "Upon my return to work after maternity leave, I had several IT issues. I called Chad for help - he came to help me within five minutes and committed himself to get me up and running. During the process, he remained calm and professional. Chad even continued to check in with me after my issues. Not only is he helpful with IT issues, but he also possesses excellent customer service skills and is very approachable." The second coworker stated: "Chad is always so helpful and if he can't fix the issue he does forward it on. He is pleasant and friendly even though I've had to put in multiple IT tickets lately. I feel he deserves credit for all of his hard work and patience. I'm glad he's part of our team! Thanks for all of your knowledge and assistance during our software transition!"

Nomination forms for the GEM Award can be found on Spencer Hospital's website: SpencerHospital.org under the Patient & Visitors tab.

SHIIP COUNSELORS PROVIDE GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT IN MEDICARE DECISION PROCESS

WHEN NAVIGATING MURKY WATERS, IT'S BENEFICIAL TO HAVE A KNOWLEDGEABLE GUIDE TO HELP PROVIDE GUIDANCE ON YOUR COURSE SELECTION. THAT'S WHAT A SHIIP VOLUNTEER PROVIDES FOR INDIVIDUALS EXPLORING OPTIONS FOR MEDICARE ENROLLMENT.

The Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) is a free, objective and confidential service offered through the state of Iowa to help people sort through confusing information about Medicare and health insurance. Trained, certified volunteer counselors assist thousands of Iowans annually, helping them find the plans that best fit their individual needs.

Linda Thiesen and Sandy Thomas are certified SHIIP volunteers for the local program which is hosted by Spencer Hospital. They are joined by volunteer Connie Hurst who is trained as a SHIIP assistant, who aids in scheduling appointments and compiling information.

"This is the most rewarding volunteer position that I know," commented Linda, who is beginning her third year as a local SHIIP volunteer. Several years ago, Linda had worked at Northwest Aging Association (now Elderbridge) and at that time, the staff provided Medicare counseling. However, when the Iowa program shifted to entirely volunteer-based, those services were absent in Clay County until Linda retired and completed the training process.

"When I was making plans to retire, I knew SHIIP was one of the volunteer opportunities I wanted to pursue," Linda said. As the sole counselor in Clay County her first two years, Linda's schedule tends to fill up quickly.

"When I turned 65," Sandy said, "I wasn't able to get an appointment with Linda to help me navigate the Medicare program. It was also open enrollment time and her schedule was full. I felt lost and confused. The opportunity to help others avoid some of that confusion led me to SHIIP."

The SHIIP training for volunteers is conducted over several days. Linda was able to complete her training in-person; however, due to COVID-19, all of Sandy's training was online. They both shared that the training is challenging, yet also interesting.

"It's rather daunting at the beginning," Sandy shared. "Then mentoring took over, and the training made sense. Linda was by my side every step of the way and has helped me gain the confidence I need to meet with clients."

Linda added, "I don't have all the answers, but I have a lot of resources. Whenever I am unsure of how to address a new

situation, I can call the SHIIP office to get assistance. They have direct contact with the Iowa Insurance Division in case they need clarification. You are never left out in the cold because there are so many resources at your fingertips."

SHIIP counselors can provide assistance any time during the year and can set their own schedules. However, Linda and Sandy strive to be highly accessible during the Medicare open enrollment period of Oct. 15 through Dec. 7, which is their busiest time.

To make an appointment, please call Spencer Hospital at (712) 264-6198. If clients already have a Medicare card, they should bring it to the appointment along with a list of prescription medications, dosage and frequency. Also, jot down questions ahead of time to make sure all information you wish to know is covered.

"There is so much to absorb and we want to make sure they leave with all the knowledge they need to make informed decisions," Sandy said.

Linda added, "If you are contemplating retirement and want to know more about how Medicare works, we can help you understand the basics of the Medicare program."

Sandy agrees with Linda that being a SHIIP counselor is a wonderfully rewarding volunteer project. She exclaimed, "I know when I walk out of the hospital doors at the end of a day, the clients know more about Medicare than when they walked in that same door earlier. That really is a rewarding trip to the hospital!"



Linda Thiesen and Sandy Thomas provide free and confidential Medicare enrollment assistance.

REACH OUT & READ DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

PROVIDING BOOKS TO YOUNG CHILDREN IN CONJUNCTION WITH PEDIATRIC CARE

THE MORE THAT YOU READ,
THE MORE THINGS YOU WILL KNOW.
THE MORE YOU LEARN,
THE MORE PLACES YOU'LL GO!
— DR. SEUSS



Reading with children, especially those first few years of a child's life from infancy through toddler-hood, greatly impacts healthy brain development, helps promote strong parent-child bonds, and significantly increases language and listening skills.

The Avera Medical Group Spencer (AMGS) family medicine team recently joined the Reach Out and Read program, which is designed to give young children a foundation for success by incorporating books into pediatric care and encouraging families to read aloud together.

"What happens during the first few years sets the state for the rest of a child's life," said Dr. Amy Jochims, family practice physician at AMGS, who initiated the local program. "Reach Out and Read helps parents to become their young child's first, and most important, teacher."

Dr. Jochims had the opportunity to participate in Reach Out and Read as a family practitioner in Colorado before moving back with her young family to her native northwest Iowa region. She introduced the idea of launching Reach Out and Read at the Spencer clinic to her partnering physicians who embraced the opportunity.

"As doctors, we have early access to families and are considered a trusted source of information," Dr. Jochims shared. "Approximately 91 percent of children under the age of five see their doctor at least once a year, if not more often. This provides a wonderful opportunity for us to advise families about the importance of reading with their children, and share books that serve as a catalyst for healthy childhood development."

The Reach Out and Read program offers tips and training for physicians to have important teaching conversations with parents. All of the AMGS physicians completed an educational

Dr. Amy Jochims, Avera Medical Group Spencer, a department of Spencer Hospital.

session as part of their commitment to Reach Out and Read. The program also offers resources for ordering age-appropriate books, which are designed to help aid a child's development.

The Spencer Regional Healthcare Foundation provided the funding to purchase the hundreds of books, which will be provided to families through the developmental program. Pat Reno, president of the foundation board, remarked, "It's through the generosity of our community to the foundation that we can support wonderful programs like Reach Out and Read. We're excited to be part of a program which will make a significant difference in the wellbeing of our young community residents."

Dr. Jochims commented, "Every child will likely encounter some adversity and unfortunately, some more than others. It's been shown that adverse childhood experiences are linked to long-term health, behavior, and social consequences."

She then emphasized, "However, positive childhood experiences through safe, stable, nurturing relationships can buffer the effects of adverse childhood experiences. These positive experiences include acts like reading aloud with parents and siblings, singing, and telling stories. As healthcare providers, we're excited we can help make a difference in not only the health and wellbeing of our young children, but also their social and mental development. It's amazing how much you can assess about a child just by simply handing them a book."

2021 ABBEN GOLF CLASSIC SCORES SUCCESS!

SPONSORS, GOLFERS TEAM UP FOR A TERRIFIC EVENT

When you're on the golf course, you always need to be prepared to change up your game a bit due to the possibilities of external factors such as wind or other weather conditions. Likewise, when you're part of a health entity that cares for immune compromised individuals, and you're also in the midst of a health pandemic while planning a popular golf event that draws many wonderful people together, you also adapt as needed.

As COVID-19 infections began climbing locally in mid-August, just prior to the planned August 29 Abben Cancer Center Golf Classic date, tweaks were made to ensure both fun and health safety.

"Thanks to the generosity of Randy Rohlfen and his wonderful staff at the Emerald Hills Golf Course, the golfers were still able to participate on the original date or any day of their choice throughout the month of September," explained Sara Taylor, Foundation Director.

"We are so appreciative of the support and understanding of our sponsors and golfers," Taylor said. "Many golfed that Sunday, yet others appreciated the opportunity to participate during a quieter time. Also, we moved the charity auction, which typically occurs the day of the event, to an online auction, which was lots of fun as we were able to attract even more bidders. We had a very successful fundraising event for the cancer center, raising over \$63,000!"

Taylor explained that funds are used to support patients with personal needs, such as transportation assistance, wig care, and educational resources, as well as assist with other programming and technology upgrades.

She added, "Many thanks to our supporters of this wonderful event to help cancer patients through their journey at the Abben Cancer Center."

The 2022 Abben Golf Classic is already set, planned for Sunday, August 28, 2022 with the anticipation of bringing all of the sponsors and golfers together again!



ABBEN GOLF CLASSIC

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By Jennifer Walker
By Merlyn & Sonna Winther
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-IN HONOR OF-

All COVID Survivors & those lost to us
By Jacque Easter

Casey Cunningham
By Community State Bank

Karen Forbes
Dr. David & Shelly Robison

All Hospice Workers
By Anonymous

Lynda Schmidt Family
By Gordon Schmidt

Lauren Ketcham Sigmon
By Jim & Michaela Cullen

Mary & Tom Reissner Family
By Mary & Tom Reissner

Louise Simpson
By Wes & Amy Simpson

Randy & Judy VanDyke
By Wes & Amy Simpson

Elli Wiemers
By Mitch & Laura Wiemers

-IN MEMORY OF-

Bonnie Albertson
By Bonnie's Children & Grandchildren

Margaret Anderson
By Jim & Mareen Erwin
By Roger & Jackie Mann
By Dr. David & Shelly Robison

Norma Backstrom
By Jim & Mareen Erwin

Betty Lou Baish
By Spenser & Sara Taylor
By Mary & Jay Weaver & Family

Henry & Donna Baldwin
By Chad & Angie Baldwin

Deda Behrens
By Thomas & Kathryn Roti

Jerry Becker
By Mel & Margaret Molitor

Ashley Benson
By Jim & Mareen Erwin

Nathubhai B. Bhakta
By Raman & Ila Narsi

Jean Brock
By Darlene White

Anita Brown
By Andrew & Jeannette Hasley

Ernie Bruns
By James & Linda Conlon
By Janet Johnson

Bill & Mary Byers
By Grant & Jen Dau
By Doug & Kris Delaney

Verna Campbell
By Jim & Mareen Erwin

LaVonne Carlson
By Lowell Carlson

Sven Chaney
By Mitch & Kathy Brandt

Lois Christensen
By Clayton & Dawn Fletcher
By Roger & Sherrie Green

Delbert Clague
By Waneta Clague

Vernon & Fern Clark
By Rochelle Waggoner

Tom Conley
By Lorraine Conley

Jim Conlon
By Bruce & Judy Iverson

Maurice Coover
By Myra Coover

Dixie Copeland
By Andrew & Jeannette Hasley

Tom & Marge Cornwall
By Dr. Nathan Rohling

Keith Dannatt
By Abby Johnson

Cynthia Drake Karls
By Norma Drake

Arnold Dodge
By Jim & Mareen Erwin
By Roger & Phyllis Hanson
By Lefty & Jeanette Petersen
By Paul & Deona VandeBerg

Bob Doran
By Lisa, Jake, Josh, & Heather Doran

Mariel Dorman
By Family of Mariel Dorman

Robert Drake
By Norma Drake

Clifford Durst
By Ardell Durst

Jack L. Easter
By Jacque Easter

Ron Edmunds
By Keith & Georgia Edmunds
By Steve & Terri Elias
By Bruce Heitkamp
By Clark & Linda Heitkamp
By Mike Heitkamp

John Elbert
By Tom & Marianne Fuchsen

Joann Erickson
By Roger & Jackie Mann

FOUNDATION MISSION ENHANCE LOCAL HEALTHCARE

Lynn Erwin

By Marla Woelber

Art Evans

By Jim & Mareen Erwin

Dennis Faber

By Linda Conlon
By Friends & Family of Dennis
By Stephen & Linda Pitt
By Vendell & Rita Rezabek
By Colleen Rouse
By Patrick & Sue Smith

Marion & Lola Belle Flint

By Anita Early

Michelle & Kevin Franker

By Merlyn & Norma Kriens

Shirley Gifford

By Laurie Gifford

Ernest Glienke

By Rita Schallau

Penny Goedicke

By David Goedicke
By Janis Lindstrom

Don Goodell

By Spenser & Sara Taylor

Brad Gould

By Jim & Mareen Erwin

Roger Green

By Myra Coover
By Kenneth & Karen Kahley
By Roger & Jackie Mann
By Lindell & Jackie Petersen
By Troy & Anne Rosendahl
By John & Susan Zulk

Jerry Gross

By Jiggs & Anita Jorgensen

Bess Grove

By Ken & Stacy Mol

Marcia Gustin

By Marlin Gustin

Jeanine Hall

By Candice Whittenburg

Kris Hall

Tracey Erb

Randy Harig

By Joni Harig

Bryan Harken

By Lefty & Jeanette Petersen

Murray Hart

By Tom & Marianne Fuchsen
By Kenneth & Karen Kahley

Pete & Izzy Hart

By Mel & Margaret Molitor
By Lindell & Jackie Petersen

Janet Hecox Vogt

By Louise Vogt

Edward Heikens

By Tim & Kristin Heikens

Marvin Heikens

By Effie Heikens

Don Heiter

By Tim & Kristin Heikens

Marilyn Hemme

By William & Mary Rose Hemme

Mel Henning

By Twila Henning

Michael Higgins

By Teresa Allen
By Linda & Len Hanneman
By Mary Higgins
By Mavis King
By Laura Manwarren
By Lucy Olesen
By Catherine Shehan

Roselyn Holmberg

By Jim & Mareen Erwin

Jim & Marjorie Horst

By Bruce & LuAnn Tamisiea

Lori Hott

By Terry & Renee Hott
By Zander & Zoey Mozena

Elayne Hummel

By Spenser & Sara Taylor

Mike Hynes

By Jaime Lair

Rick Jackson

By Gary & Karen Jackson

Dave Johnson

By Paul & Deona VandeBerg

Nyle & DeLila Johnson

By Mark & Deb Johnson

Ruth "Addie" Johnson

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Shirley Johnstone

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Monica Jongma

By Stan & Jodene Jongma

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& Alex Jacobsen**

By Reid & Christina Davis
By Alan Edmondson
By Nancy Galloway
By Lesa Manning
By Shirley Olson
By Ardith Stevenson

Mark Kahley

By Heather Kahley

Beverly Kimball

By Diane Kimball
By Donald Kimball

Jerry Kimball

By Donald Kimball
By Barb Meyerdirk
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LaVonne Kramer

By Leon & Donalle Rodas

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By Kristine Toay

Alvin Kruse

By The Family of Alvin Kruse

Linda Kunzmann

By Patrick & Kristy Connor
By Katherine Kunzmann
By Roger & Jackie Mann

Dale Larsen

By Jerome Kimball
By Mary Larsen
By Lefty & Jeanette Petersen
By Lindell & Jackie Petersen
By Leo & Colette Rossiter
By Mark White

Angie Lawson

By Tim & Edna Lawson

Darrel Lee

By Betty Lee

Kathy Lee

By Betty Lee

Loved Ones

By Anonymous

Loved Ones

By Curt & Becky Stoltz

Bradley Lyon

By Marlene Rounds

Jeff Madson

By Mark & Brenda Sedlmayr
By Chuck & Donna Tielbur

Mark Mann

By Roger & Jackie Mann

Doc Manwarren

By Jiggs & Anita Jorgensen

Bruce McCauley

By Jim & Mareen Erwin

Dr. Tim Menke

By Paul & Deona VandeBerg

Donald Meyer

By Myra Coover
 By Donna Jones
 By Jennifer Jones
 By John Means
 By Lefty & Jeanette Petersen
 By Lindell & Jackie Petersen

John & Eileen Molitor

By Mel & Margaret Molitor

Mark & Laura Montag

By Mark & Deb Johnson

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By Virginia & Mike Burnham

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By Fran Mortenson

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By Chuck & Donna Tielbur

Jack Nalley

By Shirley Nalley

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By Jim & Mareen Erwin
 By Steven & Helen Loerts

Vernon Olberding

By Alan & Cherie Banks
 By John & Linda Weiskircher

Jean Oliver

By Peter & Mary Julia Krull

Deanna Orwig

By Diane Berg
 By Myra Coover
 By Lindell & Jackie Petersen

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By Bill & Karen Bumgarner

Our Parents

By John & Susan Zulk

Charles Peters

By Connie Peters

Carl Peterson

By LaVonne Peterson

Terry Peterson

By Jim & Mareen Erwin

Keith Pfeiffer

By Kathryn Pfeiffer

Bonnie Pletke

By Ron & Marlyce
 Bauermeister
 By Jim & Mareen Erwin

Helen Porter

By Shirley Ohrtman

Vern & Margie Powell

By Virginia Burnham

Carl Prince

By Friends & Family of Carl

Bob Rinehart

By Jerome Kimball

Lucille Rose

By Bob & Delores Barringer

Gene Rouse

By Colleen Rouse

Harley & Luke Rouse

By Colleen Rouse

Terry Rupp

By Wally & Jackie Kimmel

Larry Rustan

By Shelly Carpenter
 By Myra Coover
 By Wendy Henrichs
 By Bruce & Judy Iverson
 By Jodi Peta
 By Colleen Rouse
 By Rose Mary Rustan
 By Jen Trask
 By Shane Von Holten
 By Lori Williamson

Bev Sandvig

By Diane Berg

Sharon Sassman

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By Robin Schomaker

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Mitchell Seivert

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By DeeAnn Vaage

Kris Van Berkum

By Dan Van Berkum
 By John & Susan Zulk

Bill Verdoorn

By Ginny Verdoorn

Karen Vogt Hine

By Louise Vogt

Oliver Vogt

By Louise Vogt

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By Tish, KK, and Troy

Glen Waggoner

By Rochelle Waggoner

Setsuko Wedel

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David Weiland

By John & Susan Zulk

Elsie Wichman

By Elsie Wichman Family

Orlyn Wiemers

Maye Wiemers

Gladys Wilcox

By Roger & Sherrie Green

Delbert Williams

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J.R. Williams

By Joan Williams

Harold Wilson

By John & Susan Zulk

Wayne Winslow

By Jim & Mareen Erwin

-ENDOWMENT-

By Colleen Anderson
 By Glen Chenhall
 By Myra Coover
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THE GIFT OF TIME A DONATION FROM THE SPENCER REGIONAL HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

One very special project that the Spencer Regional Healthcare Foundation helped recently fund was a bereavement package for families who suffer the loss of an infant at birth, and also a cooling “cuddle cot” for the birth center to be used during such sad times.

The cuddle cot is a special cooling bassinet and mattress, designed to give parents the gift of additional time with their baby, extending a family’s time with baby from just a few hours to potentially a few days.

“Watching a family go through the loss of their child is so heartbreaking. We wanted to be able to somehow help ease this burden a little by extending that time they get with their baby,” explained Jeannette Hasley, Birth Center director. “This cooling cot allows the parents that extra gift of time- a truly priceless gift. This really helps with the healing process, and it’s a time that will forever be valuable to them.”

Foundation donors also helped fund specialized bereavement training for the birth center team and for other support items for families. Parents will receive a customized memory box for keepsakes, a grief support book and materials, flower seeds to plant in memory of their loved one and other special items to provide comfort and healing.



Thank you to the donors that made this special gift possible!

Make a Difference. Make a Gift Towards Healthcare.

Name _____ E-mail _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I would like my gift to remain anonymous. **Give a gift online at: www.spencerhospital.org and click on Donate!**

I am enclosing payment to Spencer Regional Healthcare Foundation in the amount of

\$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 I prefer to give \$ _____

We couldn't provide these lifesaving technologies and programs without you. Thank you!

I would like my gift designated Area of Greatest Need Endowment OR
 My Passion (Specific Department) _____

Please designate my gift In Memory/Honor Of (Please circle) _____

If this is a memorial or honor gift, whom can we notify of your gift? Name _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____



HONORING COMMITMENT OF OUR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

DURING NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK EACH MAY, SPENCER HOSPITAL RECOGNIZES COWORKERS WHO ACHIEVED FIVE-YEAR SERVICE MILESTONES WITHIN THE PAST YEAR.

Congrats and thank you to the hospital team members for their dedication, skills, and compassion!

5 Years

Laura Boheman
Monica Dammann
Tanya Ecker
Heather Essex
Tammy Falline
Amanda Fine
Brenda Francis
Amanda Guerttman
Jessica Heywood
Karin Hogge
Beth Hopkins
Melissa Kastner
Lindsey Kelleher
Kaylee Kietzer
Renee Koehlmoos
Abby Langner
Kathy Lansink
Lisa Salton
Samantha Sheffield
Ryan Sikora
Kara Terveer

Kayla Vanderhoff
Keri Voit
Jennifer Williams
Tammy Wilson
Kortney Winters
Marisa Zweifel

10 Years

Brittney Ackerman
Tracey Biedenfeld
Melissa Brent
Christine Carey
Bryn Goettsch
Sarah Goodchild
Cody Greenfield
Melissa Horkey
Shannon Johnson
Sandra Johnson
Marlene Kass
Matthew Kuehler
Rachel Neeman
Anne Netsch

Rebecca Peterson
Sara Schmidt
Kimberly Simkins
Catherine Whalen
Tamara Williams

15 Years

Amie Croatt
Amy Essick
Nicole Greene
Richard Hall
Colleen Hart
Renee Hott
Mellissa Konrady
Jessica Thompson
Sanna Wilson

20 Years

Timothy Birkey
Myron Hesebeck
Pamela Jackson
Holly Jensen

Rachel Meendering
Danielle Nelson
Terrie Nissen
David Partlow
Anne Rosendahl
Michael Schauer
Brenda Tiefenthaler

25 Years

Elizabeth Borth
Kristy Connor
Brian Trojahn
Roxanne Warburton

30 Years

Deborah Pontious

35 Years

Colette Rossiter
Sheila Storey