

Heart to Heart

Health News and Info



ST. TAMMANY PARISH
HOSPITAL OUTPERFORMS
ALL OTHERS FOR QUALITY



1202 South Tyler Street
Covington, LA 70433
(985) 898-4000
www.stph.org

Our Mission

Our mission as a not-for-profit hospital is to provide integrated healthcare services to the individuals and community of western St. Tammany Parish and surrounding areas. These services include education and prevention, a full range of diagnostic services, and both patient and outpatient care, all of which help to ensure continued good health.

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STPH ONLY ROBOTICS INSTITUTE ON THE NORTHSHORE

TRUE TO ITS MISSION TO DELIVER THE best healthcare to its neighbors on the Northshore, St. Tammany Parish Hospital Board of Commissioners approved purchase of the most advanced surgical technology on the market. The decision places St. Tammany first on the Northshore to have the da Vinci System from Intuitive Surgical and the only robotics institute along the I-12 Corridor and north and east into Mississippi.

"The da Vinci robot combines superior 3D imaging with dexterity, precision and control to produce breakthrough capabilities for our surgeons," Nancy Ledet, Director of Surgical Services, said. "We are proud to provide this advanced level of technology for the highly skilled and caring professionals we work with to improve care for our surgical patients."

Da Vinci allows more surgeons to perform complex procedures using a minimally invasive approach – routinely and with confidence. Its increased capability within the same look and feel of open surgery allows a range of procedures to be performed more quickly and easily through smaller incisions.

"We have made a commitment to our



Da Vinci robotic surgery enables physicians to perform complex surgeries with minimal incisions.

neighbors here on the Northshore," Patti Elish, president/CEO, said, "and that is to deliver world-class quality right here at home. The acquisition of the da Vinci places the very latest and most versatile technology in the hands of our caring, compassionate, highly skilled staff. That is a powerful combination for our patients and, we believe, for patients from Tangipahoa and north and east into Mississippi."

The unit was delivered at the end of July. Surgeons were trained and began using the robotic technique in August. Consult davincisurgery.com, stph.org and your physician for more information.

STPH OFFERS DYNAMIC DIAGNOSTICS

THE RECENT ARRIVAL OF THE NEW 64-slice, CT Somatom® Sensation scanner and Siemens Magnetom Espree™ at the Paul D. Cordes Outpatient Pavilion delivers the latest technology for diagnostic imaging close to home.

"The equipment's superior imaging capabilities, surprising speed and accuracy and quick and convenient location make it one of the best resources to local physicians for reviewing and diagnosing conditions," Pat Maltese, head of radiology, said.

STPH Cordes Pavilion Director Melonie Lagalante said she anticipates patients will like the new Magnetom Espree™, an MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) designed to

allow for more room. "A patient having an MRI does not feel constrained or claustrophobic in the new equipment." She indicated patients should request St. Tammany when their practitioner gives them physician's orders to have diagnostic imaging. The outpatient pavilion provides onsite radiologists for real-time response and has full-time access to highly-specialized interventional, neuro and musculoskeletal radiologists on staff.

The STPH Cordes Pavilion is open 7 am to 6 pm Monday through Friday, 7 am to 11 am Saturdays and is located at 16300 Hwy. 1085, Covington, a half-mile west of Hwy. 21. For more information call 871- 6080.

Request St. Tammany Parish Hospital when your practitioner gives you physician's orders to have diagnostic imaging.



Heart to Heart

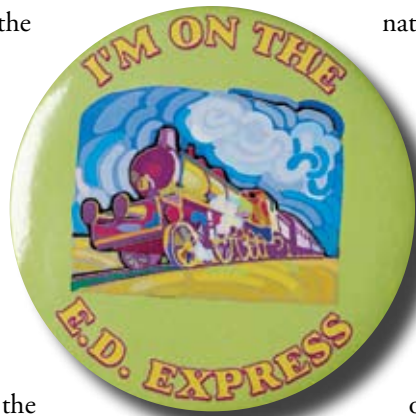
STPH RECOGNIZED FOR ED EXPRESS

THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH HOSPITAL ED Express was named a finalist in the Press Ganey Success Story competition, placing the hospital among the top 20 healthcare success stories in the nation.

Three years ago, STPH set a goal to increase Emergency Department (ED) patient satisfaction. They built a strategy they called the ED Express, evoking the mental image of a fast trip through the emergency experience.

"We realized that every department makes a contribution to the overall satisfaction of a patient in the ED," Kerry Milton, Sr. Vice President/Chief Nursing Officer, said. "Central to our ED Express strategy was to get everyone on board, to join in making the ED patient experience a good one."

Every aspect was examined, from staffing and processes to physical surroundings. In fact, STPH's building services staff redesigned the ED waiting area to improve patient comfort and provide more privacy, and the team provided every employee a button to wear as a whimsical reminder



of the power of everyone to make the ED Express a success. The hospital streamlined the system to more quickly move patients through triage, examination, diagnostics, admission or discharge, which helps with patient turnover and subsequently lessens ED wait time.

The most recent survey results show patient satisfaction scores far exceed expectations, with ED scores in the 90th percentile nationally. "We were ecstatic

to receive those scores because that means patient satisfaction with our emergency department is better than 90 percent of hospitals nationwide," Milton said.

Full steam ahead, the ED Express team continues to focus on decreasing length of stay, serving the expanding population and improving the ED patient experience today and in the future.

"Continuous improvement of quality is key to our success," Milton added. "We are proud to be a community hospital that combines highly personalized care focused on patient satisfaction with state-of-the-art technology, right here at home in St. Tammany Parish."

NEW PROCEDURE FOR WOMEN DEBUTS AT STPH

ST. TAMMANY PARISH HOSPITAL OFFERS women an exciting new procedure in the treatment of fibroid tumors of the uterus. Minimally invasive, uterine fibroid embolization (UFE) drastically shortens surgery and recovery time.

St. Tammany's first UFE candidate is the hospital's own Chief Nursing Officer Kerry Milton. "For me," she said, "UFE answered the specific concerns I had. I wanted to avoid having major surgery with long-term recovery. I wanted a simple procedure that would have me in and out of the hospital in a day with a week or so recovery. My gynecologist and I talked about the options, and we agreed UFE was the first choice we would pursue."

Her gynecologist is Katherine Williams MD. "Fibroid tumors, also known as myomas, are masses of fibrous and muscle tissue in the uterine wall which are benign, but which may

cause heavy menstrual bleeding, pain in the pelvic region or pressure on the bladder or bowel," Williams explained. "In Kerry's case, we determined that her fibroids were appropriate for UFE and proceeded with the case."

With angiographic methods similar to those used in heart catheterization, UFE involves placing a catheter in each of the two uterine arteries and injecting small particles that block arterial branches that supply blood to the fibroids. The fibroid tissue dies, the masses shrink and symptoms are relieved. Done under local anesthesia, UFE is much less invasive than open surgery to remove fibroids.

The procedure is performed by an experienced interventional radiologist, a physician specially trained to perform uterine fibroid embolization and similar procedures. At STPH, UFE is performed by the hospital's own experienced

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ST. TAMMANY HOSPITAL
FOUNDATION

(985) 898-4174
fax (985) 871-5744
www.sthfoundation.org

Our Mission

The St. Tammany Hospital Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization established to sustain the healing work of the physicians and staff of St. Tammany Parish Hospital. Through the development of philanthropic support, the foundation seeks to fortify our promise to provide world-class healthcare close to home, now and for generations to come.

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Please write to us at

St. Tammany Hospital Foundation

1202 S. Tyler St.

Covington LA 70433

if you wish to have your name removed from the list to receive fundraising requests supporting the St. Tammany Hospital Foundation.

LOCAL HEALTHCARE LEGEND AND NATIONAL STUDY CHOOSE STPH

ELLIOTT ROBERTS WAS administrator at Charity Hospital for nearly three decades. Today, the 80-year-old Covington resident still teaches courses and participates in a national study underway at St. Tammany Parish Hospital in care of former student, Debra Berger RN.

Roberts actually awarded Berger her diploma in 1980. "I'm absolutely elated to have a former Charity nursing student taking care of me," Roberts said.

St. Tammany Parish Hospital is one of only 200 sites in the nation participating in the study, evaluating the St. Jude Medical (SJM) Optim™ lead, which is the strongest and most flexible lead available.

In May, Roberts was brought to the STPH Emergency Department and was soon implanted with a pacemaker. "My normal heart rate is around 35 and it had dropped to below 20. This device gives me the assurance that will not happen again," he said.

Patients with pacemakers require monitoring to ensure optimal functioning. Berger can monitor pacemakers through a telephone transmitter.



Roberts & Berger in 1980 and today.



"We monitor more than 200 patients in our clinic," Berger said. "Every three months we check our patients, provide their physicians updates and record data in the SJM registry for the study."

The lead is Food and Drug Administration approved, and patients in the study are followed for five years. SJM intends to publish the information from St. Tammany and other sites in scientific journals and present it at medical conferences.

"With medical technology introducing multiple leads into a single vein, more attention than ever needs to be paid to

long-term durability and reliability of the product," said Dr. Hamid Salam, who specializes in cardiology, internal medicine and interventional cardiology.

Roberts, who has used several of the hospital's services said, "There is no question about the quality of care at St. Tammany. All of my experiences have had positive outcomes."

The STPH Pacemaker Clinic is introducing its first pacemaker and defibrillator support group in September. Meetings will be quarterly at the Heart Center Wednesdays at 11 a.m. For information call 898-3773.

CONTROLLING LYMPHEDEMA

RETIREE ALFRED CLARKE SAYS HIS knee never kept him from his job; but when it kept him from enjoying Disney World with his grandkids, it was time for total knee replacement.

Today, the 62-year old Madisonville resident is also challenged with lymphedema. He chose STPH for surgery and lymphedema therapy.

"I could not have received better care than at St. Tammany Parish Hospital. I had an accident a few years back," he explained. "The cartilage in my left knee finally deteriorated so that my bones were rubbing together. I knew it was time."

Just a few days after surgery last December, Clarke says a STPH therapist encouraged him to get out of bed. "I was hurting so bad I didn't want to move, but he explained to me that it wouldn't get

any better until I moved."

After a few weeks of inpatient rehabilitation Clarke was released. He participated in home therapy and then began physical and occupational therapy at the Cordes Outpatient Pavilion.

"When I started outpatient, my left leg was a little discolored and so swollen I could hardly bend it. I wasn't sure why. My therapist said it was lymphedema," said Clarke.

Lymphedema is progressive swelling caused by malformation or damage to the lymphatic system. Therapist Debra DeWeese detected lymphedema in both of Clarke's legs.

"When I finished therapy, I could bend to about 120 degrees," Clarke noted. He previously used a cane but rarely does now.

Symptoms of lymphedema include

persistent swelling, tightening skin, hardening limbs, decreased flexibility and heaviness in an affected limb.

"If someone has symptoms, they should consult a physician who can refer them to a qualified lymphedema specialist," Angela Wilkie PT, said. "While there is no cure for lymphedema, it can be treated and controlled. The goal is to reduce swelling and maintain that reduction like we have done with Mr. Clarke."

Today Clarke maintains no symptoms of lymphedema. In fact, he and his family recently took an Atlanta vacation. "Having my knee back helps me keep up with my six grandkids," he remarked. "It's all thanks to St. Tammany. I recommend St. Tammany and having therapy at the outpatient pavilion to anyone," he said. "You can't find nicer people."



HOPE FOR THE BEST...PLAN FOR THE WORST

SOUTH LOUISIANANS LEARN EARLY IN LIFE TO PREPARE for severe weather, and Hurricane Katrina proved the value of preparing for the worst.

St. Tammany Parish Hospital leadership recognizes that worst case disasters can come in many shapes and sizes, not the least of which is fierce Gulf storms. As a result, all aspects of health and wellness delivery are scrutinized and planned for in case of emergencies, large and small.

The hospital plan relies upon redundant power generators, onsite well water sources, back-up communication including satellite phones and internet connectivity. Personnel plans stage employees essential to the emergency where they are needed and relieve staff not central to the emergency to evacuate to safety. Plans are drilled and reviewed regularly, and they met the test of a lifetime August 29, 2005.

“We are proud to say that our emergency preparations helped us safely through Hurricane Katrina,” Patti Elish, President and CEO, said, “but we also realize we must constantly look for ways to improve and for ways to be ready to serve our community in different types of emergency situations.”

That diversity of preparedness is one reason the hospital volunteered to distribute the Louisiana Office of Public Health handbook for pandemic flu preparation.

The hospital works in conjunction with the state to ensure that our region is prepared for health emergencies including pandemic flu, natural and manmade disasters.

“We want to ensure our community is protected,” Elish said. Our hospital is highly prepared for likely and unlikely emergencies. We are a resource to the community for information, protection and preparedness.”

STPH management and executives trained this summer with Dr. Parham Jaber, DHH office of public health regional medical director, regarding pandemic flu preparations and how the hospital could serve as a resource in such an unlikely event.

The hospital also hosted a series of FEMA National Incident Management System training sessions for essential hospital personnel to review with veterans and train new personnel on the protocols involved in disaster management.

“Each step we take to be more prepared for an unlikely event makes our community safer,” Elish noted, “and we consider that part of our benefit to the community, central to our mission to serve the healthcare needs of our neighbors close to home.”



COUPLE FUNDS CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY TO FOUNDATION



Dr. & Mrs. Adrian Cairns

“IN SERVICE TO THE HEALTHCARE community, I’ve learned that the public is often unclear about hospitals’ unique financial needs,” Adrian B. Cairns, Jr. MD, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the St. Tammany Hospital Foundation, said.

Adrian and Cher Cairns, longtime hospital supporters, recently funded a charitable gift annuity to benefit St. Tammany Hospital Foundation endowment. The concept of a charitable gift annuity is simple. It is a contractual agreement between a donor and a charitable organization in which the donor transfers assets in exchange for the organization’s promise to pay an annuity. The donor receives an income from the donated assets, in most cases, for life.

“What’s remarkable about this type of gift is that it continues to give even after death. When making this gift, my wife and I decided that at the end of our lives the foundation will receive the remaining portion of our annuity for its endowment. This is an

opportunity to participate in the future of the foundation, St. Tammany Parish Hospital and to provide something for the community’s future,” Dr. Cairns said.

“We learned in Hurricane Katrina that we must prepare for the worst. We must take care of ourselves,” Mrs. Cairns added. “We give to the foundation to secure our own hospital in our own area so that we are not beholden to outside resources that may not understand our needs.”

Rates are regulated by the American Council on Gift Annuities and are often higher than certificates of deposit rates. The rate is based on the donor’s age when the gift is made. There are considerable tax advantages including nearly 50% of the gift is tax deductible and just over 60% of the annuity payment is tax free.

For information on charitable gift annuities or to discuss how a gift annuity can work for you, contact Charley Strickland, executive director, at 898-4141 or visit sthfoundation.org and click on Ways to Give.

ST. TAMMANY *outperforms* ALL



Outperforming every reporting hospital throughout Northshore, New Orleans and Baton Rouge regions, St. Tammany Parish Hospital earned top scores from the foremost authority in hospital quality, the Joint Commission; consecutive years of accolades from the national Employer of Choice, Solucient Insight Awards and VHA Excellence Awards; and local recognition from Sophisticated Woman as Best Hospital on the Northshore and CityBusiness as a Best Place to Work.

“We are honored to be singled out in these ways, but it’s really the people who make us what we are.”

—Patti Elish, President, CEO

“ALL THE STARS AND RANKINGS IN THE WORLD CANNOT compare to the endorsement of our neighbors, employees and physicians,” President/CEO Patti Elish said. “Overwhelmingly, these groups say they would recommend St. Tammany Parish Hospital for their loved ones. Those are the endorsements we are most proud of. We know patients have a choice in where they go for healthcare, and we are proud to offer the highest quality choice in the region.” St. Tammany earned Joint Commission + marks, “Above Performance of Most Accredited Organizations,” for all three National Quality Improvement Goals: heart attack, congestive heart failure and pneumonia. Joint Commission, the world leader for hospital accreditation, found only St. Tammany Parish Hospital and one other hospital in the entire state of Louisiana with that level of consistent, high performance (*Christus of Lake Charles*).

Sue B. Osbon PhD, STPH Board of Commissioner and quality committee member, and Kerry Milton RN, STPH chief nursing officer, recently attended a national Institute for Healthcare Improvement conference on quality and safety initiatives.

“St. Tammany has always enjoyed a reputation for excellence and quality; now, we are quantifying and publicly reporting it,” Osbon said. “One example of the hospital’s commitment to safety and quality is the electronic system to match patients with medications and laboratory specimens. Another is the carefully scripted patient identification protocol followed in surgery.”

Quality improvement initiatives in the hospital include process improvement teams to perfect stroke and cardiac care, eliminate infections, improve emergency department wait times and improve aspects of care throughout the hospital. Our hospitalist program is also a major initiative with goals to improve quality and safety for patients.

“We view quality as the most important measure for how our hospital is performing,” Elish, said. “Earning

Cover and at left, Board and Quality Committee Member Sue B. Osbon PhD, Quality Committee Chair and Chief Medical Officer Bob Capitelli MD and President/CEO Patti Elish represent the breadth of leadership focused on quality initiatives at St. Tammany Parish Hospital.



OTHER HOSPITALS FOR *quality*

these kinds of national, regional and local accolades simply quantifies the quality we know we deliver every day. Our staff lives the mission of delivering world-class care to our neighbors, and these top marks help us to spread that message to everyone seeking care here.”

The hospital remains committed to pursuing the highest quality care for its patients. Recent technology purchases include the daVinci surgical robotic system (*see page 2 for details*) and the very latest in diagnostic imaging equipment, the 64-slice CT and Espree MRI (*see page 2 for details*).

Locally, the hospital was again named Best Hospital on the Northshore in *Sophisticated Woman's* annual poll of residents, and leapt eight places from last year's debut at 15 in the *CityBusiness* Best Places to Work listing.

“We are honored to be singled out in these ways,” Ellish said, “but it's really the people who make us what we are. There's a feeling of family here, and we believe the high marks we have earned nationally and locally for quality as an employer stem directly from our commitment to our employees and our collective commitment to our patients.”

Aside from the high honors, St. Tammany's quality holds up to the test of head-to-head comparison. Patients and families can examine our quality at Joint Commission's qualitycheck.org and the federal government's hospitalcompare.hhs.gov. St. Tammany Parish Hospital rises to the top of a comparison not only in the overall ratings, but also within the detail pages of quality goals and measurements.

Within Joint Commission's heart attack

care examination, St. Tammany is the only hospital in a 75-mile radius to earn five gold stars, “Best Possible Results” status, for the specific measures that comprise the AMI performance measure. JCAHO's ranking is the pinnacle measure for quality in America.

The Joint Commission is the leading healthcare accrediting body in the world, evaluating and accrediting nearly 16,000 healthcare organizations in the United States. www.qualitycheck.org

The Hospital Quality Alliance is the federal government's coordinated online report of hospital quality. It is a measure of quality for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) uses and relies upon Joint Commission data plus a host of other factors. www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov

The Employer of Choice® designation was created as a commitment to philosophies about being an employer and manager of people that truly brings out the best in the workforce and forms a bond between employees and the organization they represent. See “How to Become an Employer of Choice” by Roger Herman and Joyce Gioia or www.hermangroup.com/employerofchoice

The Insight Awards honor healthcare organizations that have achieved extraordinary improvement in healthcare delivery, marketing and operations. www.solucient.com

The VHA Leadership Awards recognize VHA member organizations that have differentiated themselves by demonstrating extraordinary levels of performance in clinical excellence, community benefit excellence, operational excellence and supply chain management improvement. www.vha.com



The Joint Commission is the leading healthcare accrediting body in the world.



BY THE NUMBERS

#1 in region by The Joint Commission National Quality Improvement Goals

#1 Best Hospital on the Northshore

1 of only **2** in Louisiana with 4+

Top **5%** of employers in the nation

Top **6%** patient satisfaction with nursing care

#7 Best Places to Work

Top **7%** employee satisfaction

Top **15%** physician satisfaction

Top **20** national success stories for patient experience

2005, 2006, 2007
VHA Leadership Awards

2005, 2006, 2007
Thomson Insight Awards

2002, 2003, 2004
Solucient Gold Star Awards

FOUNDATION FUNDS DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS

THE ST. TAMMANY HOSPITAL FOUNDATION FUNDED over \$163,000 of patient care equipment and projects by a successful 2007 Call for Funding to STPH departments.

The foundation called for proposals for projects or equipment that may not be in their departments' normal operating budgets, explained Charley Strickland, foundation executive director. "We received 34 requests for more than \$500,000 from departments throughout the hospital," she said. "The foundation is pleased to fund 15 requests and provide alternatives for 15 more."

The funded items include everything from CPR mannequins and a cancer alert system, to an outdoor rehab playground for outpatient pediatrics and a Giraffe OmniBed® in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

"This is no ordinary bed," Janet Kennedy RN, said. "The Giraffe bed is the latest technology for critically ill or premature infants. It is actually two



pieces of equipment in one. It converts from a radiant warmer to an incubator with temperature and humidity control. The benefit is premature infants don't have to be handled as much; and since the bed is two-fold, it also saves space."

STPH COO Sharon Toups is equally excited about the new playground planned for the Paul D. Cordes Outpatient Pavilion. "This equipment will provide children with physical disabilities to work on motor skills in a play setting while being treated at our outpatient pavilion."

Michelle Fell PT said she and her staff work with babies but did not have the equipment to work on gross motor skills as the babies grew into children.

The new playground equipment will accommodate older children with a net climber, swings, a slide and more in a fenced area just outside occupational therapy at the pavilion.

The St. Tammany Hospital Foundation provides a comprehensive program of fund development to supplement, enhance and enrich STPH programs, facilities and services. The funds in the Call for Funding are 25% of undesignated funds contributed to the foundation over the past two years. The other 75% is applied to the foundation's growing endowment, now over \$780,000.

If you are interested in making a gift to the foundation or designating a gift for equipment or a specific department, please contact Charley Strickland, 898-4141 or cstrickland@stph.org.

Blue nursing monitors stand ready for distribution throughout the hospital; a Cardiac Rehab patient pedals away on the new recumbent bike; and PTs easily move a patient using their new Hovermat.

New Procedure from pg. 3
interventional radiologist, Richard Vanderbrook MD.

"We encourage women to first discuss their options with their own gynecologist, as Kerry Milton did, to find out if this procedure is right for them," Dr. Vanderbrook said. "For some women, it can be a viable option to a hysterectomy."

A woman considering UFE needs a gynecological work-up to ensure fibroid tumors are the actual cause of her symptoms. MRI or ultrasound of the uterus is performed to fully assess size, number and location of fibroids. If bleeding is a major symptom, a biopsy of the endometrium—the inner lining of the uterus—may be done to assess for cancer.

Most women are able to return to work one to two weeks after UFE, but occasionally patients take longer to recover.

Dr. Vanderbrook interprets patients' results and works closely with the referring gynecologist or primary care physician to ensure proper follow-up care.

Benefits of UFE include that it is less invasive than open surgical removal of the fibroids or the uterus. Patients ordinarily can resume usual activities weeks earlier than if they had a hysterectomy. Blood loss during uterine fibroid embolization is minimal; recovery time is much shorter than for hysterectomy; and general anesthesia is not required.

Dr. Vanderbrook added that UFE is not for all women. "This procedure should not

be done in women who have no symptoms from their fibroid tumors; when cancer is a possibility; or when there is inflammation or infection in the pelvis."

This relatively new procedure addresses a growing population of women. Patients considering uterine conserving options should work closely with their own gynecologist to weigh the advantages and disadvantages of each procedure and to determine the best course of care. Some concerns women may have about UFE center around pain, cramping and infection.

Together, you, your physician and STPH interventional radiologist Vanderbrook can determine the best course of treatment for your situation.



GOLF COMMUNITY SUPPORTS FOUNDATION



*David Goodyear at Money Hill
Golf and Country Club*

MONEY HILL ACQUIRED ITS NAME IN THE 1800s. LEGEND HAS IT that Barataria pirates and smugglers—perhaps even the notorious Jean Lafitte—buried stolen loot at Money Hill. The allure of these tales was so strong that treasure hunters explored and excavated the property into the 1930s.

The Goodyear family has been the dedicated caretakers of this magnificent property for nearly 100 years. Long regarded as a renewable resource, the property has served the timber, pulp, paper and Tung oil industries. After the Goodyear family and nature saw to its total reforestation, it became a favorite campground for vacationers and sportsmen alike.

Today, Money Hill is a family-oriented golf community of gracious country homes with approximately 100 families. David Goodyear is president of Money Hill Plantation, LLC, and said a recent donation to St. Tammany Hospital Foundation on residents' behalf merely shows their appreciation for the community hospital. "I've always felt close to the hospital. I've lived in St. Tammany Parish since 1964 and have used the services there. In fact, a couple of our children were born at St. Tammany."

The families at Money Hill are a close-knit community. Goodyear believes it's that close-knit feeling you receive at St. Tammany Parish Hospital in addition to the technological capabilities that makes investing in the hospital so important. "I think it's vital to support the hospital that takes care of you. We use it and our employees use it," he said. "They offer valuable services right here at home."

STHF is a private 501 (c)3 non-profit organization established to support and enhance the healing work of the physicians and staff of STPH.

If you would like to make a gift to St. Tammany Hospital Foundation, contact Charley Strickland executive director, 898-4171 or email cstrickland@stph.org.

GIFT INSPIRED BY LIFELONG FRIEND

WHEN DICK KELLEY'S LIFELONG FRIEND, DENNIS MCCLOSKEY FLEW home from a Florida hospital to continue his care at St. Tammany Parish Hospital, Kelley knew there had to be something special about the place.

"Dennis has lived in and out of the hospital for about seven years. I have been many times to visit him and observed how wonderful it is at St. Tammany Parish Hospital," said Kelley. "I would go see him daily and was very impressed. It was clean, well-staffed with polite employees, and offered adequate security and ample parking. Everything seemed to be well thought out."

So when Kelley gave a gift of electronically wired stock to St. Tammany Hospital Foundation, it was not without his own personal research. "I gave stock instead of cash because it is a non-taxable gift. It's a win-win situation for both the foundation and for me. For instance, if I sold the stock," he explained, "I must pay capital gains tax on it and would have less cash to give. You end up actually giving more to the hospital this way."

Covington's Kelley says he has been lucky enough not to need the hospital's services, but just based on his visits and observations of his friend's needs there, he would absolutely use STPH if needed. He is also impressed that McCloskey now spends most of his time in his Pass Christian home in Mississippi, but still returns weekly for treatments in his hometown of Covington at STPH.

"He could go anywhere he wanted and he comes back here. I think it is important to support my community," he concluded. "In other words, support the troops at home."

Should you have questions or wish to make a gift of publicly traded securities, call Charley Strickland, executive director, 898-4141 or email cstrickland@stph.org. A simple transaction, giving the gift of stock is as easy as notifying your broker to wire the shares of stock.



Dick Kelley at St. Tammany

COMPREHENSIVE BREAST HEALTHCARE CLOSE TO HOME

ST. TAMMANY PARISH HOSPITAL IS A HIGH QUALITY resource for breast health, diagnosis and treatment, a care continuum unique on the Northshore.

More than a decade ago STPH initiated an outreach program that became the Cancer Resource Center. "We wanted to provide patients with all the educational tools and coping information they needed before they left the hospital,"

Chryl Corizzo, CRC director, said.

At the Paul D. Cordes Outpatient Pavilion, the CRC hosts the wig boutique plus a resource center of educational tools including a Cancer Survivor Toolbox, the Lance Armstrong LiveStrong Survivorship Notebook, meditation classes and the Look Good, Feel Better program.

The CRC library, open to the public, is stocked with valuable resources and online access.

Women having mastectomy or lumpectomy with lymph node dissection at STPH also receive a camisole designed especially for their unique needs, a gift made possible by a grant from the St. Tammany Hospital Foundation.

The only one of its kind in the area and one of few in Louisiana, the Genetic Cancer Risk Assessment and Counseling Center screens individuals at risk for hereditary cancer, hosted in partnership with Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center and Leonard C. Thomas HOS Foundation.

Angela Wilkie PT and Susan Giovengo PTA are STPH's exclusive lymphedema therapists, the only ones in the area with this highly specialized certification. Wilkie says STPH stays on the cutting edge of procedures, equipment and education and is known for its one-on-one care.

That compassionate nature rings true with Breast Center technologist Agabita Rowe as well. "Having a mammogram

once was considered cold, but here, we make it comfortable. We know negative experiences lead to skipped appointments, which is dangerous."

The Breast Center, in Mandeville, is the only facility in western St. Tammany to provide stereotactic breast biopsy, a minimally invasive procedure critical to early detection,

said Certified Breast Health Navigator Darlene Melancon, along with an R2 Image Checker and computer-aided detection.

Drs. Daniel Rupley and William Wells specialize in mammography radiology and work onsite so that tests are read before a patient leaves, minimizing anxiety.

STPH breast biopsy under MRI guidance is an exclusive on the Northshore, ensuring even patients with inconclusive mammography results can rest assured their radiologist has the clearest possible image of the breast.

The net effect of the hospital's full range of services is Northshore women receive the best care available anywhere.

NATIONAL MAMMOGRAPHY DAY

OCTOBER 19, 2007 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

The Breast Center, 201 St. Ann.

FREE OPEN HOUSE

Patient education, massages, bra genie, osteoporosis information, physicians & staff on hand & more. 612-2100

STATEWIDE BANK COMMITS 3 YEARS TO MONSTER MASH

THE ST. TAMMANY PARISH HOSPITAL PARENTING CENTER Monster Mash Fun Fall Family Festival celebrates 19 years of trick-or-treating, games, arts, crafts and more this year.

Proceeds from Monster Mash enable The Parenting Center to deliver ongoing programs at little or no cost for participants, and to introduce new services and educational opportunities for families in west St. Tammany.

Devoted Monster Mash sponsor Statewide Bank has lengthened its commitment, pledging \$30,000 over three years to The Parenting Center's only annual fundraiser.

"At Statewide Bank, we believe strong, healthy families create great communities, and we are proud to commit three years of support to an organization as dedicated to our parents and children as we are," Desiree Simmons, Statewide vice president and training coordinator, said.

The STPH Parenting Center promotes confidence and competence in parenting,

encourages optimal child development and enhances the wellbeing of the entire family. The resources required to fulfill this mission grow every year with the rapid growth of our region.

"Statewide Bank's demonstrated long-term dedication to this community is clear in their past commitments to The Parenting Center, and it is further cemented today as they commit to three years as presenting sponsor of Monster Mash," Nicole Suhre, St. Tammany Hospital Foundation associate, said.

This year's event is Saturday, October 27, 10 am to 4 pm in Covington's Bogue Falaya Park. Advance purchase tickets are \$3; tickets at the door are \$6; and an activities wristband is \$15. Purchase tickets at St. Tammany Parish Hospital, The Parenting Center, area Statewide Banks and other community locations beginning October 1. For information call 898-4435.



FOUNDATION PHOTO GALLERY



CHAMPAGNE SUMMER SOIREE *Chryl Corizzo, Cancer Resource Center; John Demers, DéMur's Fine Tea; Jennifer Rice, Foundation Trustee; and Angelle Albright, Hostess at the Foundation Champagne Summer Soiree held in July to raise funds for cancer care at STPH.*



GURNEY GAMES *Members of STPH Nursing Administration celebrate a 1st Place victory in the Dynamic Décor category for their "Bad to the Bone" gurney, sponsored by Siemens Medical Supply.*



CHAMPAGNE SUMMER SOIREE *Laurie McCants, Renee Pellissier, Margaret Bossier and Lori Murphy, Foundation Trustee, enjoy champagne and delicious hors d'oeuvres while supporting a worthy cause.*



GURNEY GAMES *The STPH Cardiac Rehab department took home 1st Place in the Gurney Glory Race Awards with the speedy "Pirates of the Cardiacbean" gurney sponsored by Jones Fussell, LLC.*



CHAMPAGNE SUMMER SOIREE *Event models and heroic cancer survivors Erin Newman, Linda Foto and Melba Ferina, take a break from their modeling duties to smile for the camera.*



GURNEY GAMES *Members of event Title Sponsor's team, Fauntleroy & Latham Architects, race their "Dr. Seuss is Loose" gurney down Columbia Street. These "Things" secured an exciting 2nd Place win in the Dynamic Décor category.*



STPH CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

As your community hospital, STPH hosts events, meetings and opportunities to improve and maintain physical and emotional wellbeing. A short sample of upcoming events is provided below, but please check www.stph.org and local newspapers for additional learning opportunities for individuals of all ages.

NEW BABY SUPPORT GROUP

MONDAYS, SEP, OCT, NOV; STPH Parenting Center Free; peer support for new parents; **898-4435**

YOUR BABY CAN SIGN

SEP 10, 17, 24; 10 – 10:30 AM; STPH Parenting Center \$15/members \$24/non-members; parents learn along with their child; register by 1 pm Friday prior; **898-4435**

BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT GROUP

SEP 10, 11:30 AM TO 12:30 PM, STPH Parenting Center Free; certified lactation consultant conducts Q&A plus short educational topic for breastfeeding and expectant mothers; **898-4435**

CNE DAY

SEP 14, DEC 7; 7:30 AM TO 12:45 PM; STPH Conference Center Free/employees, \$40/non-employees; CEUs provided; **898-4083**

INSTA-GATOR RANCH, HATCHERY FIELD TRIP

SEP 14, 11 AM TO 12:30 PM, Lowe Davis Rd. \$7-\$9/members, \$8-\$11/non-members; register by 1 pm Aug 10; **898-4435**

WEIGHT NO MORE SUGICALLY ASSISTED WEIGHT LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

SEP 17, OCT 15, NOV 19; 7 PM; STPH Conference Center Free, **898-4000**

SLEEP TIGHT

SEP 18, 1 PM TO 2 PM, STPH Parenting Center Free; gain better understanding of children's sleep patterns; register by 1 pm Sep 11; **898-4435**

INFANT/CHILD CPR

SEP 19, 6 PM TO 8:15 PM, STPH Parenting Center \$20/person, \$30/couple; skills to know in an emergency; **898-4435**

CHILDREN IN THE MIDDLE

SEP 17, 27; 7 PM TO 9 PM, STPH Parenting Center \$20/ person, \$30/couple; helps divorcing parents and children; register by 1 pm Sep 14; **898-4435**

COMMON SENSE PARENTING

THURSDAYS, SEP 20 - OCT 25, STPH Parenting Center \$50/members, employees; \$75/nonmembers (\$15 additional for spouse sharing book); learn communication, positive discipline and responsibility skills; **898-4435**

1, 2, 3, 4 PARENTS!

SEP 22, 9 AM TO 1 PM, STPH Parenting Center \$25/members/STPH employees, \$35/nonmembers (includes book); parenting skills for birth to 4-year-olds; **898-4435**

SEXUAL ISSUES WITH LITTLE ONES

SEP 26, 10 AM TO 11 AM, STPH Parenting Center \$5/members, employees; \$10/non-members; "Where do babies come from?" Register by 1 pm Sep 19; **898-4435**

A.W.A.K.E. SUPPORT GROUP

OCT 18, 7 PM TO 9 PM, STPH Conference Center Free; Alert, Well and Keeping Energetic group discusses sleep issues; **871-5987**

BREAST CENTER OPEN HOUSE

National Mammography Day
OCT 19, 8 AM TO 4:30 PM, STPH Breast Center Free; patient education re: breast health, massages, bra genie, osteoporosis; physicians, staff on hand; **612-2100**

NEONATAL RESUSCITATION PROGRAM

NOV 7, 8 AM TO 4:30 PM, STPH Conference Center Free/employees, \$120/non-employees; administer neonatal resuscitation as outlined by AAP; 8.4 CEUs for first time attendees; **898-4083**

SEPTEMBER						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6

OCTOBER						
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28	29	30	31	1	2	3

NOVEMBER						
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