

Southwest Legacy

NATIONAL AWARD RECIPIENT

It was a first for Ohio, a first for a community hospital and a first for Southwest General Health Center when Thomas P. Perciak, chairman of the Foundation's Board of Trustees, received the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy Midwest Region's Distinguished Philanthropist of the Year Award. The award was presented on Monday, May 18, in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Mr. Perciak was chosen for the award based on a set of stringent criteria which objectively measured his impact on fundraising success in health care and with other charitable organizations.

"Tom's recognition is a result of his generosity, his dedication and involvement, his leadership and his commitment to future financial support of the Health Center by way of an estate gift. I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this award than he," stated Health System Chairman Vasu Pandrangi, M.D. He added that with Mr. Perciak being such a humble person, very few are aware of how he has touched so many throughout greater Cleveland through his philanthropic involvement.



Thomas P. Perciak (center), recipient of the AHP Midwest Region's Distinguished Philanthropist of the Year Award is congratulated by (l to r) Thomas A. Selden, Southwest General's president and CEO; Vasu Pandrangi, M.D., chairman, Southwest Community Health System; Lisa Hillman, senior vice president and CDO, Anne Arundel Health System and chair of the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy; and William G. McGinly, Ph.D., president and CEO, AHP.

In addressing the 165 persons from 14 states who were in attendance at the recognition luncheon following receipt of the award, Mr. Perciak commented, "I've been involved in fundraising for many years and I never ever expected to receive an award for doing something that I felt was a part of my responsibility to humankind."

In concluding, he stated, "I again thank you for this award; I'm honored and humbled in receiving it. I know very well that if I could share it with all of those who have helped me in my many fundraising challenges, I'd need to divide it into 1,000 pieces."

ANOTHER ELEGANT SUCCESS



The weather and venue were perfect.

The auction items were the best ever.

The food was described as an astronomical gastronomical delight.

The band, Phil Dirt and the Dozers, was outstanding.

All in attendance enjoyed a spectacular evening, and, of equal importance, net proceeds of just less than \$200,000 were contributed to the event's beneficiary – Southwest General's Endowment for the *Hospital of 2020*.

"It was indeed a very special evening," stated President and CEO Thomas A. Selden. He explained that in addition to the over 550 in attendance and with the first ever contribution being made to Southwest General's Endowment for the *Hospital of 2020*, most

in attendance received their first informational exposure to Southwest General's future health care institution.

"The Southwest General Family and community in general will be learning a great deal more about our plans. It's a very exciting concept and will certainly benefit our future patients as well as providers."

Receiving a special commendation were Bill and Lorraine Dodero, their daughter,

Corrine and the Corrine Dodero Trust for the Arts & Sciences for serving as Signature Underwriter for TIARA, 2009.

During the six months of planning and organization activities which led up to the event, Grand Honorary Co-Chairs Frank and Mary Mehwald explained that they had begun to see what many had predicted – the possibility of reduced proceeds given the state of our national economy. "We knew that we had a challenge on our hands but we stayed positive, encouraged all of the volunteers involved with TIARA at the various levels to remain positive and worked with previous donors as well as new donors like never before. The results speak for themselves – it was a tremendously successful event," the Mehwalds commented.



(l to r) Thomas P. Perciak, chairman, Southwest Community Health Foundation; Deborah A. Perciak; Mary and Frank Mehwald, TIARA 2009 grand honorary co-chairs.



(l to r) Kulbir Pannu, M.D. president of the Southwest General Medical Staff; Diana Meyrose, R.N., 2 North; Renate Szeltner, R.N., Hospice; and Marti Bauschka, R.N., vice president and chief nursing officer.

NIGHTINGALE AWARD FOR NURSING EXCELLENCE

The annual celebration of Nurse’s Week took place from May 6-12, the 189th birthday of Florence Nightingale, the foundress of modern nursing.

This year’s theme designated by the American Nurses Association was *Nurses: Building a Healthy America*, in recognition of the significant contributions made by licensed registered and practical nurses to the patients they serve.

The strong legacy of nursing at Southwest General Health Center is clearly founded on a tradition of excellence in both the art and science of the professional discipline. Built on the values of caring and compassion in the delivery of care to the patients served, the nursing team is dedicated to always providing the highest quality, excellent care.

“Recognizing our colleagues who epitomize the ‘best of the best’ was an important component of our 2009 Nurse’s Week celebration,” stated Kulbir Pannu, M.D., president of the Southwest General Medical Staff. “It is with this intention that the Health Center initiated the Nightingale Award for Nursing Excellence, named in honor of Florence Nightingale.”

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THE PURSUIT OF NURSING EXCELLENCE

The compliments are endless. Day after day, President and Chief Executive Officer Thomas A. Selden receives letters from satisfied patients who express their gratitude for the care they or a family member has received as a patient at Southwest General Health Center.

Aside from the accolades for the wonderful life-transforming care provided by their physicians, an abundance of thanks goes to the “angels” who are by their bedside throughout their stay – that is often how the patients refer to the nurses at Southwest General.

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Charitable Gift Annuity Program

A WIN-WIN Gift

For various reasons, there may not be a better time to establish a charitable gift annuity with Southwest Community Health Foundation. Charitable gift annuities (CGA) have been around for decades and in many cases have been instrumental in building and growing programs and services at hundreds of charitable institutions nationwide. A CGA enables you to make a gift to your favorite charity and receive guaranteed, fixed income for the rest of your life. They are simple to establish and offer many benefits to you and Southwest General. Here is how a charitable gift annuity works:



Gifts of appreciated securities are an excellent way to spread out the capital gains tax and a portion of the gift will escape capital gains tax completely.

You will receive recognition in the Legacy category of the permanent Donor Recognition Exhibit, located in the Health Center's main corridor. The Legacy category was established to recognize donors who wish to extend their support beyond their lifetime. Your gift will ultimately support the health programs and services that are most important to you.

Cash and/or securities are donated by you to Southwest General – the minimum donation is \$10,000.

Minimum income payout age is 60 and a deferred annuity can be established for those 45 and older.

Payout rates are based on your age or the joint age for a two-life annuity.

Southwest General promises to pay you a fixed income for your life and your spouse or another if so desired.

There are no set-up fees.

Tax incentives include an attractive charitable income tax deduction in the year of your gift and tax-free income on a portion of your payments.

Interested persons are encouraged to compare charitable gift annuity rates with current rates on certificates of deposit or dividends and see how a charitable gift annuity may be a wise choice for you.

Sample current immediate payout charitable gift annuity rates:

Age	Income Rate	Age	Income Rate
60	5.0%	80	7.1%
65	5.3%	83	7.7%
70	5.7%	85	8.1%
75	6.3%	90	9.5%

Contact Maureen O’Neill-Laszlo, director of major and planned gifts at 440-816-6741 for rates not listed and to learn how you can establish a charitable gift annuity and begin reaping the benefits of this win-win gift arrangement now.

IT'S THE SOUTHWEST GENERAL "Way"

One winter afternoon earlier this year, a frail and elderly gentleman in a wheelchair was parked at a drinking fountain in Building C (the L. Jon Schurmeier Pavilion) on the Southwest General main campus. That afternoon he had a doctor's appointment and was near the south doors waiting for his daughter while she (the gentleman's source of transportation) retrieved her car. While waiting he maneuvered the wheelchair from the doors to the drinking fountain for a drink of water.

Unfortunately, once at the fountain, the gentleman could not rise high enough from the seat of the wheelchair to position himself for a drink. Also unfortunate was that because he was so heavily bundled, he could not depress the lever that releases the water.

Turning into the corridor where the water fountain is located was Dr. Chris Kalucis, one of the region's eminent ENTs, who was en route to his otolaryngology practice in Building C. Several persons in the area of the water fountain watched as Dr. Kalucis painstakingly helped the elderly man get high enough out of his wheelchair

to reach the lever. He then activated the lever and following the drink, gently helped the gentleman back into the wheelchair's seat and in a final step of "mission accomplished" rolled the wheelchair back to the south doors. Dr. Kalucis patted the gentleman on the shoulder and went on about his busy day.

What was Dr. Kalucis' explanation for this extraordinary and unselfish act of kindness?

"It was no big deal at all, I didn't give helping that gentleman a second thought," stated Dr. Kalucis, "It's all about tradition and culture – that's the way we do things in our family and that's the way we do things here at Southwest General."

Dr. Chris, who has been in the professional practice of medicine since 1995, attributes learning his skills – medicine and otherwise – to the brilliant teachings of his parents, Dr. John and Aristi Kalucis. Dr. John, also an otolaryngology specialist, joined Southwest General's Medical Staff in 1968. Now retired, he is a member of the Health Center's Emeritus Medical Staff.



Drs. John Y. and Chris J. Kalucis.

Save The Date!
This Year's
"SOUTHWEST TEAM"
is getting ready for
another big day
at Columbia Hills Country Club!

August 6, 2009
19th Annual

Southwest Community Health Foundation

Benefit
GOLF
Tournament

*Ahmad
Shatila*

*Paul
Kline*

*Bill
Harr*

*Tom
Selden*



Honoring the Founding Chairman of the Tournament,
Robert F. Schmitt

For additional information, please contact the
Foundation Office at Southwest General
(440-816-6713).

NIGHTINGALE AWARD FOR NURSING EXCELLENCE

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Nominated by a colleague (nursing, physician or hospital associate), the individuals selected demonstrate a stringent set of characteristics attributed to Florence Nightingale in her dedication to the service of humanity.



Marti Bauschka, R.N., vice president and chief nursing officer.

This year's recipients of the Nightingale Award for Nursing Excellence went to Diana Meyrose of 2 North and Renate Szeltner of Hospice. Dr. Pannu concluded, "While the entire Southwest General Family extends a hardy congratulations and thanks to Ms. Meyrose and Ms. Szeltner, we extend that same congratulations and thanks to all Southwest General nurses who work everyday to offer excellence in patient care."

THE PURSUIT OF NURSING EXCELLENCE

From Page 3

Marti Bauschka, R.N., vice president and chief nursing officer commented, "We have some of the best nurses in Northeastern Ohio and I am proud to work with and represent them. They work hard, provide excellent care and are passionate about their profession."

Many patients ask how they can appropriately express their gratitude for the extraordinary care they received. The answer is through a contribution to the Nursing Excellence Education Endowment. That gift, in honor of one's favorite nurse or department, will help insure that the nurses at Southwest General will continue to receive the vital training needed to provide life-saving treatments for their patients.

Ms. Bauschka is so committed to the continuing education of Southwest General nurses that she recently made a significant contribution to establish the Nursing Excellence Education Endowment.

"We thank Marti for being a role model for the nursing staff and the Health Center," stated Mr. Selden. "Our nurses are key in helping make and keep Southwest General as one of America's 50 Best Hospitals."



Gifts to the Nursing Excellence Education Endowment can be made payable to Southwest Community Health Foundation, 18697 Bagley Road, Middleburg Heights, Ohio 44130. Donors are asked to please be sure to list anyone they wish to be honored. For further information call 440-816-6713.



HEALTH FOUNDATION

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For this 2009 LEGACY publication, the Southwest Family once again expresses its appreciation to Amelia Harding, who, for the 19th consecutive year, very graciously and expertly serves in the capacity of “Guest Editor.”

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