

Momentum

The Newsletter of Saddleback Memorial Foundation

philanthropy in full color

James and
Andrea French,
page 4



Mom's Giving Spirit, Kindness Inspire New Infusion Center

On Jean's first day of work at Richfield Oil Company, a mailboy named Bill Howard spotted her. He thought she looked classy. He asked her out on a date. After dating about a year, one Saturday morning, they drove to Vegas, got married, and were back at work by Monday. The honeymoon would last 55 wonderful years.

They had three kids, Brad, Leslie and Steven, and raised them in Seal Beach. Bill went to law school at night for four years while working as a route salesman for Mother's Cookies, and Jean took care of the kids.

"Jean was the heart and soul of our family," said Bill. "A wonderful mother. Her favorite saying was, 'Love is kind.'"

Bill started his own law practice in Santa Ana, and the family would eventually settle in Coto de Caza in 1993. The Howard clan would grow to include three spouses and six grandkids. At family dinners, Jean loved for everyone to sit around the table and talk about current events, politics and social issues.

"G-Pa" and "Nana," as Bill and Jean were known, took the whole family on wonderful trips, including cruises to Europe and Russia.

"She instilled in the kids a love of adventure and a desire to explore," says Jodi Howard, Bill and Jean's daughter-in-law.

The news of ovarian cancer came in 2009. She fought bravely, even through seven surgeries, without a complaint.



Bill (left) and Jean Howard (second from right), pictured with their grandchildren, enjoyed taking their entire family on cruises.

Your Gifts Provide Comfort To Those Fighting Cancer

Do you have a loved one touched by cancer? The Jean Howard Infusion Center will be dedicated solely to patients needing chemotherapy or other infusion services. It will have a spa-like ambiance, with eight bays with comfortable reclining chairs, a place to plug in your devices and relax. For more information or to donate, visit memorialcare.org/infusion or text "Infusion" to 71777.

Every time Jean needed chemotherapy treatments, she checked into MemorialCare Saddleback Medical Center through the standard admitting process. She received her chemotherapy in a hospital patient room, sometimes sharing a room.

The cancer would go into remission, and then it would return.

The Howards lost their beloved Jean in June 2016. Bill knew pretty quickly he wanted to do something big that would

+ FALL 2017

MemorialCare
Saddleback Medical Center

A New Look, A New Name

On September 29, MemorialCare revealed entirely new branding for our health system, and also a new name for our hospital, **MemorialCare Saddleback Medical Center.**

The new look reflects two decades of transformation from a hospital system to a fully integrated health system.

MemorialCare's new identity is about living relationships that are rooted in care.

The tree element represents our systemness, our connectedness, and accessibility to millions of patients at over 200 locations.

This new branding shows how we are continually reaching up to deliver a "simply better" patient-centered experience.

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Your Generous Donations Provide Free Medicare Counsel to Seniors

They say nothing in life is free, but the medical insurance counseling services offered by **MemorialCare Senior Plus** really are that — free. Seniors on Medicare have been turning to Insurance Specialist Roberta Potts for 15 years. She helps seniors select the right Medicare plan and assists with other insurance-related issues, such as billing prescription questions — all free of charge.

Just ask Mary Shaffer of Laguna Woods. Years ago she needed help paying for an

expensive prescription.

Roberta contacted the pharmaceutical manufacturer and found out about a payment assistance program. She helped Mary complete the required forms and follow up.

"I appreciate the help so much," said Mary, who is in her 90s. "It's terrific, and not everyone knows about it. Roberta is an expert at what she does."

Senior Plus is in the Foundation office. Medicare Open Enrollment ends December 7, 2017. For an appointment with Roberta, call (949) 452-3791.



Roberta Potts, left, and Mary Shaffer. Funding for Senior Plus is provided by a Foundation endowment.

Thank you!



VitalBeam Linear Accelerator

Kenny Perkins, Manager, and Linda Chan, M.D., Medical Director, Radiation Oncology, MemorialCare Cancer Institute, with a cancer patient.

Thanks to generous donors like you, MemorialCare Cancer Institute was recently able to purchase the **VitalBeam Linear Accelerator**. The VitalBeam has the capability to perform stereotactic radiosurgery, precisely targeted radiation in fewer high-dose treatments than traditional therapy, which can help preserve healthy tissue. This is beneficial for treating brain tumors in hard-to-reach locations. It also allows treatment of left-sided breast cancer patients with minimal damage to the heart. In addition, the equipment provides onboard imaging, which allows treatment within millimeters of the tumor.

Your Scholarship Gifts Reach \$1 Million Mark



The 2017 Scholarship Program award recipients were granted money to further their education.

View more photos at facebook.com/SaddlebackMemorialFoundation.

Twenty-two Saddleback Medical Center employees were awarded a total of \$50,000 toward tuition to further their higher education at our 40th annual Scholarship Awards in July.

This year, the Scholarship Program broke the \$1 million mark, having distributed \$1,040,990 since 1977. In the past 40 years, the program has awarded scholarships to 591 employees.

"This could not be possible without the continuous generosity of our scholarship donors," said Cecilia Belew, president of Saddleback Memorial Foundation. "They believe in the power of education and its ability to open doors and boost career growth."

Many of the scholarship recipients are registered nurses attaining their bachelor's or master's degrees, which are important for the hospital's effort toward Magnet designation. Magnet designation recognizes health care organizations for high-quality patient care, nursing excellence, and innovations in nursing.

Companionship Brightens Days of Hospice Patients

+ SPOTLIGHT: Joy O'Connor

Sometimes all you need is someone to listen.

As a volunteer for MemorialCare Hospice & Palliative Services, Joy O'Connor spends time lending an ear to hospice patients in their homes.

"I had one patient who suffered from congestive heart failure and would be by herself all day every day," said Joy. "When I would get there, she would say I brought sunshine. She even called me Miss Sunshine."

That patient didn't think she would make it to her next birthday in July, but she did — then to Christmas, to her granddaughter's wedding shower, and to the wedding. She lived two more years, and even got to hold her granddaughter's baby.

"I know she would look forward to the days when I would come," said Joy. "She was my good friend, and it was such a privilege and honor to be with her during those days."

Since Joy sees the noble work



Joy O'Connor visits hospice patients to provide needed company, and sometimes a friendship develops.

of hospice doctors and nurses up close, she feels strongly about supporting the program through gifts to the Foundation.

"Sometimes those wonderful nurses come and give them a bath," she said. "Afterward one of my patients once said, 'I feel human again.'"

Joy, who took care of her husband for 25 years, helps relieve 24-hour caregivers with her visits, too.

"I am a better person for doing this," she said.

The Final Stretch: I'MAGINE

Cecilia Belew,
President,
Saddleback
Memorial
Foundation



It's hard to believe we are in our third year of fundraising for our space redesign project, I'MAGINE.

The exciting part is that we have already seen so many positive changes at the hospital — nurses are now monitoring patients from a new central station on the second floor. Cardiology has moved to its new home across the hall on the first floor, and the surgical area is preparing to build its new hybrid operating suite, where critical, less invasive heart surgeries can be performed. It's all really happening, and it will have a direct impact on you, our patients, and your experience and care in our special community hospital.

As we approach the final stretch of our I'MAGINE project, we still have work to do. I ask you to consider how you can leave a legacy in your community. Would you possibly want to leave your friends, neighbors and loved ones in better hands if they need care in our hospital? A gift to this project will pay dividends to so many others for years to come.

I'd love to talk to you about how you can make an impact.

Keep Your Memories Bright While Supporting Hospice

The upcoming holiday season is a time to remember loved ones who are no longer with us. You can honor a loved one with a tribute gift through **Tree of Light**, which supports MemorialCare Hospice & Palliative Services.

New this year, a light will be illuminated on the Tree of Light for each person being remembered. The tree, and the Book of Remembrance that lists all of the tributes, will be on display in the Gary and Mary Damsker Chapel through January 5, 2018. **All gifts up to \$5,000 are being matched dollar for dollar by a generous donor. Your gift can count double!** To make a gift, visit memorialcare.org/smf > Give Now. Under Tribute, select Tree of Light. You can also mail gifts to the address on page 4. Contact us at (949) 452-3724 or smf@memorialcare.org for information.



Making an Impact Close to Home

Although **James and Andrea French** moved from the ice and snow of Colorado to the sunny retirement community of Laguna Woods, it didn't mean they were going to do anything leisurely.

In fact, the Frenches are busier than ever. James works as an aerospace engineer consultant for Blue Origins, Jeff Bezos' company that is spearheading private space flight. Andrea, who had a long career in education, retiring as a school superintendent, plays bridge four to five times a week and travels to competitive tournaments all over the country.

The couple also spends plenty of time with their grandkids, takes exotic trips, ventures out to new restaurants, and calls themselves film buffs.

While their schedules are packed and they seem to be jetting off from

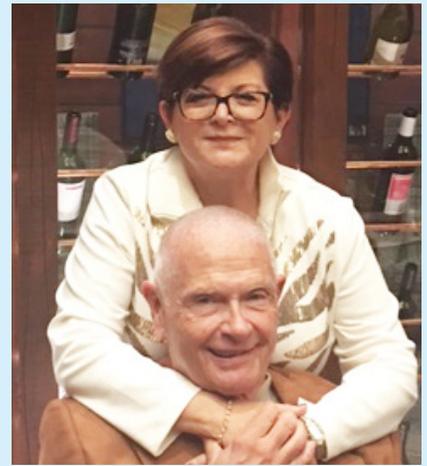
here to there, James and Andrea know how critical it is to have excellent health care close to home.

After learning about MemorialCare Saddleback Medical Center's plans to reconfigure space within the hospital for efficiency and add more private rooms, the Frenches made a gift in the form of a **charitable bequest**.

"We believe it's important to support the programs that are of value to you and your family and the causes that make the community a better place," said Andrea. "That's why we chose to make a contribution to Saddleback Medical Center."

The Frenches are paying it forward to not only impact their own care but also to leave a legacy for other patients in the future.

"We've been very impressed with our doctors, and so we wanted to get involved in a positive way."



What is a Charitable Bequest?

One of the easiest planned gifts is to include Saddleback Memorial Foundation in your will or trust. It costs nothing today and you can benefit your nonprofit hospital. You can make bequests for a specific amount, percentage, or remainder of your estate. For more information or bequest language, call (949) 452-3724.

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honor her giving spirit, something that would exemplify the kindness and generosity she showed to others every day.

"It came to me in the middle of the night," said Bill. "The idea of an infusion center that would benefit other cancer patients like her."

Bill's vision is becoming a reality. Plans are underway, featuring eight patient bays on the first floor for easy pick-up and drop-off.

The Howard family has already contributed significant gifts to fund this project, but we still need support from our community. If you know someone battling cancer, this infusion center could benefit them. "I still think about Jean every single day," Bill said. "I think this center will be a wonderful way to honor her and help make the journey for others a little easier."



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