

# LIFE & TIMES

June 2001



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## Annual Report to the Community 2000-2001

*The staff, the physicians, the volunteers and the people of St. Joseph's Health Care London*

**Dr. Lauren McCurdy**  
*Director of Breast Imaging,  
St. Joseph's Health Care, London  
Associate Professor, UWO*



# LIFE & TIMES

June 2001



**Dr. John Denstedt**,  
Chief, Urology Centre in  
scrubs and in his Board  
of Directors garb.

## Features

### IN PRAISE OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT..... 6, 11, 14, 18, 23, 26

Profiles six patients whose indomitable spirits have been shaped by their experiences at St. Joseph's.

### UNSUNG HEROES..... 12

We couldn't do what we do without support from a whole world of professionals in every field of allied health.

### A TRIBUTE TO NURSING..... 15

The personal contact and the unwavering commitment to superior care put our nursing staff on the front lines of service.

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Suits or scrubs. Board room or the operating room. With dedication and insight like this, we offer world-class medical services.

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Healing from the outside - and from the inside. Compassionate and understanding, the St. Joseph's pastoral care team offers special insight into other dimensions of care.

### DISCOVERY..... 22

David Hill's research into the links between specific amino acids in animals, and diabetes in humans, shows the value of a questioning mind.



## Building for the Future

**Frank Angeletti**, Chair of the Board of Directors, left, and **Cliff Nordal**, President and CEO, right, in the nearly completed therapeutic pool at St. Joseph's Hospital.



## Building for the Future

The Life and Times of a large, multi-sited health organization. . . . It is everything today's fast-paced world embodies – continuous change, uncertainty, a flood of new knowledge and technology, as well as shifting health care needs. But the essence remains – a mission of health and healing.

This year's report to the community focuses on the life and times of people who are part of us, and those touched by what we do. We are reminded daily of the struggle to heal – in body, mind and spirit. We celebrate the triumphs over tragedies – all aspects of life and living.

We celebrate those who care – volunteers, donors, staff members and physicians. This is an era of the most substantive change in health care – a time of sustaining what we do today while building for tomorrow. We honour those who keep patient care at the heart of what we do; and those who are giving more and more of their time, talents and resources.

This past year saw hospital restructuring accomplishments in several areas. One of the most notable and intensive activities was the transfers of the former London and St. Thomas Psychiatric Hospitals to St. Joseph's Health Care, London. Now known as Regional Mental Health Care, London and St. Thomas, respectively, we were pleased to welcome the clients, families and staff members to our organization.

This year we also bid farewell to our colleagues in cardiology, renal dialysis and related services whose programs transferred to London Health Sciences Centre.

Our new role in tertiary mental health care will continue to change and evolve as we work with others across Southwestern Ontario to develop inpatient and outpatient programs in communities throughout the region. We have also taken some first steps in

the planning to build a new specialized mental health facility beside Parkwood Hospital and a new forensic psychiatry facility in St. Thomas.

St. Joseph's Hospital became the site of the new Rheumatology Centre this year with the consolidation of services from across the city. Patients and care providers are reaping the benefits of new facilities and combined expertise and research, creating a centre of excellence for those with debilitating conditions including arthritis and fibromyalgia.

At Parkwood, an approximately \$7 million internal renovation plan is about to be launched. The changes are being made in preparation for the consolidation of all London's rehabilitation beds in the coming year. The changes will also set the groundwork for the sharing of support services between Parkwood and the future specialized mental health facility.

We are also celebrating the completion of the new Neurobehavioural Rehabilitation Centre at Parkwood. This long-awaited facility will enable people over 16 with serious acquired brain injuries and significant behavioural problems to receive intensive treatment and support aimed at returning them to their home community.

We congratulate and humbly thank St. Joseph's staff, physicians, leaders and volunteers for their ongoing commitment to sustaining care in this era of seemingly unending change. . . . Our mission of health and healing continues.

**Frank Angeletti**  
*Chair, Board of Directors*

**Cliff Nordal**  
*President & CEO*



### 2000/2001 Board Members

Frank Angeletti, Chair	Ruthe-Anne Conyngham	Dr. Carol Herbert	Tony Marranca	Sister Mary Arthur
Ann Fleming, Vice Chair	Father Tony Daniels	Dr. Phil Hooper	Norma Nickle	Renaud
Tony Abbott	Sheila Davenport	Leroy Innanen	Cliff Nordal, CEO	Susan Ryans
Tom Allan	Bill Dick	Dr. David Keast	Joan Petrie	Tom Tillmann
Bev Bell	Trish Fulton	Mark Lerner	Dr. Hassan Razvi	Bill Wood

## *In Praise of the Human Spirit*

### **Holly & David Ratcliffe**

Friends of Holly and David Ratcliffe literally rallied around them when their son, Ben, was born at St. Joseph's Hospital Aug. 15, 2000. More than 30 friends organized a tennis tournament and raised \$6,300 for the neonatal intensive care unit, where Ben spent his first days. The funds purchased a Kangaroo chair that allows parents physical contact with their fragile babies while they are still attached to various feeding and monitoring systems. Babies stay warm, breathe well and sleep better when they are held skin to skin. The balance, \$4,800, went toward the family support and resource room at St. Joseph's.





## *It All Counts*

### **Giving can last a life time**

The work of St. Joseph's Health Care is enhanced by the contributions of a healthy, giving community. Donors to the Parkwood Hospital Foundation and St. Joseph's Health Care Foundation make it all possible.

**Margaret Fallona**, 95, has a strong association with the Sisters of St. Joseph and wants to support what they began at St. Joseph's Hospital. She is well known in the St. Joseph's Health Care Foundation, where her history as a supporter goes back as far as their records.

**Brooke Chartier**, age 7, began what may be a lifetime of giving to the community by participating in Parkwood Hospital Foundation's 2000 Colours of Caring Walk, sponsored by State Farm. Brooke herself gathered \$70 in sponsor pledges to benefit Parkwood Hospital.

## The Sophomores

With affiliations to the University of Western Ontario, Fanshawe College and other educational institutions, St. Joseph's Health Care, London has a significant teaching mandate. Each year, close to 2,000 students representing more than a dozen career paths gain knowledge and competence in their chosen fields by working with St. Joseph's staff and physicians and learning from their expertise.



*Clockwise from left:*

**Nimesh Desai**, a third-year medical student, recently completed a study block on internal medicine at St. Joseph's. With aspirations for a future in ophthalmology, the Brantford native hopes to return to St. Joseph's at a later date to complete his residency.

**Klara Martinez**, a Fanshawe College student, recently completed an internship in the geriatric assessment unit. Nurses such as Klara who have a passion for caring for the elderly will be invaluable in St. Joseph's lead role, and with an aging population.

**Keith Morrison** of St. Peter's Seminary is among the first group of students to enter the recently reintroduced clinical pastoral

education program at St. Joseph's Hospital. The long-range plan is to expand the program to all sites to offer students a variety of settings.

**Jeannine Kennedy** is a recent graduate of the Recreation & Leisure Services program at Fanshawe College. The Sarnia native enjoyed an internship in the veterans care program at Parkwood Hospital and is now working at London's McCormick Home.

**Vijay P.A. Rasaiah**, a masters physiology student, studies in the Lawson Health Research Institute under the supervision of Dr. Jim Lewis and Dr. Ruud Veldhuizen.

## In Praise of the Human Spirit

**Linda Luxford-Matte**

The days are full for Mount Hope Centre for Long Term Care resident Linda Luxford-Matte. Active in the libraries, a chime group and ceramics, she also set up the Drumming for Healing program and plays hockey. "I enjoy the freedom I have in living here," Linda says.

Mount Hope's Marian Villa recently underwent renovations to enlarge washrooms for easier accessibility, and to create lounges on each unit.

Decorating enhancements – hard wood floors, new bedspreads, curtains and paint – contribute to a more home-like atmosphere.



## Unsung Heroes

Caring and commitment to St. Joseph's patients does not stop at the bedside. We rely on many staff members to provide environmental, technical and information supports to caregivers. This group represents 155 years of helping to create a comfortable environment and smooth operation for patients, residents and staff.

### Front Row:

**Vince Votta**, maintenance carpenter, physical plant, Regional Mental Health Care, London;

**Cathy Barran**, training coordinator, information services;

**Mercede Marcovecchio**, housekeeper, support services/Sodexo Services;

**Fahdy Hage-Moussa**, Parkwood Hospital coordinator, health records/admitting services;

**Fred Wong**, St. Joseph's Hospital head chef, food & nutrition services

### Back Row:

**Brent Vipond**, officer II, fire & security services;

**Janet DeCloet**, secretary, Parkwood Hospital pastoral care/ambulatory care;

**Bob Evans**, budgeting & financial reporting coordinator, finance;

**Anna Demarco**, conference services, food & nutrition services;

**Cam Zinc**, maintenance carpenter, physical plant, Regional Mental Health Care, London

# *In Praise of the Human Spirit*

## **Faye Shantz**

Faye Shantz, who has fibromyalgia, is a patient in the new Rheumatology Centre created by St. Joseph's as the home of consolidated rheumatology services for London hospitals. Patients can now enjoy the benefits of having medical, diagnostic and therapeutic services, including a therapeutic pool, on a single site.



# *A Tribute to Nursing*

## **Making Each Minute Count**

St. Joseph's nursing – mighty in numbers and in diversity – work in many areas of specialty and with various professional designations. What unites them is a continuing commitment to patient care.

**Caroline Stanley** (seated left), personal care practitioner, works with residents on Marian Villa 4th floor at Mount Hope Centre for Long Term Care.

**Paddee Forsey** (seated, centre), is a registered nurse in St. Joseph's Hospital's intensive care unit.

**Margo Bettger Hahn** (seated, right), is a clinical nurse specialist, plastic surgery/orthopedics at St. Joseph's Hospital.

**Kyle Goettl** (standing, left), ten-year Parkwood Hospital spinal cord injury nurse, recently moved to a new role as a nurse clinician in Mount Hope's amputee program.

**John Lethbridge** (standing, right) is a registered practical nurse in Adult 1B, Regional Mental Health Care, St. Thomas.





## Leading Double Lives

**St. Joseph's physician leaders are equally at ease in the operating room or in the board room.**

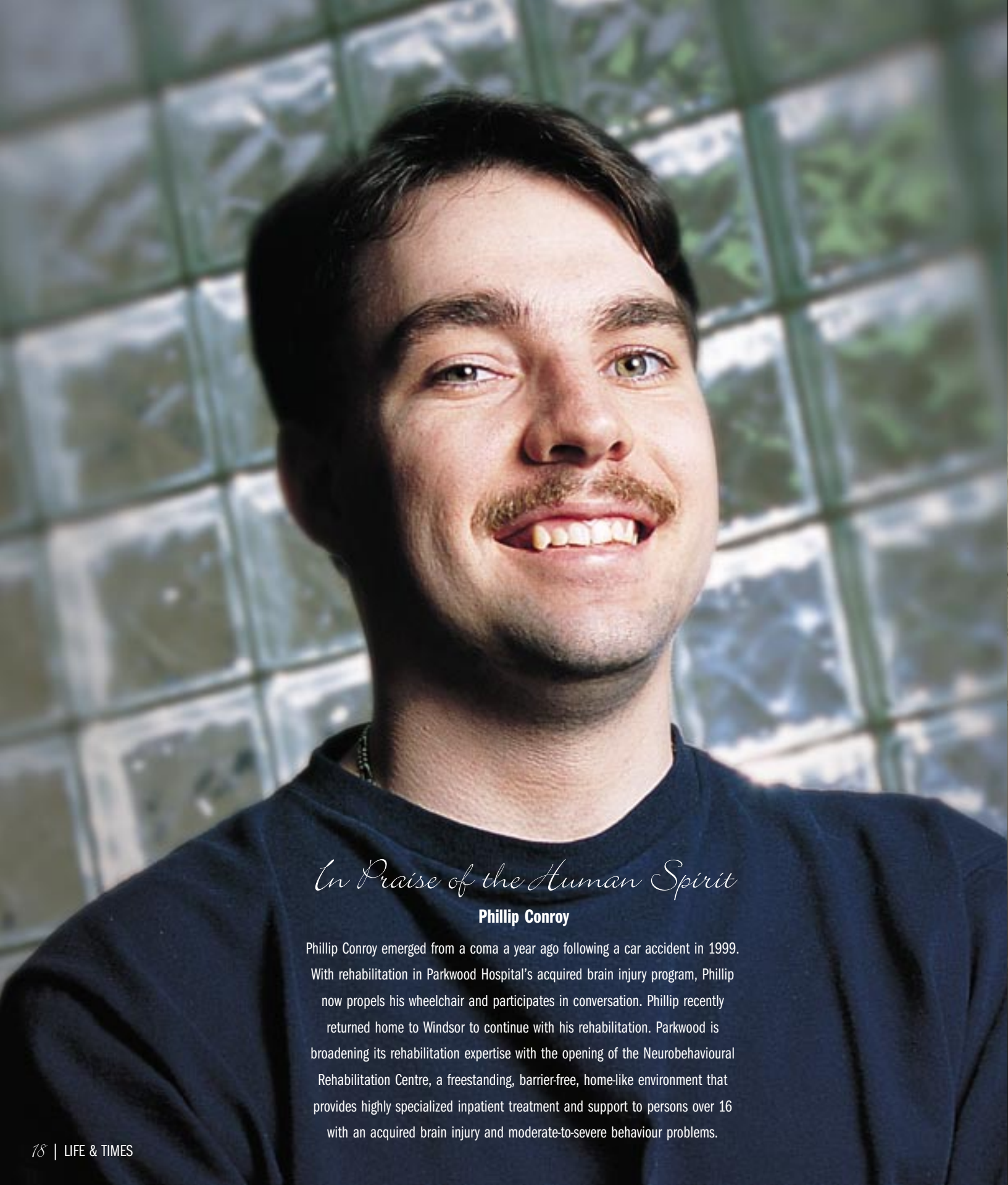
As St. Joseph's moves to establish its new role in ambulatory care, three of its key areas of surgical care will include ophthalmology, urology and hand & upper limb. These three surgeons are among the many who spend countless hours each week in the operating room and in clinics, then don their business attire to contribute to the administration of the hospital.



**Dr. Jim Roth** (left), director, Hand & Upper Limb Centre (HULC), and site chief of surgery for St. Joseph's, is a member of the St. Joseph's Health Care Foundation board of directors. HULC, recognized nationally and internationally for its work in treating upper limb conditions, hopes to expand soon to treat more patients, more effectively.

**Dr. John Denstedt** (centre), chief, Urology Centre, chairs the fiscal advisory committee of the St. Joseph's board of directors. One of St. Joseph's longstanding programs, the Urology Centre is known around the world for providing comprehensive services using the most advanced technology and techniques.

**Dr. Phil Hooper** (right), chief, Ivey Eye Institute, is also outgoing chair of the medical advisory committee. The Ivey Eye Institute was formed in April 2001 through the consolidation of eye care services at London Health Sciences Centre and St. Joseph's Health Care. Institute services will physically join in 2005 with the creation of new space at St. Joseph's Hospital.



*In Praise of the Human Spirit*

**Phillip Conroy**

Phillip Conroy emerged from a coma a year ago following a car accident in 1999. With rehabilitation in Parkwood Hospital's acquired brain injury program, Phillip now propels his wheelchair and participates in conversation. Phillip recently returned home to Windsor to continue with his rehabilitation. Parkwood is broadening its rehabilitation expertise with the opening of the Neurobehavioural Rehabilitation Centre, a freestanding, barrier-free, home-like environment that provides highly specialized inpatient treatment and support to persons over 16 with an acquired brain injury and moderate-to-severe behaviour problems.



*Sustaining the Spirit*

**Some of our pastoral care team**

St. Joseph's strives to honour and respect all those we serve – patients, families, visitors and staff – celebrating diversity always and honouring our faith-based roots. Each day, members of our pastoral care team model St. Joseph's value of compassion by being with others, understanding their needs, giving from the heart, and sustaining the spirit.

**Ciaran McKenna** (left), St. Joseph's Hospital  
**Gale Kay** (seated), Parkwood Hospital  
**Father Pat Byrne** (right), Parkwood Hospital



Back Row:

**Ed Black,**  
psychology, Regional  
Mental Health Care,  
St. Thomas

**Mary Beth Blokker,**  
pharmacy, Parkwood  
Hospital

**Christine Penny,**  
respiratory therapy,  
St. Joseph's Hospital

**Winston McCauley,**  
social work, Regional  
Mental Health Care, London

**Sherry Davis,**  
clinical nutrition,  
Mount Hope Centre  
for Long Term Care

**Bill Farquhar,**  
music therapy,  
Regional Mental Health  
Care, St. Thomas

Front Row:

**Teresa Tales,**  
physiotherapy,  
St. Joseph's Hospital

**Erin McKinnon,**  
occupational therapy,  
Mount Hope Centre for  
Long Term Care

**Carol Wilkins,**  
speech therapy,  
Parkwood Hospital

**Colleen McInnis,**  
radiology, St. Joseph's  
Hospital

*Allied Health:  
Critical to Care Delivery*

While hospitals are often seen by our patients as the domain of doctors and nurses, allied health care professionals are an integral part of the interdisciplinary team that broadens the scope of care and expertise we offer.



### *Discovery*

The Lawson Health Research Institute garnered international attention in March with scientific director **Dr. David Hill's** presentation on recent diabetes research at the meeting of the Society of Endocrinology in Belfast, Northern Ireland. His experiments in animals show an amino acid, taurine, could prevent

Type I diabetes in children and delay the development of Type II diabetes in adults. The LHRI was formed in July 2000 through the consolidation of St. Joseph's Lawson Research Institute, London Health Sciences Centre Research Inc. and the Child Health Research Institute.

LHRI is one of the three largest hospital-based research institutes in Canada, attracting over \$40 million each year in research funding. More than 300 investigators throughout London investigate disease and ways to detect, prevent, and treat illness.

### *In Praise of the Human Spirit*

#### **Sylvia Vanderwal**

Sylvia Vanderwal is determined to live as independently as possible after calling the former St. Thomas Psychiatric Hospital home for 32 years. She is coping with "schizoaffective disorder," a severe mental illness that combines schizophrenia and manic-depressive disorder. With the support of the Program in Assertive Community Treatment (PACT), Sylvia now lives in her own apartment, does grocery shopping, and pays her own bills. Ten PACT teams in Southwestern Ontario, each consisting of 10-15 mental health professionals from varying disciplines, provide care and support for clients with severe mental illness.



## Contagious Enthusiasm

### Recognizing International Year of the Volunteer

*Back Row:*

**Joan Bidinosti** has continued to visit Mount Hope residents long since the death of her mother there. She is also active in Mount Hope life as chair of the family council.

**Dorothy Sillifant**, Parkwood Hospital Auxiliary president, has served on the auxiliary for 17 years. The auxiliary recently pledged \$50,000 to the hospital for rehabilitation and geriatric care research initiatives.

**Roy Rogers**, a member of the Royal Canadian Legion Duchess of Kent branch, has visited veterans at Parkwood Hospital weekly for the past 20 years. The Legion and other veterans organizations make a tremendous contribution to the quality of life for many Parkwood veterans.

**Mary Caley's** 30-year commitment to St. Joseph's as a St. Joseph's Hospital Auxiliary member garnered her a 1991 Sisters of St. Joseph Award and a London Free Press People Who Make a Difference Award. Through coffee shop and gift shop proceeds the auxiliary contributed \$240,000 to the hospital last year.

**Stephanie Brown** is one of 400 community members who volunteer at Regional Mental Health Care London & St. Thomas. Stephanie was nominated for the Terry Fox Humanitarian Award in 1999.

*Front Row:*

**Anna Holman** volunteers as an osteoporosis exercise program instructor and in the geriatric library. Anna was recently recognized with a Sisters of St. Joseph Award for Excellence.

**Donny Habel** has been a Mount Hope resident for seven years, but he is also well known at St. Joseph's Hospital, where he has delivered The London Free Press for 25 years.

**Betty Mayville**, an emergency room nurse, is also 2001 Canada Summer Games nursing coordinator. Betty recently received a Sisters of St. Joseph Award for Excellence. The awards recognize character, values, teamwork and customer focus.

**Sheehan Morgan's** commitment to helping patients at Parkwood Hospital began in 1996 when he was 13. He volunteers each Friday afternoon at Parkwood's adapted fitness centre.



*In Praise of the Human Spirit*

**Greg Stewart**

Greg Stewart of Thamesford praises the “professional yet compassionate” care he received in St. Joseph’s amputee rehabilitation program following the amputation of his leg in December. Greg and his wife, Annette, are pictured with their children, Kyle, 17, Kevin, 15, Janelle, 9, and Jordan, 12. Currently located at Mount Hope, amputee services will move to Parkwood Hospital as part of the city-wide consolidation of rehabilitation services, furthering Parkwood’s role as a regional rehabilitation institute serving the special needs of Southwestern Ontario.



# Our Mission & Vision

## Who We Are

St. Joseph’s Health Centre, Parkwood Hospital and the London/St. Thomas Psychiatric Hospital have joined together to create a new health care organization to serve the residents of London and Southwestern Ontario, and the Veterans of Canada. We are owned by the St. Joseph’s Health Care Society of the Roman Catholic Diocese of London, and governed by a volunteer board of directors representing the community.

Our services are publicly funded.

We are a major teaching and research centre affiliated with the University of Western Ontario and Fanshawe College.

## What We Do (Mission)

We help people to maintain and improve their health and work with them to minimize the effects of injury, disease and disability.

We do this by pursuing excellence in care, research, and education in a wide range of hospital, clinic, long term and community-based settings.

We work with our partners to create a better health care system.

## What We’ll Be (Vision)

A respected source of excellent health service guided by the people we serve... provided by people who care.

## How We Serve (Values)

Inspired by the care, creativity and compassion of our founders – the Sisters of St. Joseph, the Women’s Christian Association, and the London Psychiatric Hospital and St. Thomas Psychiatric Hospital – we serve with respect, excellence and compassion.

***In the spirit of community, in the pursuit of health***

# Highlights of the Life & Times at St. Joseph's Health Care, London for 2000-2001

## 2000

### APRIL

Staff from St. Joseph's Hospital, Mount Hope Centre for Long Term Care and Parkwood Hospital marking service milestones join together for the first integrated service recognition celebration

### MAY

London Hospitals' *Dream of a Lifetime Lottery* a 'sell-out'

HIV Programme celebrates its 10th anniversary with an open house and other festivities

St. Joseph's Health Care Foundation receives gift of \$250,000 from the Gerry and Vi Livingston Family in support of the Ivey Eye Institute

### JUNE

Diabetes services transferred to St. Joseph's from London Health Sciences Centre

Lorraine Ivey Shuttleworth Auditorium dedicated in the new addition to the Monsignor Roney building

Lawson Health Research Institute formed through the consolidation of the Lawson Research Institute, London Health Sciences Research Inc. and the Child Health Research Institute

Scotiabank commits \$1 million jointly with London Health Sciences Foundation, of which \$300,000 is designated in support of St. Joseph's Diagnostic Imaging for breast health

### JULY

Dyer Brown hosts its annual golf tournament for the Children's Hospital of Western Ontario and Parkwood Hospital

London X-Ray Associates gives \$100,000 gift in support of Diagnostic Imaging

Cardiology inpatient services transferred from St. Joseph's to the London Health Sciences Centre

### AUGUST

Mount Hope Centre for Long Term Care moves to new model of care with increased nursing hours and enhanced therapy services

Mount Hope's Marian Villa building returns to full capacity following renovations

Sodexo Marriott Services Canada Limited gives \$50,000 exclusive gift to St. Joseph's in support of The Surgical Centre.

### SEPTEMBER

Tenor John McDermott 'brings down the house' in a performance for veterans at Parkwood Hospital and for more than the 900 people who attended the Parkwood Foundation's Tribute 2000 Dinner, honouring Janet Stewart, Managing Partner, Lerner & Associates for her commitment to the hospital and to the community.

The new Rheumatology Centre opens at St. Joseph's Hospital, bringing care providers from St. Joseph's and London Health Sciences Centre together

Ground-breaking ceremony for the new Neurobehavioral Rehabilitation Centre at Parkwood Hospital

### OCTOBER

State Farm Insurance leads their first Colours of Caring Walk for Palliative Care at Parkwood Hospital

St. Joseph's Foundation Annual Dinner entertains with excerpts from the musical, *A Walk with Patsy Cline*, and raises funds for St. Joseph's Hospital's Breast Imaging Program

Mitchell and Kathryn Baran Family, Trudell Medical announces \$500,000 joint gift to London hospitals with a designation of \$150,000 to the Urology Centre

### NOVEMBER

St. Joseph's Hospital opens five extra beds in Medicine as part of influenza season Ministry of Health funding initiative

St. Joseph's hosts national conference on maternity care

### DECEMBER

Parkwood Hospital Foundation's Season of Celebration breaks all previous fundraising records since its inception in 1990. This year's proceeds went to the Wound and Skin Care Management Program, resulting in new pressure-reducing mattresses at the hospital.

More than 900 staff members and guests attend the Holiday Celebration

## 2001

### JANUARY

Renal dialysis transfers from St. Joseph's to London Health Sciences Centre

St. Joseph's assumes governance and management of the former St. Thomas Psychiatric Hospital (now known as Regional Mental Health Care, St. Thomas) from the Province of Ontario

Laboratory Medicine in Pathology forms one team for London hospitals

### FEBRUARY

St. Joseph's assumes governance and management of the former London Psychiatric Hospital (now known as Regional Mental Health Care, London) from the Province of Ontario

More than 97 per cent of mental health care staff members join the St. Joseph's organization with the transfer of the psychiatric hospitals

### MARCH

St. Joseph's celebrates Shared Leadership initiatives, with more than 300 staff members on 32 different councils and teams producing 55 project posters for viewing by their colleagues