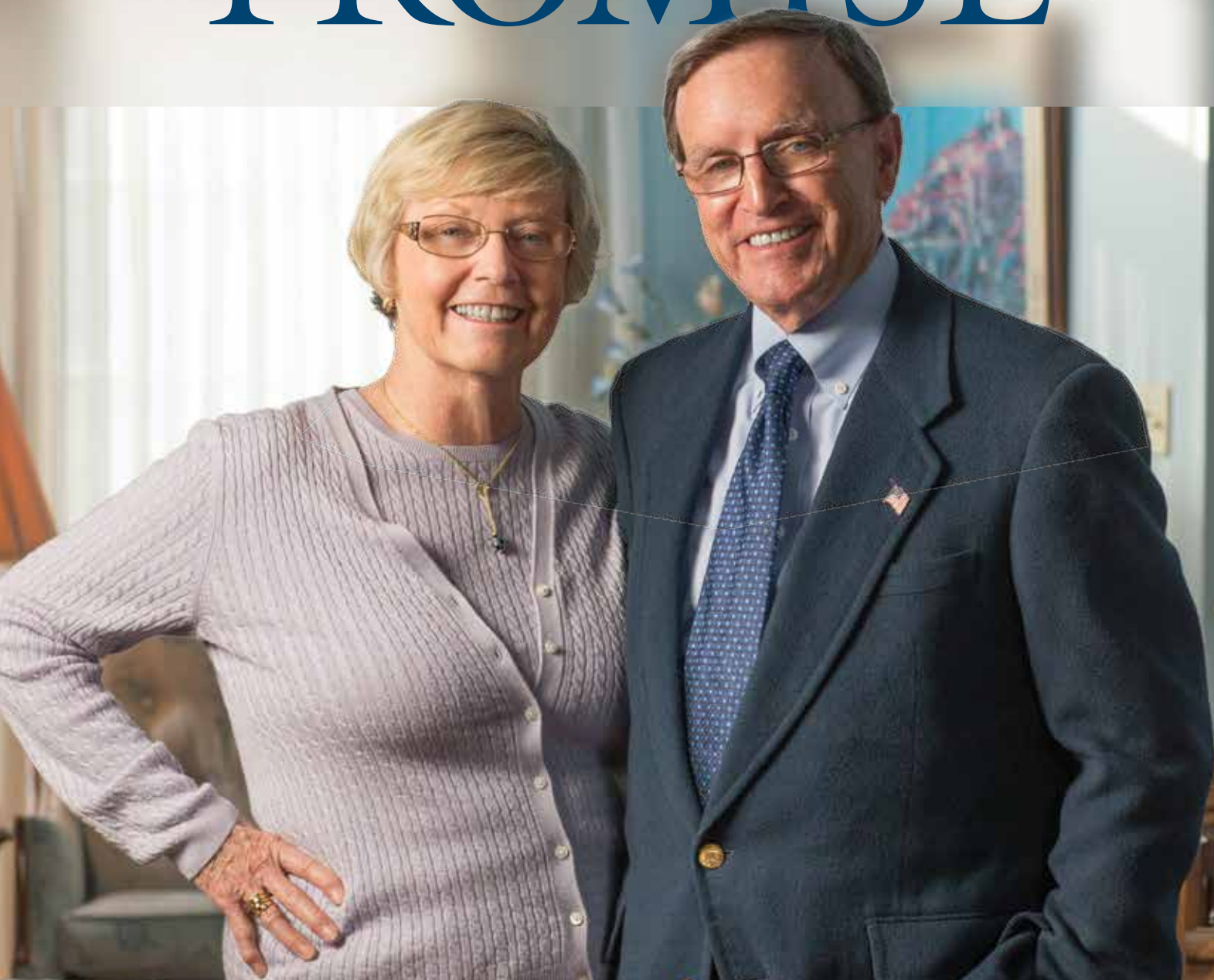


THE POWER OF PHILANTHROPY

SUMMER

# PROMISE

2015



Nancy and Vincent DiGirolamo: *A Lifetime of Generous Giving*



“We remain indebted to those who give their time, energy and financial support to help ensure the health of our region.”

— Thomas A. Malone, MD

# promise

## THE POWER OF PHILANTHROPY

Dear Friends of Summa,

It is a tremendous honor to serve as the new President and Chief Executive Officer of Summa Health. For more than a century, Summa has delivered the highest quality, compassionate care to patients throughout our region. I look forward to leading Summa into a new era of population health and continuing our rich tradition of helping sustain the health and well-being of our community.

Summa's ability to respond to the rapidly changing healthcare environment is supported by the generous philanthropy of individuals and organizations throughout our community who share our commitment to good health. In this issue of PROMISE, we are proud to feature Vincent and Nancy DiGirolamo, whose generosity and dedication to helping conquer cancer are making an immeasurable difference in the lives of our patients. We are ever grateful for their inspirational gifts and leadership.

In these pages, we also recognize many other generous donors, including the Walter W. Born Foundation and the Women's Board of Summa Health System. Their visionary support underscores Summa Breast Center's stature as a destination for exceptional breast care. Additionally, we highlight two of our corporate benefactors, Ritzman Pharmacies and FirstMerit, which exemplify the remarkable spirit of

philanthropy that is enhancing our efforts to transform the delivery of healthcare in our community.

As Summa continues to move forward in setting the standard for excellence in care, we remain indebted to those who give their time, energy and financial support to ensure the health of our region.

On behalf of the entire Summa family, I extend our deep appreciation to all of our generous benefactors. You are a constant source of pride and inspiration.

Sincerely,



**Thomas A. Malone, MD**  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Summa Health

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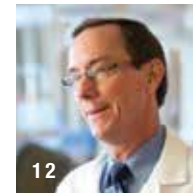
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Lifetime of Generous Giving  
to Summa



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Health Primer



Advancing Care at  
Summa Cancer Institute



Celebrating the  
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PROMISE is published twice a year for friends and benefactors of Summa Health. PROMISE focuses on the impact of philanthropy and provides information on programs and services at Summa.

Summa Health is an integrated healthcare delivery system that provides coordinated, value-based services across the continuum of care. Our mission: *To provide the highest quality, compassionate care to our patients and to contribute to a healthier community.*

For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit [SummaHealth.org](http://SummaHealth.org)

Through the Summa Foundation, friends and benefactors provide vital support for patient care, medical education and research initiatives at Summa Health. Summa Foundation staff is available to answer questions regarding types of gifts and how to make a meaningful contribution.

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Summa Akron City Hospital is one of only a few hospitals in Ohio performing TAVR, thanks to the Richard M. and Yvonne Hamlin Hybrid Operating Room Suite.

## Producing Remarkable Comebacks

Suzanne Antal is back to directing plays at her church after undergoing an advanced heart valve replacement procedure at Summa Akron City Hospital. Ms. Antal, like the other 12 patients who have had TAVR (transcatheter aortic valve replacement) since December 2014, was considered too high risk for open-heart surgery.


"I couldn't walk across the room without sitting down," Ms. Antal recalls. "They gave me a new life, and I am very grateful for that."

TAVR is a minimally invasive procedure in which a physician guides a collapsible artificial aortic valve through a catheter to the site of the patient's damaged valve. The artificial valve is then expanded, a movement that pushes the damaged valve out of the way, secures the position of the new valve and allows it to take over.

TAVR relieves the shortness of breath, chest pain and dizziness of severe aortic stenosis (a narrowing of the major heart valve that causes it to malfunction).

Most patients are up and walking with physical therapy the day after the procedure and go home in fewer than five days.

Summa Akron City Hospital is the first hospital in Summit County and one of only a few in Ohio performing TAVR procedures. The TAVR surgical team includes cardiac physicians, anesthesiologists, imaging specialists, nurses and other professionals. Thanks to the generous support of Richard and Yvonne Hamlin, an operating room large enough to accommodate the team – the Richard M. and Yvonne Hamlin Hybrid Operating Room Suite – opened in 2014.


"Thanks to the Hamlins' generosity and Summa Health's foresight, we have an ideal space to perform TAVR and other lifesaving procedures," says Peter Bittenbender, MD, Summa Cardiovascular Institute interventional cardiologist and lead TAVR physician. 

## SUMMA'S STEVI SPEEDS ASSESSMENT OF STROKE VICTIMS

In March, a robot named "STEVl" – Summa's Telemedicine Virtual Initiative – debuted at Summa Health. STEVI can "transport" a stroke specialist via a video monitor to Summa Akron City and Summa Barberton hospitals' emergency departments within minutes for a face-to-face assessment of potential stroke patients.

"When treating a stroke, you are working against the clock. Every second counts," says Susana Bowling, MD, Medical Director, Summa Neurosciences, who championed Summa's acquisition of the robotic technology. Summa's Joao Gomes, MD, critical care neurologist, also provides stroke consults using the STEVI system.

No matter where they are when a page comes in from the emergency department, both physicians can log in to STEVI right from their iPhones. The responding neurologist's image instantaneously appears on the STEVI monitor at the patient's bedside where the assessment begins. STEVI significantly shortens the time between diagnosis and delivery of clot-busting drugs that can halt or even reverse stroke damage.

To provide 24/7 access to a neurologist, Summa collaborates with the Telestroke Collaborative of The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center in Columbus for after-hours coverage. OSU's stroke team provides remote consults for Summa and 20 other Ohio hospitals. 

Susana Bowling, MD, Medical Director, Summa Neurosciences, championed Summa's acquisition of STEVI.

"When treating a stroke, you are working against the clock. Every second counts."

– Susana Bowling, MD




Laura L. Hall, RN, Summa Barberton Hospital Emergency Department, using Vocera.

## RITZMAN PHARMACIES' GIFT ENHANCES COMMUNICATIONS AT SUMMA BARBERTON HOSPITAL

When Summa Barberton Hospital's Emergency Department tripled in size in 2013, the new facility presented a communications challenge for health professionals. A generous gift from Ritzman Pharmacies helped meet the challenge head on by enabling Summa Barberton Hospital to equip all staff with Vocera hands-free wireless communications technology.

Caring for patients in 32 private rooms and a 10-bed fast track treatment area spread over a 32,000-square-foot facility requires 15 to 20 staff members to be in constant motion. It was time-consuming to use pagers and cell phones. Now, with a press of a button on the Vocera unit – worn like a high-tech lanyard – staff can communicate instantaneously with each other.

"Vocera is essential to operating efficiently in our new space," says Michele Sine, RN, Emergency Department Unit Manager. "The gift from Ritzman Pharmacies speeds communication among all staff on duty – doctors, nurses, technicians, Summa paramedics and registration staff."

In a busy emergency department, that speed can be lifesaving. 



Ritzman Pharmacies President and CEO Eric Graf.

Above: Peter Bittenbender, MD, with Suzanne Antal.

Dr. Bittenbender and cardiothoracic surgeon Robert Baranek, MD, led a 15-person team that performed Ms. Antal's heart valve procedure. She was referred by cardiologist Roger Chaffee, MD.






Summa Center for Dental Health provided free dental care to more than 90 kids on Give Kids a Smile Day in February, a national program of the American Dental Association. Above: Marvin Cohen, DDS, Chief, Division of Dentistry, and Dental Residency Program Director.

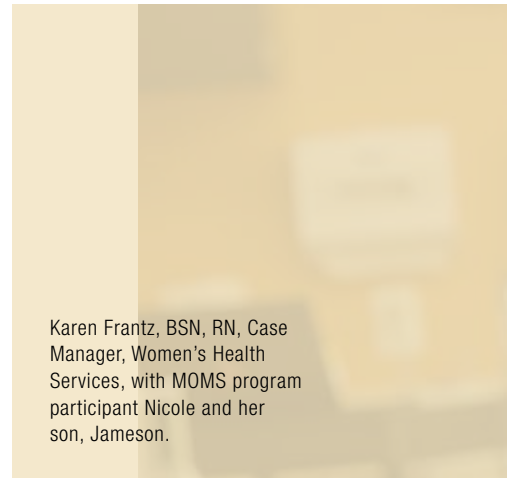
## SUMMA DENTAL HEALTH CENTER KEEPS KIDS AND GROWNUPS SMILING

More than 10,000 patients each year smile a little brighter because of the donor-supported dental residency program at Summa Center for Dental Health. The program is one of only a few hospital-based programs in Ohio and – with seven resident dentists – one of the largest.

Located on the Summa Akron City Hospital campus, the Center for Dental Health provides routine and advanced dental care for both insured and uninsured patients. Recent dental school graduates provide care – from teeth cleaning to fillings to root canals – under the guidance of experienced dentists.

“Our patients receive expert care while our residents gain experience managing virtually every type of dental problem, many of them complex,” says Marvin Cohen, DDS, Chief, Division of Dentistry, and Dental Residency Program Director. “The volume and type of patients we see in a single year give residents the equivalent experience of three to five years in private practice.” Attesting to community need, the residency program has doubled in size since its inception in 2007.

Summa Center for Dental Health has received philanthropic contributions from Coltene Whaledent Inc., an international developer and manufacturer of dental equipment and supplies with North American headquarters in Cuyahoga Falls; the Akron Dental Society and local dentists. The center also receives support from the Ohio Department of Health. 



Karen Frantz, BSN, RN, Case Manager, Women's Health Services, with MOMS program participant Nicole and her son, Jameson.



Angela Silber, MD, Director, Maternal Fetal Medicine, and MOMS program Co-director.



“The MOMS program helped teach me that despite my rough, painful past, I still have room in my life for a thriving future with the most perfect person by my side – my son.”

– Nicole, MOMS program participant

## IMPROVING CARE FOR HIGH-RISK ELDERLY PATIENTS


**The frailest and most chronically ill of all elderly patients in the United States consume nearly 40 percent of our nation's healthcare resources.**

And their numbers are growing. Summa Health is taking on the challenge to improve health outcomes for this group while reducing healthcare costs.

Through Practice Change Leaders for Aging and Health, a national program supported by the venerable Atlantic Philanthropies and the

John A. Hartford Foundation, Kathy Blake, MSN, RN, Vice President, Senior Services, is finding help in meeting this important challenge.

Ms. Blake is among only 10 leaders nationwide and the only individual from Ohio chosen to participate in the prestigious program this year. Practice Change Leaders is sponsoring her attendance at three national conferences, where she is gathering valuable advice from mentors across the country. The organization also granted Summa \$45,000 to help Ms. Blake expand a high-risk geriatric clinic designed specifically to help this population within NewHealth Collaborative, Summa's accountable care organization. With the grant, she plans to increase the number of patients served from 10 to more than 200.

To Ms. Blake, it's a chance for big success in accountable care – and in people's lives. 


## MOMS Program Intervenes to Help Mothers and Babies

With support from The Reinberger Foundation, Summa Health is working to help mothers and babies who are at risk from drug addiction. The Maternal Opiate Medical Support program (MOMS) helps opiate-addicted women to safely wean themselves and their babies from drugs and obtain crucial prenatal care, peer support in group sessions and access to addiction counseling and other social services – all in a weekly program offered on site at Summa Akron City Hospital.

“Most of the mothers are desperate for help. They are young and lost in addiction,” says Angela Silber, MD, Summa's Director of Maternal Fetal Medicine and Co-director of MOMS. “Those who free themselves from drug dependency and deliver healthy babies often return to share their experiences with the group.”

“Those are the stories the women want to hear most,” says Michele McCarroll, PhD, who runs the program along with Dr. Silber. It's crucial for these women “to know that they'll be able to manage and succeed.”

Drs. Silber and McCarroll launched MOMS in February 2014 in response to the growing incidence of narcotic addiction locally. Ohio is one of the worst states in the nation for infant mortality, which is a core concern of The Reinberger Foundation. Already, MOMS has shown signs of success. In an initial analysis comparing MOMS participants with opiate-addicted women who received conventional prenatal care, the women in the MOMS program were more likely to keep their appointments and to breastfeed their infants.

For these mothers and their babies, MOMS provides a much-needed fresh start. 





“We are a high-volume community hospital where people have needs for advanced care, and where physicians are able to help them.”

— Marc S. Penn, MD, PhD

## Cardiovascular Research Yielding Results


Fifteen years of work is bearing fruit for noted cardiovascular researcher Marc S. Penn, MD, PhD, and his team at Summa Health. A generous gift from the Nolan E. Douglas Estate is supporting this investigation of a promising treatment for advanced heart failure.

Dr. Penn, Director of Research at Summa Cardiovascular Institute and Professor of Medicine and Integrative Medical Sciences at Northeast Ohio Medical University, discovered JVS-100, a gene therapy that induces the body to repair its own heart muscle tissue, mitigating heart failure that can occur after a heart attack.

Dr. Penn announced his team's most recent research results in May at a medical conference in Seville, Spain. “We believe repairing heart tissue in a natural way that leads to improved function, as we have done with JVS-100, is critical for improving outcomes for difficult-to-treat patients who live with the symptoms of chronic heart failure daily,” he says. The results were from the 16-site nationwide trial he leads called STOP-HF (Sdf-1 Plasmid Treatment for Patients with Heart Failure). In June, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration granted Fast Track designation for the product to expedite its development. If all goes well, the new agent could be available for patient care as early as 2019.

Dr. Penn, who also directs Summa Cardiovascular Institute's new three-year cardiology fellowship program, came to Summa four years ago.

“Summa is a very effective executor of clinical trials,” he explains. “We are a high-volume community hospital where people have needs for advanced care, and where physicians are able to help them. These clinical trials significantly expand the arsenal of treatments we can offer patients.”

Most of Summa Cardiovascular Institute's 27 doctors are involved in clinical trials. These include investigations into treatments for atrial fibrillation (abnormal heart rhythm), ventricular tachycardia (rapid heartbeat), heart attack, critical limb ischemia (impaired blood flow), cosmetic wound healing, as well as JVS-100 for heart failure. Researchers also are investigating the psychosocial and cognitive aspects of heart disease and hypertension. 

*If you would like more information about supporting cardiovascular or other important clinical research at Summa Health, please call us at 330.375.3159.*

## Nurses Advance Through Donor-funded Scholarships

Thanks to donor generosity, Summa Health has awarded more than 120 scholarships since 2001 that enable nurses to pursue further training.


Newest among these scholarships are the Wiskind Advanced Practice/Nursing Education Scholarship, funded by Milton Wiskind and his late wife, Edith, and the Andreoli Awards for Nursing Excellence, created through a gift from Dee and Rennick Andreoli.

By establishing these funds, the Wiskinds and Andreolis join the ranks of esteemed Summa donors who made gifts to support nursing education decades ago. These scholarships include the Wilfred and Florence Weaver Education Award and the Sheldon Traeger Critical Care Nursing Education Award.

This year's scholarship recipients were announced in May at the annual Care Beyond luncheon, one of many Nurse Recognition Week events honoring Summa's dedicated team of more than 1,900 nurses. 



**VIEW SUMMA'S ANNUAL REPORT – ONLINE!**

The stories in this year's annual report demonstrate Summa Health's transformation to a population health management organization that delivers value-based healthcare, bringing the right care at the right time to all we serve. Through all of our changes, Summa remains committed to making a difference in the lives of patients throughout the Akron area. Log on to [summahealth.org/2014AnnualReport](http://summahealth.org/2014AnnualReport) to view Summa's 2014 interactive annual report. 

**FACT:** More than 70 percent of Summa Health's 1,900 nurses hold a bachelor's, master's or doctorate degree in nursing and about 115 more are now enrolled in master's degree programs.

2015 nursing scholarship recipients (left to right): Melissa Sauer, BSN, RN; Sarah Ickes, BSN, RN; Kelly Ward, BSN, RN; Valerie Grant, BSN, RN; and Lisa Ray, BSN, RN. Not pictured: Karrie Boss, BSN, RN; Liz Protain, BSN, RN; and Anita Gant, BSN, RN.

# Congratulations!





# A Population Health Primer



BY LYDIA ALEXANDER COOK, MD

Lydia Alexander Cook, MD, joined Summa Health in January as President of Summa Physicians Inc. The former Associate Medical Director of Sales, Marketing and Government Affairs for HealthSpan Physicians Inc., Dr. Cook still sees patients weekly as a HealthSpan pediatrician. Before HealthSpan, she was a pediatrician with Ohio Permanente Medical Group in Cleveland for 26 years. She and her husband, Lloyd Cook, MD, live in Solon and have two adult children.

“We are entering a new world in healthcare, one that has great potential to improve the health of individuals and, therefore, our entire population.”

honored and passionate about helping Summa implement the population health model.

Visualize population health as a pyramid. Put the well group, fortunately the largest, at the bottom of the pyramid. One level up are those who benefit from preventive measures, for instance people with elevated risk factors for heart disease. On the third level are patients whose risk of serious health problems is rising due to such factors as obesity, age and sedentary lifestyles. Those with chronic illness or serious disease occupy the top two levels.

I came to Summa Health because I believe that keeping people healthy is just as important as treating them when they're ill or injured. As a pediatrician, I've been acting on that conviction my entire career.

Pediatricians focus on keeping patients healthy, beginning with immunizations in infancy. We watch for developmental milestones and intervene early when a particular aspect of development seems delayed. We don't wait for something to be drastically wrong before we do something.


The practice of pediatrics reflects what we are working toward for all ages at Summa Health. It is a new era in healthcare known as “population health.” As President of Summa Physicians Inc., I am

As population health physicians, our goal is to care for all patients on that pyramid and keep them from moving up to the next level. To that end, we identify risk factors – lifestyle and genetic – to help patients mitigate risk and prevent disease. We manage chronic disease to prevent complications. Better-controlled diabetes, for example, helps patients avoid end-stage renal failure.

Professionals work as a team, with each member keenly aware of all care plans. Care managers and

navigators help patients transition from hospital to home, making sure people understand doctors' instructions and medications. We assess patients' needs for resources in the home. Health coaches encourage patients to take an active role in their care.

The key to success in population-based health activities is collaboration – among hospital and community providers and across the continuum of care.

As the liaison between Summa's physicians and executive team, I hope to serve as an agent of change. We are entering a new world in healthcare, one that has great potential to improve the health of individuals and, therefore, our entire population, and at the same time reduce costs. It's not only about providing acute care anymore. It's also about keeping patients healthy. If we manage patients effectively as outpatients, they will rarely need to become inpatients. We want to create, in essence, a patient-centered medical home at Summa, where our ultimate goal is to help patients get healthy and stay that way. 



## A Philanthropic View

### SUMMA CANCER INSTITUTE: ADVANCED CARE CLOSE TO HOME

*A Philanthropic View* offers a broad look at the many ways generous supporters – individuals, families, foundations, organizations and businesses – are helping Summa Health provide needed services and promote the health and well-being of our community.

In this issue of PROMISE magazine, *A Philanthropic View* focuses on philanthropy at Summa Cancer Institute. Every year, nearly 2,000 new patients seek the institute's advanced cancer care close to home.

We recognize and honor Vincent and Nancy DiGirolamo, the most generous individual donors in Summa history, for their lifetime of giving to the institute and sustained service to the health system.





## Nancy and Vincent DiGirolamo: *A Lifetime of Generous Giving*

For decades, the selfless service and remarkable philanthropy of Akron couple Nancy and Vincent DiGirolamo have benefitted thousands of patients at Summa Health.

Mr. DiGirolamo, a retired banking executive, served on various Summa Health boards for 27 years, including Chair of Summa Hospitals Board in 2003.

"Through the years, I discovered that the focus on quality of care was very significant at Summa," Mr. DiGirolamo says. "We talked about it at every board meeting."

He recalls voting with confidence for "Summa" as the name of the system created by the 1989 merger of Akron City and St. Thomas hospitals. In its academic sense of "highest"

and as a word for a comprehensive entity, "Summa" served well as a name for a system intent on delivering the highest quality, compassionate care over the full spectrum of patients' lives.

Nancy DiGirolamo's service as a patient volunteer on the Women's Board of Summa Health System paralleled her husband's service on Summa's boards. "In my travels around the hospital, I saw how patients were so well cared for," she says.

The care Mrs. DiGirolamo witnessed became the care she experienced when she was diagnosed with blood cancer in 2006 and with lymphoma in 2010.

Mrs. DiGirolamo fought both cancers successfully with the expert care provided by Summa Cancer Institute professionals. In gratitude, she and

her husband established an annual oncology symposium and the Vincent and Nancy DiGirolamo Endowed Chair in Oncology, currently held by R. Douglas Trochelman, MD, Medical Director of Summa Cancer Institute.

"It is a great honor to be chosen for an endowed chair," Dr. Trochelman says. "It gives me funding stability and the discretion to support important projects, provide educational programs, purchase advanced equipment and recruit top cancer specialists to our team."

The DiGirolamos' experiences inspired an additional gift of \$2 million to further support the endowed chair, as well as provide valuable support for cancer research and education. With that gift, the DiGirolamos' overall philanthropy to Summa totals more

than \$4 million, making the couple the most generous individual donors in Summa history – and this year's recipients of the Boniface DeRoo Award, Summa's highest donor honor. (See page 18.)

"We are so grateful for the DiGirolamos," says Dr. Trochelman. "Their remarkable history of giving, decades of dedication to Summa and their incredible community spirit inspire us in our continuing fight against cancer."

"We felt compelled to do what we could to help others dealing with this terrible disease," says Mrs. DiGirolamo. She and her husband, who have three children and six grandchildren, celebrate 57 years together this year. 📞

*"We are so grateful for the  
DiGirolamos. Their remarkable  
history of giving, decades of  
dedication to Summa and their  
incredible community spirit  
inspire us in our continuing  
fight against cancer."*

— R. Douglas Trochelman, MD

### DIGIROLAMO ONCOLOGY SYMPOSIUM: EXPERTS GATHER TO IMPROVE CANCER CARE

The annual Vincent and Nancy DiGirolamo Oncology Symposium, now in its eighth year, adds muscle to the fight against cancer, keeping the Summa Cancer Institute team at the forefront of cancer care. Physicians of national caliber are invited to Summa Akron City Hospital to share information about emerging clinical practices and research findings. This year's symposium will feature presentations on molecular profiling and staging of lung cancer that will ultimately help Summa Cancer Institute oncologists improve the efficacy of therapies. In a third presentation, a survivor of lymphoma will share her cancer journey. 📞





## Summa Cancer Institute: Relentless in the Fight to End Cancer


In pursuit of their enduring **mission to offer hope, fight cancer and win**, Summa Cancer Institute's board-certified physicians treat more than 100 cancer types at locations throughout Northeast Ohio. The largest cancer program in Summit County, **Summa Cancer Institute provides patients and families with holistic care close to home.**

"Summa Cancer Institute's mission has been propelled forward thanks to thoughtful and considerable support from the philanthropic community," says R. Douglas Trochelman, MD, Medical Director of Summa Cancer Institute and holder of the Vincent and Nancy DiGirolamo Endowed Chair in Oncology.

Holistic care at Summa Cancer Institute includes a comprehensive screening program for multiple cancer types. For most cancers, the earlier the diagnosis is made, the greater the chance of successful treatment.

To treat cancer at any stage, Summa specialists work together to give each patient the best chance for a cure – and a future. Oncologists, surgeons, researchers, psychologists, palliative care professionals, advanced practice nurses and support staff guide patients and their loved ones through all phases of the cancer experience.

The fight against cancer at Summa employs the latest in radiation therapy, chemotherapy, immunotherapy, hormone therapy and surgery. To continuously expand treatment options and provide access to promising therapies and breakthrough technologies, Summa is involved in numerous cancer-related clinical research studies.

"Clinical trials are a cornerstone of our care," says Dr. Trochelman, "an important part of our threefold mission to provide the highest quality patient care, educate professionals and conduct research." 



Gary Williams, MD, retired Breast Program Medical Director, with Lauren Kinsell, MD, Medical Director, Breast Imaging.



Melanie Lynch, MD, Breast Program Medical Director, Summa Akron City Hospital.

"Our goal is to take the patient from diagnosis to treatment within 24 to 48 hours." – Gary Williams, MD



**FACT:** *Garden of Fantasy*, the two-story aluminum and bronze sculpture in the Jean and Milton Cooper Cancer Center lobby, is represented in the background of this and previous pages. The sculpture, created by nationally recognized Akron artist Don Drumm, was donated in 2008 by the Jean B. and Milton N. Cooper family in loving memory of their daughter and sister, Carolyn.

## New Breast Center Streamlines Care


Waiting for test results can be agonizing, especially for those whose initial breast screening necessitates follow-up. Minimizing that wait is a priority at Summa Health's new diagnostic Breast Center that opened in June at Summa Akron City Hospital.

The Women's Board of Summa Health System and the Walter W. Born Foundation helped make the new Summa Breast Center possible. The Born Foundation made a \$250,000 challenge grant that the Women's Board matched dollar for dollar.

"When the Breast Center team finds a problem, our goal is to take the patient from diagnosis to treatment within 24 to 48 hours," says Gary Williams, MD, who championed the creation of this interdisciplinary breast clinic. Dr. Williams, who retired as Breast Program Medical Director on June 1, considers the Breast Center to be one of the crowning achievements of his 40-year Summa career.

"We are absolutely dedicated to this mission," adds Melanie Lynch, MD, who succeeded Dr. Williams as Breast Program Medical Director, Summa Akron City Hospital.

Staffed to minimize waiting, the Breast Center brings together an expert team of clinical specialists – oncologists, surgeons, radiologists and others. A conference area facilitates professional collaboration and private consultations. Specially trained nurse navigators help patients understand and follow individualized treatment plans.

The center offers advanced 3D mammography (tomosynthesis), now standard throughout Summa Health. "Tomosynthesis allows us to view breast tissue layer by layer in multiple images rather than relying on traditional flat 2D imaging," explains Lauren Kinsell, MD, Medical Director, Breast Imaging. These multiple views allow radiologists to more clearly detect the difference between benign and cancerous masses, especially in women with dense breast tissue. The result is earlier detection with fewer false alarms. 





“My mom always encouraged our family to give to others, to be charitable. I wanted to do something good for others in her memory and to lead by example.”

— Nathaniel Conway, RN

#### SUMMA EMPLOYEE GIVING

## Extending a Legacy of Caring

The compassionate care nurses provided to his mother, Carol Conway, RN, at Summa Barberton Hospital inspired Nathaniel Conway, RN, to become a nurse — just like his mother. His experience also inspired him to contribute to “I Am Summa,” the hospital system’s annual employee giving appeal.

“My mom was a nurse in the Emergency Department at Summa Barberton Hospital for eight years,” says Mr. Conway, who now works on the hospital’s medical/surgical floor. “She always encouraged our family to give to others, to be charitable. I wanted to do something good for others in her memory and to lead by example.”

Mr. Conway began contributing to “I Am Summa” as soon as he started working for Summa in November 2013. He decided to set up an automatic biweekly donation through payroll deduction.

His mother, who passed away in August 2013, would be proud. 

Thanks to employees’ generosity, gifts to the “I Am Summa” employee appeal totaled more than \$105,000 in 2014, a 35 percent increase over 2013.

## STRONG BONDS INSPIRE STRONG SUPPORT FOR ORTHOPAEDICS

Virginia native Basil E. Smith, MD, completed his orthopaedic residency at Summa Health in 1987. He left Akron to practice in Arizona and Tennessee but remained passionate about his experience at Summa. Even after his untimely death in April 2014, his dedication to Summa and its mission continued.

Dr. Smith provided Summa Health with a generous estate gift that established the Basil E. Smith, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery Resident Education Endowment Fund in honor of his mentor, J. Patrick Flanagan, MD, former Orthopaedics Department Chair.

“Basil’s gift provides a permanent legacy of support that will impact generations of orthopaedic surgeons to come,” says Orthopaedics Department Chair Scott Weiner, MD, who also trained

under Dr. Flanagan. “We are grateful for Basil’s generosity.”




Basil E. Smith, MD (1987)

“Dr. Flanagan ran the residency program like a family,” Dr. Weiner continues. “That’s why we call him ‘Father Flanagan.’ I try to follow his example, emphasizing training the whole person. That’s how we turn out great surgeons — and great people.” Funds from Dr. Smith’s gift

also support the biennial J. Patrick Flanagan, MD, Orthopaedic Alumni Conference. The event provides graduates and staff an opportunity to reunite, present papers and learn about advances in orthopaedic surgery.

Dr. Flanagan’s orthopaedic career at Summa Health spanned 32 years until his retirement in 2007. Under his leadership, the residency program grew from a general orthopaedics curriculum in 1975 to include all subspecialties — spine, hand, foot, ankle, knee, total joint replacement, sports medicine, trauma, oncology and others. Dr. Flanagan is now Professor Emeritus of Clinical Orthopaedics at Northeast Ohio Medical University.

Acceptance into the Summa Orthopaedic Surgery Residency Training Program is extremely selective; more than 400 applicants compete for just four openings. Known for their excellence, the surgeons who emerge from Summa’s five-year program are sought after by practices and hospitals nationwide. 

## Remembering Summa St. Thomas Hospital’s Kindness 22 Years Later

In 1988, far from their home in Beijing, China, Li Tang and her husband, Xiaojing Du, were young Chinese immigrants living in a \$250-a-month apartment in Kent, where Xiaojing was a graduate student at Kent State University. Jobless, without a green card and barely able to speak English, Li discovered she was pregnant.

“We had no money; I was scared,” Li says. Driving the 10-year-old Ford they had purchased for a couple hundred dollars, the couple went to a clinic to confirm the pregnancy.


“The nurses kept saying, ‘You should be happy!’” Li recalls, but instead the couple was worried. They had no money and no health insurance. “In China, the government took care of everything.”

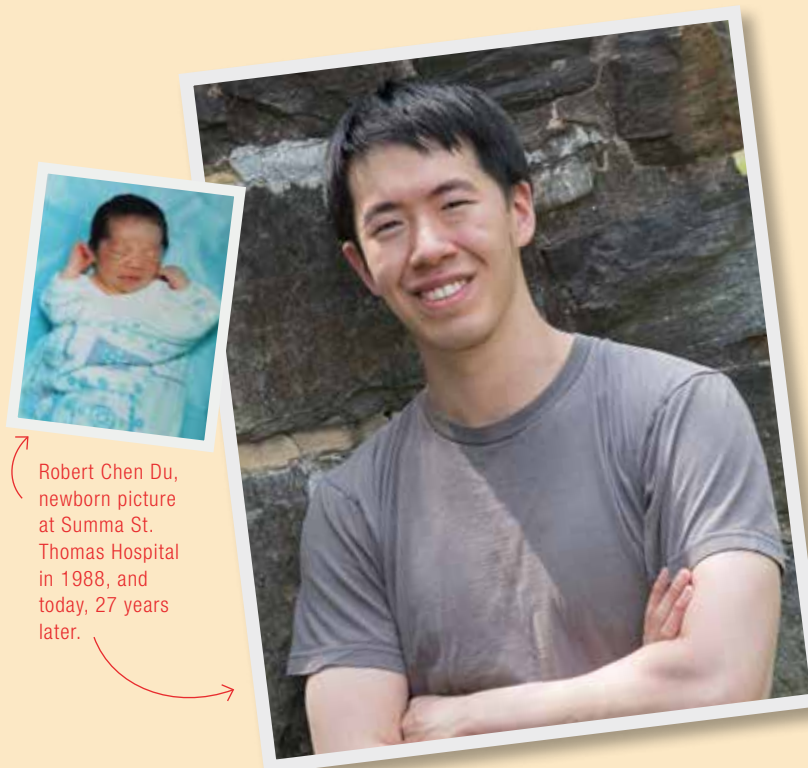
Later that year, Li gave birth to a son at Summa St. Thomas Hospital. The bill for the delivery was \$7,000. Because of their financial hardship, Li and Xiaojing qualified for assistance. “The hospital waived everything. I couldn’t believe it,” Li says.

The couple never forgot that kindness. In 2010, 22 years after their son was born, they began sending \$200 each month to Summa St. Thomas Hospital to repay that gift.

“My husband didn’t call it a good deed. He called it a duty,” Li says.

Now residents of Fairfax, Va., both have successful careers. Their son, Robert Chen Du, is a civil engineer with a college degree. The gift has long been repaid, but they keep giving.

“The hospital helped us,” Li says. “Now we should help them.” 



Robert Chen Du, newborn picture at Summa St. Thomas Hospital in 1988, and today, 27 years later.

Left to right: Department of Psychiatry Chair Joseph D. Varley, MD, the Jim and Vanita Oelschlager Chair in Psychiatry and Behavioral Health, with benefactors Susan and David Banks.




## DONOR SUPPORT HELPS LAUNCH ADDICTION MEDICINE FELLOWSHIP

Building on its legacy in addiction treatment, Summa Health welcomed its first two addiction medicine fellows in July. A generous gift from Susan and David Banks helped launch the fellowship program.

“Everyone knows someone who is struggling with addiction, depression and other mental health issues,” notes Mr. Banks. “Our combat veterans are especially vulnerable. We felt it was important to support Summa’s strong behavioral health program. We wanted to make a difference for our community.”

The fellowship is open to any post-residency physician, such as a family practitioner or internist, who is interested in developing expertise in treating addiction. The one-year fellowship will prepare these physicians for treating all aspects of addiction.

“The problems related to addiction are growing,” says Joseph D. Varley, MD, Chair, Department of Psychiatry, and holder of the Jim and Vanita Oelschlager Chair in Psychiatry and Behavioral Health. “This fellowship allows for training the next generation of physicians in addiction medicine, a sorely needed resource not only in this community, but nationally. Susan and David’s gift will make a huge difference in helping us create that vital workforce. For that, we are extremely grateful.”

The fellowships will strengthen the addiction medicine program at the Behavioral Health Center at Summa St. Thomas Hospital, which offers both inpatient and outpatient services. 





## Corporate Giving



Left to right: FirstMerit leaders H. Leigh Gerstenberger, Mona M. Sarkar, JD, and Nicholas Browning.

## FirstMerit Leaders Are Dedicated Summa Supporters

At FirstMerit, a diversified financial services company headquartered in Akron, philanthropy is as much about guiding as giving. Supporting a healthy and vibrant community has been a cornerstone of the company's mission for 165 years. Summa is grateful for the strong support and civic leadership of three FirstMerit executives whose continuing contributions of time, talent and treasure reflect the company's ideals.

“Summa Health has a significant impact on our community, affecting thousands of lives. FirstMerit’s history of giving back to this community is what drives our commitment to support Summa and many other nonprofit organizations in the Akron area. We believe in investing locally in our anchor institutions. By partnering with organizations such as Summa, we ensure that local contributions meet local needs.”

— Nicholas Browning

FirstMerit President and CEO, Akron Region

Member, Summa Health Board of Directors and 2015 Summa Sapphire Ball Corporate Committee

“Summa Health gives back to the community in hundreds of ways. FirstMerit shares its values and supports Summa and other charitable organizations that are working to improve our community and peoples’ lives. We believe in these organizations and we believe in Akron.”

— Mona M. Sarkar, JD

FirstMerit Senior Vice President, National Practice Lead-FirstFamily and Charitable Advisory Group Manager

Member, Summa Foundation Board of Directors and Summa Cancer Institute Leadership Council

“With more than 100 local nonprofit organizations as clients, we realize the importance of philanthropy and are always looking for ways in which we can channel our giving within the community to where it is most needed. We also believe in giving back through service. As a result, many of our employees volunteer their time by lending their leadership skills to key area institutions through active participation on committees and boards. We are honored by these opportunities and find it a privilege to serve.”

— H. Leigh Gerstenberger

FirstMerit Senior Vice President, Regional Wealth Executive

Member, Summa Behavioral Health Leadership Council and Summa Legacy Advisory Council



## GETTING TO KNOW SUMMA HEALTH’S NEW CEO

**Thomas A. Malone, MD, MBA**, was named President and Chief Executive Officer of Summa Health in January after serving as Chief Operating Officer since 2014. PROMISE sat down with Dr. Malone to learn more about Summa’s new chief executive.

**PROMISE:** Tell us a little about your upbringing.

**Dr. Malone:** I grew up in Niles, Ohio, near Youngstown, with very involved parents. My father was a painting contractor; he passed away when I was in medical school. My mother worked as a secretary for the mayor of Niles. Neither of my parents went to college, so they were determined that my two sisters and I did.

**PROMISE:** What made you decide to become a physician?

**Dr. Malone:** My parents, certainly, who instilled the drive and determination in me. Our family doctor played a pivotal role, too. He knew us well, having treated all our various ailments over the years. He had great faith in my abilities and encouraged me to go to John Carroll University and think about medical school. He knew me better than I knew myself back then. I graduated magna cum laude with a degree in chemistry. Later, at The Ohio State University College of Medicine, I worked nights in obstetrics. I liked the babies and the challenge of intensive care, so I specialized in neonatology.

**PROMISE:** You went from neonatologist to CEO. Why?

**Dr. Malone:** I wanted to have a greater impact on improving healthcare delivery, so I went to the University of Notre Dame for a master’s in business administration. Shortly after graduating, I became Chief Medical Officer at Detroit Medical Center. During my 11 years there, I was able to have an impact on how care was delivered across seven hospitals by instituting an electronic medical records system that standardized care and improved safety.

**PROMISE:** Under your leadership, Summa is at the forefront in population health. Tell us more about that.

**Dr. Malone:** I grew up with patient-centered care in Niles. My family physician even made house calls. It’s the type of personalized care that most healthcare professionals want to provide – managing the whole patient in the safest environment to keep people healthy. That’s how you improve care and reduce costs. That’s how we all thrive in the long run – our patients, our community, our health system.


**PROMISE:** How important is philanthropy to Summa’s success?

**Dr. Malone:** It is very important. We constantly ask, “How do we make Summa better?” Philanthropy is central to advancing our ability to improve patient care, a mission that never ends.

**PROMISE:** How do you feel about being CEO at this time in healthcare?

**Dr. Malone:** At a time when healthcare is so dynamic, it is a tremendous opportunity to be CEO. To re-engineer the healthcare of a whole community and make it better is both challenging and gratifying.

**PROMISE:** What do you do for fun?

**Dr. Malone:** I’m a runner, and I like cooking and golf. My wife, Megan, and I love dogs. We have a one-year-old Newfoundland who already weighs about 130 pounds. We named her Diva, and, yes, she acts just like her name. 







# Summa Society Celebration



## RECOGNIZING THE SPIRIT OF PHILANTHROPY

The annual Summa Society Celebration is a special event dedicated to honoring Summa Health's most generous donors. The June 3 event paid tribute to Vincent and Nancy DiGirolamo, who received the prestigious Boniface DeRoo Award for Philanthropic Leadership for their visionary support of cancer care at Summa. The late James S. Tan, MD, a preeminent Summa physician, was honored posthumously with the inaugural Summa Health Distinguished Physician Award. The Lehner Family Foundation was celebrated as the newest member of the esteemed Thomas W. Cornell Philanthropic Leadership Society. **S**



Left to right: James R. McIlvaine; Thomas A. Malone, MD; Nancy and Vincent DiGirolamo; and Thomas A. Clark.

## VINCENT AND NANCY DIGIROLAMO HONORED WITH DEROO AWARD

In recognition of their remarkable generosity and visionary support of Summa Health and Summa Cancer Institute, Vincent and Nancy DiGirolamo were honored at the Summa Society Celebration with the 2015 Boniface DeRoo Award for Philanthropy, the health system's highest philanthropic honor.

"Vince and Nancy's commitment to advancing cancer prevention and treatment at Summa is unparalleled," said Thomas A. Malone, MD, Summa Health President and CEO, in introducing the couple. "From establishing the hospital's first endowed chair in oncology to creating an annual cancer symposium, the DiGirolamos have helped to propel Summa to the forefront in cancer care. Along with giving generously financially, Vince and Nancy have given freely of their time and are two of Summa's most passionate advocates." **S**

## THE LATE JAMES S. TAN, MD, RECOGNIZED WITH INAUGURAL SUMMA DISTINGUISHED PHYSICIAN AWARD

James S. Tan, MD, an esteemed physician and pioneer in infectious disease, was honored posthumously with the inaugural Summa Health Distinguished Physician Award at the Summa Society Celebration. The award is Summa Health's highest honor presented annually to an exceptional physician in recognition of a lifetime of contributions to the medical profession and Summa.

"A compassionate physician, dedicated educator and visionary leader, Dr. Tan was a man who touched many lives throughout his illustrious career," said Erik Steele, DO, Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, in presenting the award. "Dr. Tan passed away in 2006 and nearly a decade later his legacy is still a source of inspiration to the medical profession and the community."



The late James S. Tan, MD.



June Tan with her children, Michael Tan, MD; Rowena Tan, PhD.; and Stephanie Tan, MD.

The first infectious disease specialist in the region, Dr. Tan joined the faculty at Summa Akron City Hospital in 1974 and was appointed Chair of the Department of Medicine in 1979, a position he held until his passing. In 2006, the Department of Medicine was renamed in Dr. Tan's honor. The recently endowed James S. Tan, MD, Infectious Disease Conference will educate physicians for years to come.

Dr. Tan's spirit lives on through his wife, June, who accepted the award, and his children and grandchildren. Two of his children followed their father's career path by serving as physicians at Summa. Stephanie Tan, MD, is an internal medicine physician, and Michael Tan, MD, is an infectious disease specialist. Daughter Rowena Tan, PhD, is Assistant Professor of Psychology and Scholarship Coordinator at the University of Northern Iowa. **S**

For more information on giving to Summa, please call 330.375.3159 or visit [SummaHealth.org/giving](http://SummaHealth.org/giving).



Left to right: Thomas A. Clark; Thomas A. Malone, MD; Lehner Family Foundation representatives David M. Koly, Michael L. Stark, C. Gordon Ewers and Richard W. Burke; and James R. McIlvaine.

## LEHNER FAMILY FOUNDATION WELCOMED AS 20TH CORNELL SOCIETY MEMBER

In recognition of its extraordinary philanthropic commitment to Summa Health, the Lehner Family Foundation was inducted into the distinguished Thomas W. Cornell Philanthropic Leadership Society at a private reception prior to the Summa Society Celebration. The Lehner Family Foundation – welcomed as the 20th member of the Cornell Society – was established in 1989 by Jane Lehner and her brother Charles, founders of the Lehner Screw Machine Co. The family business was established in Akron in 1951. While no members of the Lehner family are alive today, their philanthropic legacy lives on through their foundation.

The Cornell Society recognizes individuals, organizations and corporations for cumulative giving of \$1 million or more to Summa. **S**





Frank Sinatra, Jr.

## Sapphire Ball

Join us for a once-in-a-lifetime evening of dining and dancing starring Frank Sinatra, Jr., who will perform "Sinatra Sings Sinatra."

**Saturday, October 3, 2015**  
**John S. Knight Center**

Visit [sapphireball.org](http://sapphireball.org) to purchase tickets, secure a sponsorship or make a donation.

## Women's Circle Honored for Contributions to Summa Health

In May, members and friends of The Circle of Women's Health Philanthropists gathered at the home of Drs. Vivian von Gruenigen and Dominic Bagnoli to reflect on the circle's efforts to make a positive impact on the health and well-being of women throughout the community. Thomas A. Malone, MD, President and CEO of Summa Health, also attended the gathering to discuss plans for enhancing the women's health program at Summa.



Summa Health President and CEO Thomas A. Malone, MD, (far right) recognized Denise and Norm Wells, Honorary Co-chairs of the 2015 golf outing, for their exceptional commitment to Summa and the community.

## Golfers Drive Support for Nursing

On June 23, the sixth annual Summa Foundation Golf Outing at Firestone Country Club raised more than \$230,000 for nursing education and advanced nursing certification. Proceeds from the sold-out event included a check for \$26,000 from the Walter W. Born Foundation, presented by H. Leigh Gerstenberger of FirstMerit to Lanie Ward, RN, System Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer. The three recipients of this year's Andreoli Awards for Nursing Excellence also were recognized at the event.

Ken Babby, owner and CEO of the Akron RubberDucks, was Chair of the 2015 golf outing steering committee. This year's Honorary Co-chairs, Denise and Norm Wells, were recognized for their exceptional commitment to Summa and the greater community. The golf outing was sponsored by House of LaRose, Founding Sponsor, and Bank of America/Merrill Lynch, Gold Sponsor.

Since its inception, the Summa Foundation Golf Outing has raised more than \$1 million.



Ann Brennan (left) with Vivian von Gruenigen, MD, Medical Director of Women's Health at Summa.

## Summa Friends Gather in Florida

In February, Summa friends and benefactors wintering in Florida met Summa's new President and CEO, Thomas A. Malone, MD, at the health system's annual outreach program in Naples. Florida friends also participated in a women's health luncheon hosted by Ann Brennan and a Summa Cardiovascular Institute Leadership Council roundtable hosted by Stu Giller.



The Rev. Dr. Carl P. Wallace, Senior Pastor at Trinity United Church of Christ in Akron, one of 25 amateur chefs who participated in Summa's Men Who Cook fundraiser, with his wife, Del.

## Men Who Cook

The 14th annual Men Who Cook event in April raised more than \$30,000 for Summa at Home, which includes Summa Home Care and Summa Hospice and Palliative Care services. Saber Healthcare Group was premier sponsor of the event. Recipes from this year's 25 chefs are at [SummaHealth.org/menwhocookrecipes](http://SummaHealth.org/menwhocookrecipes).



## Grateful for Caring Physicians



Ellen and Karl Hay with their doctors: (left to right) Bill Bauman, MD; Eric Espinal, MD; Rex Wilford, DO; and Skip Radwany, MD.

What better way to say thank you to Summa Health's outstanding medical staff than to support Summa? We decided to direct a portion of our estate to Summa because of the wonderful care we received and the strong bonds we developed with our doctors. We are pleased to honor four physicians who have been so important in our family's lives – Drs. Bill Bauman, Eric Espinal, Skip Radwany and Rex Wilford. Today's medicine has evolved – thankfully – but at Summa Health, one thing that hasn't changed is the importance of patient-physician relationships. Our doctors are so attentive and so personable. We can't thank them enough.

*Ellen and Karl Hay*

For more information about gift planning, please contact the Summa Foundation at 330.375.3159 or [Foundation@SummaHealth.org](mailto:Foundation@SummaHealth.org).





**PROMISE** Magazine  
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MARY JO CHIONCHIO:

## *A Gift of Hope*

Mary Jo and Francis "Chub" Chionchio met on the golf course while waiting out a thunderstorm. She calls their 35-year marriage "the best time of my life."

The two were healthy, active golfers when Mr. Chionchio was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia in 2009. He died two years later at age 77.

"Cancer is relentless," says Mrs. Chionchio. "We need the solutions that only serious research can bring." Acting on that conviction, the retired science teacher made a generous gift to Summa Health to establish The Chub and Mary Jo Chionchio Endowed Fund for Clinical Trials Research.

During Mr. Chionchio's treatment, the couple developed a deep connection with R. Douglas Trochelman, MD, Summa Cancer Institute Medical Director, and his team. "They became family," Mrs. Chionchio says. "Their attention to Chub's needs and his spirits was so impressive."

In honoring her husband and his caregivers through this gift, Mrs. Chionchio gives hope to others.

