Save The Dates!

**SAM’S SAFETY FAIR ~ SATURDAY MAY 20-10 A.M. TO 3 P.M.**
This free event is open to the public. There will be a lot of fun things for children 14 and under to see and do, including a bicycle safety rodeo, Sparky the interactive firetruck, Andy the ambulance, and a chance to meet officers from the Rockford Police and area Fire Departments. There also will be giveaways, refreshments and much more! For information call Jennifer Pirelli, trauma program manager, at (779) 696-6150.

**FOUNDERS WEEK: CELEBRATE THE 106TH BIRTHDAY OF SWEDISHAMERICAN ~ JUNE 5-JUNE 9**
Attention SwedishAmerican employees: During Founders Week, the SwedishAmerican Foundation will continue its tradition of providing lunch for all employees at all locations. It’s our way of saying thank you for the care you give to our community every day. The Foundation also is the sole sponsor of the annual SwedishAmerican Employee Picnic, which will be held this year on Friday, June 9, under the tent on the main campus. Keep your eye on The Hub for announcements about all Founders Week activities.

**THE RYAN JURY MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING ~ JUNE 21**
The 32nd annual Ryan Jury Memorial Golf Outing will be held on Wednesday, June 21, with AM & PM shotgun starts and a scramble format. Breakfast and lunch are provided with a dinner to follow at Giovanni’s. Proceeds benefit the children served by SwedishAmerican. Registration fills up quickly, so if you would like more information please call (779) 696-2496.

**THE SAFE KIDS WINNEBAGO COUNTY COALITION**
Welcome

We finally get to welcome spring in this issue of Together! The Healing Garden at the hospital and the Meditation Garden at the Regional Cancer Center are enjoying the warmer days, and it won’t be too long before the gardens come alive with color. I hope you take the time to appreciate the gardens and all they have to offer for renewal of the senses and the spirit.

I know you will enjoy the pictures we have to share in this issue. Cruise was a huge success, and we again beat all records for attendance and money raised. We can once again help Holistic Health Services with your incredible support. Thank you!

As the spring brings renewal, it also brings change to SwedishAmerican. Along with President and CEO Dr. Bill Gorski, Tom Myers, vice president of marketing and strategy, will retire at the end of June after 31 years of service. SwedishAmerican Foundation was formed under Tom’s guidance and wisdom—a primary reason why we are as successful as we are. All who know Tom know that a deep void will exist when he leaves. Tom understands complicated issues from many different perspectives and angles. He helps his people understand these angles through solid background (Tom is a storyteller!) and has a real knack for making analogies when describing a situation. It wasn’t just “just Sweden” that benefited from Tom, either. He sits on the airport board, participates in Transform Rockford, previously sat on the board of United Way and has been a dedicated volunteer to his church and youth sports. His daily presence will be missed by so many.

So what does a senior healthcare executive retiree do after June 30? Well, according to good sources, Tom is going to take drum lessons, enjoy traveling and antiquing, and enjoy mowing with his new lawn tractor. Tom and Denise Myers are planning a retirement of giving back through mission trips as well.

When I talked to Denise, she said, “SwedishAmerican is family, and it has just been very, very good to both of us. We are closing a chapter but will have lifelong friends.”

I know I speak for many when I say thank you, Tom, for a legacy of caring, guiding and teaching. You are a wonderful example of a leader, and you will be missed.

Best,

--Laura Wilkinson

The SwedishAmerican Foundation wishes to recognize its December 2016 and January and February 2017 donors. For all that you make possible, we thank you!

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Love Etched in Stone

Did you know there are two gardens—the Healing Garden at SwedishAmerican Hospital and the Meditation Garden at the Regional Cancer Center—where you may purchase a brick in honor of or as a memorial to friends or loved ones? Or, your brick can commemorate a special date or achievement such as a wedding or graduation. We have added information stands at both locations so you may pick up a brochure at your convenience.

The next group of bricks will be laid in the gardens this fall. If you would like to place a brick, call the Foundation at (779) 696-2496 for more information or to receive a brochure.
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DID YOU KNOW THAT PREVENTABLE INJURIES ARE THE NO. 1 KILLER OF KIDS IN THE UNITED STATES?
And did you know that the Safe Kids Winnebago County Coalition, led by SwedishAmerican, has:

• Held 25 Child Passenger Safety classes
• Provided 4,000 child safety seats
• Traded 3,500 safe child seats for unsafe/unsatisfactory ones
• Held more than 100 bicycle safety clinics
• Distributed 5,000 bicycle helmets
• Participated in 250 safety fairs
• Held 500 classes on railroad, pedestrian, fire, vehicle, in-home safety and fire safety
• Conducted 10 digital fingerprinting clinics (records stay with parents).

Safe Kids is a worldwide educational organization. Anyone interested in volunteering at an event, becoming a child passenger safety technician, or participating in one of the Safe Kids programs should contact Penny Lenz at (779) 696-6088.

For information on how to donate to Safe Kids, please call the Foundation at (779) 696-2496.
THE GOOD THAT YOU DO

REMEMBERING MELINDA OLSON

The Melinda V. Olson endowment fund was established to provide ongoing funding and support to offer educational materials for families of oncology patients at SwedishAmerican and to provide funds to enhance the comfort of patients and their families during a stay in the Oncology Unit at SwedishAmerican Hospital.

Don and Mary Olson continue to contribute to the Melinda V. Olson endowment every year. And every year on March 31, Melinda’s birthday, the Olsons thank the nurses on the seventh floor oncology unit with a pizza party. The Olsons believe the care and commitment the oncology nurses gave Melinda during her stay was outstanding, and that is why they continue to give back in this special way.

Looking Back at Cruise 2017

Every year we say this, but every year it’s true—Cruise 2017 was our most successful event ever! Between sponsorships, the silent auction and the raffle, we raised just over $190,000 with proceeds once again benefitting Holistic Health Services at SwedishAmerican. Cruise has always been known as a fun event, and this year did not disappoint. The food, libations, dancing, online silent auction and the best group of people to gather under one roof all made it a great evening.

We’d like to take this opportunity to thank all of our sponsors who came Together to do something good.

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Caring For Our Community

YOU HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT PEOPLE GO TO BED HUNGRY IN ROCKFORD. YOU HAVE EVEN HEARD THAT ROCKFORD HAS JOBS, BUT EMPLOYERS CAN’T FIND QUALIFIED APPLICANTS.

These are huge problems but you’re only one person. You can’t make a dent in them. Right? Maybe not. If you’re in the habit of making unrestricted donations to the SwedishAmerican Foundation then Together we do make an impact — and here are two examples.

On March 17, Zor Outreach received a $12,000 grant from the SwedishAmerican Foundation to support the Blackhawk Courts and Garden and Buddy House. Zor partners with Angelic Organic Learning Center (AOLC) and the Rockford Housing Authority (RHA) to provide sustainable food and microeconomic employment for the residents of Blackhawk Courts, an RHA site. The grant will underwrite educational program expenses and fund the Community Outreach Coordinator position.

On March 23 the Foundation presented the Rockford Rescue Mission with a $10,000 grant in support of its new Works!Center job skills training program for Rescue Mission guests, residents and the general public. This free program helps those seeking to improve their employment skills and opportunities and helps make the connection between employers with qualified job seekers.

So you see, Together we can do quite a lot.

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Laura Wilkinson (center) with Sherry Pinede, Executive Director and Ted Tomba, Director of Development for Rockford Rescue Mission

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HONORING THE SWEDISHAMERICAN FELLOWS

This spring we are pleased to present the SwedishAmerican Fellows and celebrate this distinguished group of individuals and companies whose cumulative giving to the Foundation has totaled $100,000 or more over the course of their lifetimes. We are forever grateful for their generosity.

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Laura Wilkinson (center) with Sherry Pinede, Executive Director and Ted Tomba, Director of Development for Rockford Rescue Mission

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Ms. Amber L. Taylor
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Richard P. Walsh

DONATIONS FROM $100 TO $249:
Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Arnold
Mrs. Dorothy Bats
Mr. Edwin Carlson III
Mr. & Mrs. Don Carroll
Ms. Millan E. Castle

You’ve Saved and Invested

Don’t Let Taxes Turn Your Gain to Loss.

For years, you have carefully invested and watched your savings grow. What took a lifetime to build can be instantly lost through capital gains taxes when you sell. Rather than sell your stock, consider giving some of it to SwedishAmerican. You won’t pay any taxes and you receive an income tax deduction for the full amount of your gift.

Make a Meaningful Impact to advance the mission of SwedishAmerican with no cash out of pocket.

More information about this type and other gifts can be found on our website, SwedishAmericanGiftLegacy.com.

DID YOU KNOW THAT PREVENTABLE INJURIES ARE THE NO. 1 KILLER OF KIDS IN THE UNITED STATES?

And did you know that the Safe Kids Winnebago County Coalition, led by SwedishAmerican, has:

- Held 25 Child Passenger Safety classes
- Provided 4,000 child safety seats
- Traded 3,500 safe child seats for unsafe/unsatisfactory ones
- Held more than 100 bicycle safety clinics
- Distributed 5,000 bicycle helmets
- Participated in 250 safety fairs
- Held 500 classes on railroad, pedestrian, fire, vehicle, in-home safety and fire safety
- Conducted 10 digital fingerprinting clinics (records stay with parents).

Wow! That’s accomplishing positive change!

The Winnebago coalition is made up of members from the Rockford police and fire departments, emergency medical services personnel, nurses, child life specialists and volunteers. It serves the counties of Jo Daviess, Stephenson, Winnebago, Boone, Ogle, Carroll, Whiteside, Lee and DeKalb. Last year alone, this group of dedicated professionals and volunteers educate more than 500 families about the proper use of car or booster seats. In addition, 1,200 bicycle helmets were distributed to riders who participated in bicycle safety programs.

Self-funded, Safe Kids relies on grants, cash or in-kind donations and fundraisers. In 2016, it received 100 car and booster seats from the Toyota Buckle Up for Life program and $10,000 from an IDOT traffic safety grant. The SwedishAmerican Foundation, together with help from our donors, has been able to give support by buying car seats and bicycle helmets and assisting in the purchase of the digital fingerprinting program.

Safe Kids is a worldwide educational organization. Anyone interested in volunteering at an event, becoming a child passenger safety technician, or participating in one of the Safe Kids programs should contact Penny Lentz at (779) 696-6088.

For information on how to donate to Safe Kids, please call the Foundation at (779) 696-2496.

SAFIE KIDS

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We finally get to welcome spring in this issue of Together! The Healing Garden at the hospital and the Meditation Garden at the Regional Cancer Center are enjoying the warmer days, and it won’t be too long before the gardens come alive with color. I hope you take time to appreciate the gardens and all they have to offer for renewal of the senses and the spirit.

I know you will enjoy the pictures we have to share in this issue. Cruise was a huge success, and we again beat all records for attendance and money raised. We can once again help Holistic Health Services with your incredible support. Thank you!

As the spring brings renewal, it also brings change to SwedishAmerican. Along with President and CEO Dr. Bill Gorski, Tom Myers, vice president of marketing and strategy, will retire at the end of June after 31 years of service. SwedishAmerican Foundation was formed under Tom’s guidance and wisdom—a primary reason why we are as successful as we are. All who know Tom know that a deep void will exist when he leaves. Tom understands complicated issues from many different perspectives and angles. He helps his people understand these angles through solid background [Tom is a storyteller!] and has a real knack for making analogies when describing a situation. It wasn’t just “just Sweden” that benefited from Tom, either. He sits on the airport board, participates in Transform Rockford, previously sat on the board of United Way and has been a dedicated volunteer to his church and youth sports. His daily presence will be missed by so many.

So what does a senior healthcare executive retiree do after June 30? Well, according to good sources, Tom probably won’t be telling jokes or making analogies to help us understand complicated issues. Tom will have lifelong friends.

When I talked to Denise, she said, “SwedishAmerican is family, and it has just been very, very good to both of us. We are closing a chapter but will have lifelong friends.”

I know I speak for many when I say thank you, Tom, for a legacy of caring, guiding and teaching. You will be missed.

Love Etched in Stone

The next group of bricks will be laid in the gardens this fall. If you would like to place a brick, call the Foundation at (779) 696-2496 for more information or to receive a brochure.

Did you know there are two gardens—the Healing Garden at SwedishAmerican Hospital and the Meditation Garden at the Regional Cancer Center—where you may purchase a brick in honor of or as a memorial to friends or loved ones? Or, your brick can commemorate a special date or achievement such as a wedding or graduation. We have added information stands at both locations so you may pick up a brochure at your convenience.

Welcome
Save The Dates!

SAM'S SAFETY FAIR – SATURDAY MAY 20-10 A.M. TO 3 P.M.
This free event is open to the public. There will be a lot of fun things for children 14 and under to see and do, including a bicycle safety rodeo, Sparky the interactive firetruck, Andy the ambulance, and a chance to meet officers from the Rockford Police and area Fire Departments. There also will be giveaways, refreshments and much more! For information call Jennifer Pinello, trauma program manager, at (779) 696-6150.

FOUNDERS WEEK: CELEBRATE THE 106TH BIRTHDAY OF SWEDISHAMERICAN – JUNE 5-JUNE 9
Attention SwedishAmerican employees: During Founders Week, the SwedishAmerican Foundation will continue its tradition of providing lunch for all employees at all locations. It's our way of saying thank you for the care you give to our community every day. The Foundation also is the sole sponsor of the annual SwedishAmerican Employee Picnic, which will be held this year on Friday, June 9, under the tent on the main campus. Keep your eye on The Hub for announcements about all Founders Week activities.

THE RYAN JURY MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING – JUNE 21
The 32nd annual Ryan Jury Memorial Golf Outing will be held on Wednesday, June 21, with AM & PM shotgun starts and a scramble format. Breakfast and lunch are provided with a dinner to follow at Giovanni’s. Proceeds benefit the children served by SwedishAmerican. Registration fills up quickly, so if you would like more information please call (779) 696-2496.

KEEPING YOUR KIDS SAFE
THE GOOD THAT YOU DO
REMEMBERING MELINDA OLSON
LOOKING BACK AT CRUISE 2017
CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY
HONORING THE SWEDISHAMERICAN FELLOWS
THANK YOU DONORS
SAVE THE DATES!