

# in touch

HOW MANY LIVES HAVE YOU TOUCHED TODAY?

## New Harris Methodist Southwest Hospital Patient Tower to be Named for Mary and Herbert Pease

"I have a theory: If you don't grow, you die." Spoken by longtime Fort Worth businessman Herbert Pease, Sr., it's a theory he's applied to his highly successful company as well as the theory that has spurred he and his family to make the lead gift to the Harris Methodist Southwest Hospital Patient Tower Campaign.

"I've visited Harris Methodist Southwest as a patient and have discovered it's a grand institution," Pease says. "My family and I decided we wanted to do what we could to help make it even better. We want to help provide what's needed to keep this hospital strong for the growing community."

According to Doug White, president of the Harris Methodist Health Foundation, the new patient tower, currently under construction at Harris Methodist Southwest, will more than double the hospital's capacity. Once complete, the new Mary V. and Herbert L. Pease Tower will house 139 new patient rooms - bringing the hospital's total bed capacity to 215 - greatly enhancing the hospital's ability to



meet the needs of Southwest Fort Worth's rapidly growing population.

This is exactly the type of growth the Pease family (Herbert, his wife Mary, and their children Herbert L. Pease, Jr. and Kimberly R. Pease) hopes to impact through their generous gift. "After we offered our support to Harris Methodist Southwest, we learned that the hospital was facing a significant need for capacity growth. So as a family, we decided that we'd like to help that initiative," Herbert Pease, Sr. says.

Pease cites his commitment to the community he calls home as one of the motivating factors behind his philanthropy. "It's important to believe in your area, your city, your services," he says. "As citizens, we should strive to do more, provide more and be more."

Pease became a member of the Fort Worth community when he relocated here from New Jersey in 1966. He began a private label food brokering business in his garage with three employees and a healthy dose of determination. Forty years later, his company, Marketing Management

Incorporated, is a worldwide industry leader with more than 200 employees. What began as a humble family business has grown now to encompass four distinct but interrelated companies under the global umbrella of MMI.

"This community has been good to me and my family," Pease says, "and so has Harris Methodist Southwest Hospital. We feel like this type of gift helps us show our appreciation for both the good folks of Harris Methodist Southwest and of the greater community. We're happy to help provide what's needed to keep the hospital strong for now and in the future."

Construction of the new \$60 million five-story tower kicked off last fall. Dedication activities are planned for September 21, with the opening of three floors to follow in October. The final two floors will open for patient care in April 2007. The Harris Methodist Health Foundation is supporting the project with an ambitious capital campaign. To contribute to this campaign, or for more information, please call (817) 317-5200.



*World-renowned artist Louise B. Kimerer is making a significant contribution to the local community by donating a special collection of her works for a sale that will benefit the Kupferle Indigent Mammography Fund. Professional framing for this special collection of artwork has been generously donated by Marty & Pat's Frame Shoppe. These paintings are being offered for sale at a very special price and all proceeds generated by the artwork will help provide mammograms for indigent and underserved women in Tarrant County.*

*To view the paintings and price list, please visit [www.hmhf.org](http://www.hmhf.org). For more information on this exclusive collection, please call (817) 317-5200.*



## Endowment Honors Nursing Professionals

An endowment gift is an effective way to make a lasting impact on a cause that's close to your heart. Andy and Nancy Thompson's recent endowment gift will establish a legacy of support for a nursing education fund that will touch the lives of not only its recipients, but also the countless patients who will receive care from these nursing professionals.

The Ladders in Nursing Careers (LINC) fund, established through generous community gifts, provides educational support for full-time Harris Methodist employees who aspire to become licensed as registered nurses. The program comple-

ments a generous tuition reimbursement program offered through Harris Methodist's parent company, Texas Health Resources, by providing education training grants to allow these employees to move to a part-time work schedule as they pursue their nursing degree while maintaining full-time salary and benefits. The Harris Methodist Health Foundation is working to secure community funds to support and expand this program.

By generously providing a substantial endowment gift, the Thompsons have made a lasting and meaningful contribution to a cause they hold dear. "Our introduction to and awareness of the importance of the nurse's role in healthcare began with a series of hospital stays by my mother and father, Alice and Fred Thompson. They always requested to be hospitalized at Harris Methodist Fort Worth, and they daily told us of the special relationships they developed with their nursing staff. They spoke of how caring, warm, smiling and supportive each was and how that made their hospital stays so much more bearable and comfortable," Andy Thompson explains. "It became obvious to us that their care went far beyond the

dispensing of pills or meals or procedures. It was the emotional support and the confidence of hope they imparted each day that made such an impression. Our hope is that by establishing this endowment to the LINC program, we can in some small way show our gratitude to the wonderful people who dedicate their professional lives to the care and healing of others."

The Thompsons' endowment gift is a recent link in their ongoing chain of support for Harris Methodist. In addition to his membership on the boards of Texas Health Resources and the Harris Methodist Health System, for various hospital entities and his history of financial support, Andy is immediate past chair of the Harris Methodist Health Foundation Board. He has been involved with and committed to the hospital for close to 20 years.

The Thompsons hope to encourage others to follow in their philanthropic footsteps. "Give whatever you feel is appropriate. And, small dollars are as important as large dollars. Know that when you contribute to Harris Methodist, those dollars will be spent responsibly with the community's health needs in mind and with your desires fully respected," Thompson says.

For more information about establishing an endowment, please call (817) 317-5250.



## Cowboy Chic Event Combines Good Fun With a Good Cause

A new event is currently in the works that will combine down-home fun with support for a serious cause. "Levis & Lace," billed as a "cowboy chic" event, will lasso support for Harris Methodist Northwest's new intensive care unit (ICU) while providing an exciting and enjoyable evening of festivity for partygoers.

Levis & Lace will feature dining, dancing, and entertainment by alternative country star Robert Earl Keen. Boots and bowties will be the order of the evening Saturday, September 30 at the Renaissance Worthington Hotel. Multiple levels of sponsorship are available, and individual tickets are also for sale.

Diane Morrison, Azle mover and shaker and wife of HMNW physician Marshall Morrison, MD, is serving as event chair of the inaugural Levis & Lace. "This event is tailor-made to capture the spirit of the Azle community. It's going to feature all the fun elements that go into a memorable party combined with a meaningful purpose. Levis & Lace promises a great time for a great cause," she says.

The ICU expansion that will benefit from this event will significantly improve patient services in northwest Tarrant County. The new ICU will double the capacity of the current HMNW ICU and will give the community improved access to critical care.

This ICU expansion and renovation project will alleviate several important challenges faced by the current ICU. Most notably, the current three bed ward has only a curtain to divide one patient area from another, resulting in a lack of privacy and a lack of space. In addition, the cur-

rent unit is not adequately equipped to serve the growing population of northwest Tarrant County. Consequently, many patients have had to be transferred to other facilities farther from home due to the simple lack of space.

Besides alleviating all of these issues, the expanded and renovated ICU will also position HMNW for future technological enhancements in the delivery of critical care. According to Beth Zimmerman, director of major gifts for the Harris Methodist Health Foundation, "This improved ICU will provide adequate space for state-of-the-art patient care equipment while providing more room for families to be involved with their loved ones' care and for nursing staff to work with patients. Each patient will be assured of their privacy while maximizing infection control."

For more information about the Levis & Lace Cowboy Chic Event or the HMNW ICU expansion, please call Beth Zimmerman at (817) 317-5236.

# New Hospital Unit Designed to Ease Suffering and Increase Comfort

Thanks to medical advances in this age of technology, we're living longer than ever before. And that's good news. There is, however, another side. Many of us will spend a larger portion of our lives living with chronic or debilitating illness and frailty. Hospitals have now begun to address this situation through what is called palliative care. The purpose of palliative care is to reduce suffering and improve quality of life. It is aimed at easing the consequences of illness in conditions where a cure is not possible.

Palliative care is closely related to, but not the same as hospice which focuses on the care of people whose life expectancy is measured in months rather than years. Hospice offers specialized comfort care for the terminally ill that is often provided in the home. "Palliative care is an all-encompassing care that focuses on comfort but can include medical treatment appropriate in the situation," according to Lucy Brown, Director of Med-Surg Renal/Oncology at Harris Methodist Fort Worth.

Palliative care has been an option for patients at Harris Methodist Fort Worth since 2001. The Palliative Care Team, under the direction of Dr. Alvin Mathe, includes a nurse practitioner, nurse clinician, social workers, chaplains, as well as



pharmacists, therapists and dieticians. These specially trained health care individuals listen and facilitate the gathering of information about the illness and potential treatment options. They support the family in thoughtful decision-making based on the patient's condition, prognosis and known wishes. This team works closely with doctors and nurses throughout the hospital to identify patients who can benefit from this care. They focus on managing pain and other physical symptoms as well as providing support to families and patients as they may experience emotional and spiritual suffering with illness or when approaching the end-of-life.

Harris Methodist Fort Worth is currently expanding the opportunity to serve these patients by creating a specialized unit dedicated solely to palliative care. This new 12-bed unit will mean that patients and

families in need of palliative care will be located in a centralized area and served by a highly specialized and localized team of professionals. The environment will be quiet, soothing, welcoming and family-oriented. Space for families outside of patient care rooms will include a family conference room, chapel, and dining area.

Renovation of space in Harris Tower to create the Palliative Care Unit is expected to cost more than \$3.2 million dollars. The Harris Methodist Health Foundation is embarking on a philanthropic campaign to secure at least \$1 million toward this project. The goal is for construction of this uniquely designed, staffed and managed unit to begin within a year.

If you'd like to know more about the Palliative Care Unit Campaign at Harris Methodist Fort Worth, please call Laura Quenette at (817) 317-5235.



## Gratitude.

It's a topic where words are great, but actions speak louder. When heartfelt, gratitude can be an amazing catalyst for action. A grateful heart overflows with appreciation that often turns full-circle to benefit someone else.

As a health care entity, Harris Methodist provides a vital service expressed through our mission to "improve the health of the people in the communities we serve." Working to fulfill our mission on a daily basis returns countless rewards to our caregivers. But when a grateful patient feels compelled by an experience at one of our hospitals to act – to give back to our institutions – that gratitude takes a form that touches many lives.

Over the years, grateful patients have contributed to the expansion, enhancement, and success of our system. They've given their time, talent and resources as volunteers, donors, board and committee members, and advocates to advance the mission of our hospitals.

In this issue of In Touch, you'll read about the Pease family of Fort Worth. They turned their gratitude for care received at Harris Methodist Southwest Hospital into a gift that will mean improved facilities and greater access to care for thousands in our area. You'll also learn about a meaningful way that many of our patients have chosen to show their appreciation for the care provided by their physicians. We hope these stories will inspire your continued generosity to the hospitals that have played a part in your life and that stand by to serve you again whenever you need them.

Doug White, President  
Harris Methodist Health Foundation

## A Simple Way to Go Beyond Saying Thanks to Your DOCTOR



H O N O R I N G  
skill and commitment

A doctor often provides so much more than medical care. Sometimes it's a caring touch or kind word that goes above and beyond. Maybe a personal perspective shared during a time of stress. Or a comforting gesture that offers something no prescribed treatment could provide.

Those who choose the profession of medicine aren't looking for applause, ovations, or even recognition beyond the knowledge that maybe they've helped someone in need of care. But a new campaign developed by the Harris Methodist Health Foundation gives appreciative patients a tangible and meaningful way to pay tribute to the doctors who have touched their lives.

Called "Honor Your Doctor," this campaign asks grateful patients to recog-

nize their physicians with a donation that will not only honor their doctor's service, but will also help strengthen health care services for all of the community.

Gayla Shivers, a longtime Harris Methodist supporter, has already recognized several of her doctors in this way. "My husband, John Shivers, and I honored three outstanding doctors for different reasons. They are all extremely professional, compassionate and fantastic physicians. The world would be happier with more like them. By making these contributions to a worthwhile cause, we hoped to show them our appreciation for their service, dedication and friendship. We really appreciated the opportunity to honor them and say 'thank you' in a special way," she says.

Inspired by National Doctor's Day,

recognized in March, the Honor Your Doctor Campaign extends the sentiment in an ongoing way. Physicians who are honored in this way will receive a tasteful and discreet acknowledgement of their patient's thoughtfulness with no reference to the amount of the gift. Different giving levels are available, and all are tax-deductible.

As Doug White, president of the Harris Methodist Health Foundation, says, "I can't think of a better way to honor the skill, commitment and compassion of a physician who has meant so much to the health and well-being of you and those you love."

If you'd like to know more about the Honor Your Doctor Campaign or are interested in participating, please call Susan Dalton at (817) 317-5232.

## New Group Aims to Expand Hospital's Profile and Presence

Harris Methodist Northwest is currently organizing a new Development Council designed to help bridge the gap between the hospital and the people it serves. This council will work to create relationships of support that will help the hospital grow and better meet the needs of the community.

The HMNW Development Council will meet several times a year for informative programs about the hospital and current health issues. Its members will act as liaisons between the hospital and the community at large.

Steve Parker, president and CEO of First Bank, Azle, has agreed to chair the

council. Parker's history of philanthropic support and involvement with HMNW dates back to the early '90s. His existing connection to the hospital coupled with his strong presence in the local business community led to his position as chair of the council and will serve him well as the group works to develop a powerful profile in the community.

"I feel that the council will be an outreach tool to inform the community of the services and staff that are available to the area. HMNW provides advanced medical services that go above and beyond the basics," Parker says. "I hope that through the council we can continually educate the community on the state-of-the-art equipment and top-notch staff members available to us right here at home."

For more information about the HMNW Development Council, please call Beth Zimmerman at (817) 317-5236.



**Mark your calendar for the Harris Methodist Health Foundation Annual Golf Tournament  
Thursday, October 19th**  
**For more information, please call the HMHF at (817) 317-5200 or visit [www.hmhf.org](http://www.hmhf.org)**