

# presence



*the*  
**TRAUMA**  
*issue*

**SAINT FRANCIS  
TEAM TURNS TRAUMA  
INTO TRIUMPH FOR  
BRISTOW TEEN**

**SAINT FRANCIS HEALTH  
SYSTEM TRAUMA CARE:**  
Rich History of Lifesaving Care,  
Saint Francis Trauma Institute,  
and Saint Francis Trauma  
Symposium

**PAINTED PONY BALL  
2015 RECAP**

**CAREERS OF  
A LIFETIME:**  
Two Saint Francis Employees  
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of Service



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Saint Francis Health System

# Calendar of Events



Health Zone Kids Mini Triathlon

**SATURDAY, MARCH 5**

### Health Zone Kids Mini Triathlon

Health Zone at Saint Francis, 5353 East 68th Street, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Kids between the ages of six and 13 are invited to take part in the third annual Health Zone Kids Mini Triathlon. The indoor event will include swimming, stationary bike and running. Proceeds from this event will benefit The Children's Hospital Foundation at Saint Francis.

For more information, visit [saintfrancis.com/healthzone](http://saintfrancis.com/healthzone) or call (918) 494-8263.

### Saint Francis Health System Medical Town Hall Events

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 28**

#### Cardiac Care Q&A

Join interventional cardiologist **Doug Ensley, M.D.**, for an interactive discussion about staying heart healthy. Learn more about the latest treatments for conditions that include the new WATCHMAN procedure for patients with atrial fibrillation as well as treatments for valve disorders, congestive heart failure and more. Event moderator: Kenneth Piper, M.D.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18**

#### The Latest Advancements in Cardiac Care

What does the future hold for cardiac care? Join interventional cardiologist **Sanjeev Trehan, M.D.**, for an interactive discussion on the latest treatments and ask your questions about concerns that include congestive heart failure, stroke prevention, arrhythmias, valve repair and more. Plus learn more about the newly approved WATCHMAN procedure that can help prevent stroke in patients with atrial fibrillation. Event moderator: Kenneth Piper, M.D.

Saint Francis Hospital Education Center • 6161 South Yale (on the east side of the hospital)

Refreshments 5:30 p.m. • Program 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

For more information, visit [saintfrancis.com](http://saintfrancis.com).

To reserve your spot for these events, please email [events@saintfrancis.com](mailto:events@saintfrancis.com) or call (918) 494-1448.

# presence

a publication of Saint Francis Health System

## Letter from Jake Henry Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer



As we move into a new year it occasions me to reflect on the past 55 years of Saint Francis Health System's presence in northeastern Oklahoma and its primary purpose of extending the presence and healing ministry of Christ. The impact Saint Francis has had in Tulsa and the surrounding region over the past five decades has been significant.

We look forward to continuing our legacy as the premier healthcare provider in the region and to imparting a healing touch and a positive impact to those in the communities we serve.

For generations the Saint Francis "torch" has been seen as a sign of caring and hope. As you will read in this issue, the concept of healing inspired the Saint Francis "torch." Over the years this spirit of healing, either physically, psychologically or spiritually, has guided the organization through its growth and maturation.

This issue of *Presence* also features Saint Francis' trauma program—how it all began, what it is today—and the numerous ways it saves lives and brings healing. You will read of a young man who very nearly lost his life—yet due to the extraordinary care he received from Saint Francis trauma surgeons and other specialized team members—is today enjoying life as any other typical 16-year-old. This amazing story is one of the many testaments to the advanced level of care provided by the Saint Francis Trauma Institute.

Excellence in trauma care is not new at Saint Francis; in fact Saint Francis Hospital was the first in the area to bring revolutionary advances in trauma care. Today Saint Francis Hospital at Yale stands as the only hospital in the region that provides in-house coverage by surgical intensivists for adult and pediatric patients 24 hours a day and seven days a week.

The twists and turns the healthcare industry has seen over the past five decades may have changed the way in which the organization operates from a logistical and pragmatic point of view but they have not changed who we are at our core. We are—and always have been—a locally owned, locally operated Catholic healthcare provider here to serve the medical, psychological and spiritual needs of the Tulsa region. To this end we will remain steadfast in our mission and adapt appropriately to ensure that Christ's healing ministry is present to serve the region we call home for generations to come.

Best regards,

Jake Henry Jr.

President and Chief Executive Officer, Saint Francis Health System

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presence  
in pictures

### Here's Looking at You, Santa

During a visit to The Children's Hospital at Saint Francis, the "Man in Red" was quite a sight to behold for many young patients and visitors like 10-month-old Charleigh.

As Christmas rolls around each year, Santa Claus breaks away from his very busy schedule at the North Pole to pay a special visit to the hospital during its annual Christmas party. It's a highly anticipated event for young patients, staff as well as the jolly old elf himself.







## Party with a Purpose

Kimberly Perry of the Grammy-winning country group, The Band Perry, brought the house down at the 2015 Painted Pony Ball in October 2015.

The popular fundraising event brings together members of the Tulsa community for dinner, live auction and entertainment, all to benefit The Children's Hospital at Saint Francis. See more from the Painted Pony Ball event and its generous supporters on page 26 in this issue of *Presence*.







*Saint Francis Team Turns*

# TRAUMA INTO TRIUMPH

*For Bristow Teen*

**For 16-year-old Dawson Hudson, a joy of living on ten acres outside Bristow, Oklahoma, is hunting. For almost as far back as he can recall, the love of hunting is something he and his father have shared.**

**Dawson is a seasoned hunter despite his age. However, an activity he had repeated on countless occasions led to a trip to the Saint Francis Trauma Center—and to a dramatic fight for his life.**

*Monday, February 2, 2015:* Early evening, Dawson strapped his handgun into its holster and set out to see if he'd caught anything in the traps he'd set that morning. "There was nothing there, so I headed over to my friend's house for a while before dinner," he says. As he settled in to watch TV, Dawson reached for his handgun to place it on the table beside him. As he took the gun out of the holster, it accidentally went off—directly into the right side of his abdomen.

"My friend ran out of the room to get help," he says. "I didn't feel any pain at first and when I lifted my shirt and looked down, there was no blood. Since the gun was so close to my body, all I saw was a black ring of gunpowder where the bullet had gone in." Despite the fact he was struggling to breathe, Dawson tried to stand up, but immediately stumbled to the ground. "That's when I realized I'd lost all feeling in my legs," he says.

## *Every Parent's Nightmare*

Minutes later, Dawson's mother, Shannon, received a phone call that no parent wants to receive. "At first, I thought they were joking. Oh, how I wish this had been a joke," she says. "I was in shock, so our oldest daughter drove us to the neighbor's house. When we pulled up, they were coming out of the house holding Dawson with his legs dragging behind him. When he said, 'Mom, the bullet never came out,' **I understood the severity of the situation and began to pray.** Going back to that day is so hard to talk about—even to this day."

Dawson's father, Keith, received a similar call and rushed to join his family at Dawson's side, who by then was at a nearby hospital. Upon arrival, representatives at the Bristow facility knew the severity of Dawson's injuries, and immediately contacted Tulsa Life Flight to transport the Hudson family to the Saint Francis Hospital Trauma Emergency Center.

By this time, Dawson's pain had become intense. "He was screaming; my daughter passed out and I became sick," Shannon says. "And, I had to do my best and try to be the strong guy, but I was just as shaken up as the rest of my family," Dawson's dad, Keith, adds.



## Saint Francis Trauma Center: At the Ready

Dawson was met upon arrival at the Saint Francis Trauma Center by the trauma team led by Dr. Amy Jarvis, a surgeon who specializes in the care of trauma patients. Plans were immediately made to take Dawson to surgery to repair injuries within his abdomen. Studies had indicated that the bullet had passed through Dawson's abdomen and was lodged precariously near his spinal canal amid a tangled web of nerves.

The first step towards Dawson's challenging road to recovery was emergent surgery. During the surgery performed that night, Dr. Jarvis repaired injuries to Dawson's intestines which required removing a portion of his colon and evaluating his entire abdomen. "Amazingly, there appeared to be no major injury to any of the vital organs within the bullet's path—including the liver, right kidney, bladder, aorta and IVC (the large vein and artery carrying blood to and from the lower body to the heart)," Dr. Jarvis says. **"The difference between life and death was measured in millimeters.** Had the bullet passed only a centimeter more medial, Dawson might well have died before reaching the Trauma Center."

## Still in the Woods

Following surgery Dawson was cared for in the Saint Francis Surgery Trauma Intensive Care Unit (STICU) for several days before undergoing neurological surgery to remove the bullet from his spine.

"Due to where the bullet was located, there was no question it had to come out," says neurological surgeon, John Marouk. "A bullet in that area of the body is a major concern because it could migrate up and cause paralysis—or move down and result in nerve damage."

Four days following the fateful incident, Dr. Marouk performed surgery on Dawson. With the guidance of precision X-ray during the procedure, Dr. Marouk made an incision into Dawson's back, and then navigated up the spine to where the bullet was located. "The bullet had landed in what is known as the cauda equina. The cauda equina (which is Latin for 'horse's tail') is a bundle of spinal nerves that control the pelvic organs and lower limbs of the body," Dr. Marouk says.

From there, Dr. Marouk meticulously peeled the nerve filaments away in order to extract the bullet (which had become sharp and jagged upon contact), as well as pieces of bone and any remaining bullet fragments—all the while, using extreme care to avoid further damage to the surrounding nerves and tissue.

"Following surgery, we knew we had done the best we could for Dawson,"

Dr. Marouk says. **"Then it was time to hope and pray this young man would walk again."**

## Dawson Strong

While hospitalized, Dawson remained in the prayers of many back in his hometown—especially those of his coaches and fellow teammates on the Bristow High School wrestling team.

While it's true Dawson Hudson is all about hunting, he is equally enthusiastic about wrestling, something he has also done since grade school. Recently named the 2014 novice state wrestling champion, Dawson and his fellow teammates were slated to compete for the state title on February 6, 2015—just days after his gunshot wound.

Dawson was in the Saint Francis Hospital ICU at the time of the state competition; yet, his teammates hatched a plan to make his presence known by wearing T-shirts emblazoned with the words "Dawson Strong." "This gesture meant so much to Dawson—and to our entire family," Shannon says.

Dawson worked hard with the team of physicians, nurses and therapists who provided his care and was able to be discharged after just eleven days in the hospital.

## Changing the Natural History of Things

As the one-year mark of the accident draws near, Dawson's condition has steadily improved. In fact, not only is he walking, he is enjoying an active and busy life—much like that of any other 16-year-old.

**"Dawson has made an incredible amount of progress in the past year.** Following the accident, he couldn't feel anything from the waist down. The numbness continues to diminish and his nerves are healing. Today, he basically has no restrictions and is able to enjoy his life to the fullest," Dr. Marouk says. "To have the opportunity to change the natural history of things for someone—and to have a part in giving them a second chance at life—is essentially why we as doctors do what we do."

Dr. Jarvis echoes his thoughts and adds that while she really enjoys the challenge of providing care for seriously injured patients, she considers caring for trauma patients to be especially rewarding. "Seeing a patient whose life or recovery was at risk doing well and go back to living a full life, and knowing that you and your team helped make that possible, is a gift every time it happens."

Dr. Brock Goodwin, medical director of the Saint Francis Trauma Institute adds, **"It is a testament to why Saint Francis has a trauma program, one that is committed to our community.** We have all of

the necessary subspecialists to care for all forms of injuries. It is great to see all of the preparedness come together and impact a single life—but I think God has a bigger plan for Dawson."

As for the Hudson family, Dawson's accident is a chapter in their family history they will never forget, along with the extraordinary care they received at Saint Francis throughout the harrowing experience. "We are eternally grateful to the doctors and nurses at Saint Francis Health System," Shannon says. "Not only did they save our son's legs, but quite likely his life."

Dawson pictured with his youngest sister SaVanna, mom Shannon and dad Keith outside their home near Bristow.



**"NOT ONLY DID THEY SAVE OUR SON'S LEGS, BUT QUITE LIKELY HIS LIFE."**



Saint Francis Health System's

# Rich History of Trauma Care

**It has been over a year since Saint Francis Hospital's new Trauma Emergency Center and patient tower opened and began serving the community; yet, the focus on trauma care within the Saint Francis Health System is anything but new. In fact, when regional trauma care began to evolve into what it is today, Saint Francis led the way.**

"In terms of trauma care, it was an entirely different world back then," says C. T. Thompson, M.D., who was instrumental in establishing Saint Francis' trauma care program. "Physician groups were formed and were practicing emergency medicine on a full-time basis; yet, since no one had been specifically trained in the care of critically injured patients, trauma surgeons didn't really even have an identity in those days."

## The Origin of Trauma Care

Born on the battlefields, trauma care came of age during the turbulent 1960s, when lessons learned in war were brought back to the U.S. to treat trauma cases on the home front. While hospital emergency rooms have been in existence for decades, they would hardly be recognizable compared to today's high-tech emergency departments and trauma centers.

The field of trauma surgery and trauma centers evolved out of the necessity of

caring for a rapidly growing population of patients seeking immediate and unscheduled care for serious injury.

## A Special Commission

From the outset, Saint Francis Health System founder, W.K. Warren, Sr. envisioned Saint Francis Hospital as much more than a beautiful hospital on a hill, but a vast complex of medical outreach, with expertise to rival the nation's finest facilities.

"Mr. Warren commissioned a small group of us to establish Saint Francis as a center of excellence. He basically asked us if we could make this happen. He didn't know the language of medicine, but he certainly knew how to build, shape and motivate a team," Dr. Thompson says.

*"We had multiple meetings with the medical staff and finally decided to grow key programs back then—cardiology, neonatal care, cancer and trauma."*

Also included in the "think tank" circle was Gerald Gustafson, M.D. "We followed Mr. Warren's plan," Dr. Gustafson says.

"We became known as a super-charged, good practice hospital that did great work in all of those fields. And then we said, 'Well, now we're going to be even better than that.'"

Both Dr. Thompson and Dr. Gustafson led storied careers as general surgeons at Saint Francis and were largely responsible for revolutionary advances in trauma care—primarily in establishing one of the very first systems for radio communication between ambulances and hospitals and in the birth of Tulsa Life Flight, one of the first emergency medical helicopter services in the nation. As a result of these efforts, Saint Francis' Trauma Center quickly became widely heralded as a highly successful program.

Through the years, the health system's trauma program has been marked by achieving an impressive list of "firsts," such as being the first trauma center in Oklahoma to be verified by the American College of Surgeons (ACS), as well as the state's first medical facility to provide an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Paramedic Program.

## Deeply Rooted Commitment: Yesterday and Today

Decades after Saint Francis first made a commitment in the 1960s to meeting the needs of trauma patients, its new Trauma Emergency Center was completed in September 2014. The new patient tower, which stands as the largest expansion project in Saint Francis Health System's history, sustains the hospital's commitment to trauma and critical care and provides the space and state-of-the-art equipment needed for their care.

Designation by the Oklahoma State Department of Health as a Level II Trauma Center is evidence of the health system's long-standing legacy of providing comprehensive critical care to those facing complex, life-threatening emergencies.

"The history of Saint Francis' trauma care is deeply rooted," says Sue Watkins, trauma program manager. "Thanks in large part to the foresight of people like Dr. Thompson and Dr. Gustafson, Saint Francis had an organized and systematic trauma program in place within the community long before anyone else."

There's no question trauma is a very 'resource intensive' program; yet, it is a program that is completely worth it and in which Saint Francis Health System's commitment runs deep."

## The Trauma Patient's Advocate

According to Dr. Thompson, it boils down to this: "Patients who have cancer, diabetes, poor eyesight—any type of health problem or issue—can make the decision to go to their doctor to receive treatment. Yet, the unfortunate guy who gets hit on the side of the road or is involved in some other kind of accident has no one to speak for him. That's where we come in. Our surgeons and teams become the trauma victim's advocate. We've worked hard to develop a system where trauma patients can be assured they will receive top quality care."





Saint Francis Trauma Institute:

# A New Level of Care

Through the years, as Saint Francis Health System expanded and the number of patients in need of trauma care increased, a plan for a restructured trauma care program was on the horizon.

The Saint Francis Trauma Institute team is comprised of six full-time, board certified surgeons, each with extensive training and expertise in surgical critical care and trauma, as well as six full-time physician assistants, each of whom are also highly trained in the care of trauma patients. Twenty-four-hours-a-day and seven-days-a-week, Saint Francis Trauma Institute surgeons and physician assistants are in-house and ready to provide trauma and critical care coverage for injured adults and children.

### Wide Bandwidth of Care

As the only hospital in the community that provides in-house trauma and critical care coverage for adult and pediatric patients 24-hours-a-day/seven-days-a-week, the Saint Francis Trauma Institute team is well-positioned to handle whatever comes its way.

“This comprehensive trauma program was developed in order to provide the best care for a large number of people throughout the entire region,” says Brock Goodwin, D.O., medical director of trauma and acute care surgery at Saint Francis. “Our team works really well together; we seem to share the same thoughts and the same high expectations and are fully committed to meeting the community’s needs as efficiently and effectively as we possibly can.”

### Caring for the Unexpected

No one expects to be seriously injured, yet trauma care is one of the most pressing public health concerns in the United States. Despite efforts at injury prevention and improvements in medical care, trauma continues to be the leading cause of death for persons between the ages of one and 44 in Oklahoma, as well as throughout the entire nation. Statistics show that one person will lose their life to trauma every three minutes. And, in addition to the profound human costs of trauma, the economic cost of medical trauma in our nation exceeds \$600 billion each year.

Within the emergency medical community, it’s commonly said, “Trauma is a nocturnal disease,” and “Trauma can’t tell time.” So, why do you suppose those who provide this lifesaving care are so passionate about it?

“If you asked one of our trauma surgeons why they chose this specialty, they might say it is challenging and provides them with the opportunity to maintain their specialized surgical and critical care skills,” says Sue Watkins, trauma program manager. “But, the real reason is they truly care about these patients. Working in emergency and trauma care can often be difficult. Yet, as far as any of us are concerned, it is where we belong. This is because we believe there’s nowhere else in the world where a person can impact and help save the lives of so many people and in such a meaningful way.”

The function of the Saint Francis Trauma Institute is divided into three key areas:

#### ▶ Trauma Care

Specialized care designated for an injured patient; this is in addition to what is generally provided in an emergency room.

#### ▶ Critical Care

Dedicated care for trauma and surgical patients admitted to the Intensive Care Unit for life-threatening conditions.

#### ▶ Acute Care

Includes care for patients admitted to the ER in need of an active, but short-term, treatment for an urgent surgical condition such as a perforated ulcer.



**Saint Francis Trauma Symposium:**

# A Voice for Excellence in Trauma Care

Dating back to September 1979—and every September since—Saint Francis Health System has hosted a two-day adult and pediatric Trauma Symposium. Year in and year out, nearly 300 trauma care providers from the state of Oklahoma and surrounding states mark their calendars and make it a priority to attend this informative two-day event.

Employees from the health system's trauma and education departments spend months planning and preparing to ensure this educational event is the huge success it has been for the last 36 years. "Participants range from physicians, residents, mid-level providers, nurses, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, respiratory therapists and other healthcare professionals," says Karen Cochran, coordinator, continuing education services. "The Saint Francis Symposium lends a hand to professionals who are first on the scene—whether in the emergency department or critical care setting—to have a better understanding of the needs of these trauma patients. Our mission is to increase the knowledge and skills of healthcare professionals who care for pediatric and adult critically injured patients. Continuing to provide this type of education can, in turn, increase the positive outcomes for patients."

## Trauma Care Outreach

In keeping with the American College of Surgeons' (ACS) emphasis on organizing rural trauma teams with defined roles and responsibilities, there has been a

growing emphasis on providing trauma care education to primary care physicians throughout the region.

"Helping primary care physicians and staff at rural hospitals is something we take very seriously. It is critically important for us to help make sure they have the necessary support and education to provide trauma care for patients in their area, as well as the ability to determine if a patient needs to be transferred to a higher level of care," says Sue Watkins, trauma program manager.

"We make every effort to feature speakers who are experts in trauma care, with reputations that extend across the country, and in some instances, throughout the world. The overriding goal is to ensure the Saint Francis Trauma Symposium educates providers throughout the region, while at the same time is enjoyable and worthwhile for everyone involved."



## MORE LOCATIONS. MORE CONVENIENT.

For sudden illnesses, minor injuries and after-hours care that can't wait, there's a Warren Clinic Urgent Care near you.

### URGENT CARE LOCATIONS

#### TULSA

##### Warren Clinic – Springer Building

6160 South Yale Avenue

##### HOURS:

Monday – Saturday: 9 AM to 9 PM

Sunday: Noon to 8 PM

##### Warren Clinic – Tulsa Hills

7858 South Olympia Avenue

##### HOURS:

Monday – Friday: 8 AM to 8 PM

Saturday – Sunday: 10 AM to 6 PM

##### Warren Clinic – South Memorial

10506 South Memorial Drive

##### HOURS:

Monday – Friday: 8 AM to 8 PM

Saturday – Sunday: 10 AM to 6 PM

#### BROKEN ARROW

##### Warren Clinic – Elm Place

2950 South Elm Place, Suite 120  
(101st Street & Elm Place)

##### HOURS:

Monday – Friday: 9 AM to 9 PM

Saturday – Sunday: 10 AM to 6 PM

##### Warren Clinic – Kenosha

1801 East Kenosha Street  
(71st Street and OK- 51)

##### HOURS:

7 days per week: Noon to 8 PM



For more information, please call 918-488-6688 or visit [warrenclinic.com](http://warrenclinic.com)





Come spring of 2017, residents of Glenpool and neighboring communities will no longer need to travel to Tulsa for emergency room visits, X-rays or lab work.

Construction recently began on a new freestanding outpatient emergency center and medical office complex located near the southeast corner of Highway 75 and 151st Street South in Glenpool. The first of its kind in the Tulsa area, the 49,000-square-foot, two-story facility will serve the growing communities in southwest Tulsa County and nearby Creek and Okmulgee Counties.

# Construction Underway for New Freestanding Emergency Center and Health Complex in Glenpool



“Saint Francis has a long history of being the first to bring cutting-edge healthcare and services to our community,” says Jake Henry Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer of Saint Francis Health System. “We are particularly pleased to bring this facility to Glenpool, a city whose residents have long looked to Saint Francis for their care, but now, will not need to look as far.”

Once completed, the new freestanding outpatient emergency center will be staffed by licensed emergency room physicians, nurses and other staff members and with additional clinical resources, will provide a higher level of care than what is available at an urgent care clinic.

## Key features of the new emergency center and health complex:

- Ancillary services such as a full service lab, X-ray, CT, ultrasound, bone density scanning and mammography
- Facility will include new Warren Clinic primary care physician offices
- Open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and staffed by board certified emergency medicine physicians
- A Level III emergency department with ambulance access, eight exam rooms and one trauma bay
- Outpatient physical therapy and occupational therapy with four treatment rooms
- Easy and convenient access from the southeast corner of Highway 75 and 151st Street
- Additional access to care for residents of Glenpool and other neighboring communities such as Jenks, Sapulpa, Kiefer, Mounds, Beggs and Bixby.



“This facility is one more marker of the health system’s tradition and commitment to caring for the communities we serve,” Mr. Henry says. “Saint Francis Health System is—and always will be—a locally owned, locally operated, Catholic healthcare provider here to serve the medical, psychological and spiritual needs of our community. To this end, it is our duty to remain steadfast in our mission and adapt as needed to ensure this healing ministry is here to serve the region we call home for generations to come.”





# Careers of a Lifetime

Two Long-term Saint Francis Hospital Employees Retire After a Half-Century of Service

It's a momentous occasion for Saint Francis Health System as it celebrates 55 years of serving the Tulsa community. This year also marks the retirement of two employees—two very special people who have been with the health system since its earliest days. On November 30, Frank Hamilton and Mae Collins, who had been employed at Saint Francis for 55 and 50 years respectively, called it a day for the very last time.





Frank Hamilton

*“It’s also been amazing to see how the health system has grown and diversified through the years, and no matter how big Saint Francis becomes, it still feels like family...”*

**Detour Leads to Career Path**

It was late summer of 1960, and 20-year-old Frank Hamilton was passing through town on his way to California. “I figured I’d stop by and visit my uncle in Tulsa for a few days and then hit the road again. It was ‘easy come, easy go’ in those days,” he says.

Young Frank never made it to California. Instead, he decided he liked what he saw in Tulsa and ventured over to the brand-new hospital that was set to open soon. “I thought it might be worth looking into,” Hamilton says. Turns out, it was.

On September 3, 1960, Hamilton was put to work at the new hospital in the warehouse. “There was a crew of us unloading, loading, assembling boxes and furniture,” he says. “There was a lot to do in preparing for the hospital’s big opening day.”

Hamilton worked in this capacity at Saint Francis for a year, and was then transferred to Laundry and Linen Services, where he has served as manager since 1969. From that time, he’s seen his department go from processing about 3,000 pounds of laundry a day, to anywhere between 17,000 to 26,000 pounds daily. In fact, in fiscal year 2014, Hamilton’s department processed more than 10 million pounds of laundry!

Although these numbers are impressive, the volume of laundry Hamilton and his team handle isn’t what matters to them; what does matter is ensuring patients receive care that is nothing less than excellent. “I’ve always said our job in the laundry department is as important as anyone else’s,” he says. “That’s because no one gets any closer to the patients than we do. Patients sleep on our linens, and they wash and dry on our towels every day. We take great pride in the work we do.”

Something else that’s mattered greatly to Frank Hamilton during his 55-year career? “Oh, that’s an easy one—the fine people I’ve met and the friendships I’ve made while working here mean the world to me. As far as my staff is concerned, it’s been great to watch them have families and then see their kids and grandkids grow up,” Hamilton says. “It’s also been amazing to see how the health system has grown and diversified through the years, and that no matter how big Saint Francis becomes, it still feels like family. Saint Francis employees always have—and always will—feel valued. This mindset was ingrained way back with Mr. and Mrs. W.K. Warren, Sr. from the very beginning, and has been faithfully upheld ever since.”

**Finding a Career Home**

Before Mae Collins began her career at Saint Francis Hospital on June 7, 1965, she had worked at various other jobs since she was 12 years old. Yet, it wasn’t until she came on board as Saint Francis’ food services supervisor that she discovered what she’d been looking for—a work environment that felt like home. “I noticed immediately how welcoming everyone was,” she says. “Mr. and Mrs. Warren, Sr. made a point of treating everyone like they were part of a big extended family. It’s remarkable because even though Saint Francis has experienced so much growth through the years, that sense of closeness and caring exists to this day. I know this is because the caring spirit has been sustained through the years by their son, W.K. Warren, Jr., and grandson, John-Kelly Warren.”

Through the decades, Mae Collins’ loving attention to detail became synonymous with the high quality food and catering services provided at Saint Francis Health System. Whether it was planning the daily menus for patients, or carefully preparing for a hospital event or reception, she put her heart and soul into the process every step of the way.

From Collins’ earliest days on the job, she credits Mrs. Natalie Warren, wife of Mr. Warren, Sr., for setting the bar high in terms of quality service presented to all patients and visitors. “I remember how Mrs. Warren stepped in to personally select the china on which the patients’ food would be served,” Collins says. “The Warren family has always cared deeply about how patients—and employees—are treated at Saint Francis. In my role as food services manager all these years, I’ve been so fortunate to have the support of a dependable and dedicated staff. We share the same mindset set forth by Mrs. Warren

decades ago—as we, too, strive for quality and attention to detail.”

In reflecting over her 50-year career, Collins admits the years have sneaked up on her. “I love it here. When you enjoy what you do, you don’t want to think about leaving. That’s why I have struggled with the thought of retirement,” she says. “I’ve always felt that being part of the Saint Francis family is something very special. I’m very grateful to the good Lord for giving me 50 wonderful years with Saint Francis Health System.”



Mae Collins

*“I’ve always felt that being part of the Saint Francis family is something very special. I’m very grateful to the good Lord for giving me 50 wonderful years with Saint Francis Health System.”*



## The Saint Francis Torch: A SPARK OF GENIUS

*As was frequently the case, Bill Patterson's creative magic was with him when he was asked to design a logo for the new pink hospital in town.*



It was August 1967, and although Saint Francis Hospital had been serving the community since 1960, an actual logo had not been established. As owner of a successful local graphic design company (Patterson Graphics), Patterson was chosen as the one to tackle this special project.

### A Healing Touch

"I was told that Sister Mary Blandine Fleming (Saint Francis Hospital administrator at the time), wanted an image that would reflect healing," says Patterson. "It's been too many years ago to remember my 'idea sheets' in coming up with the logo. But, my process (prior to computers) was always to make several—sometimes scores of—thumbnail sketches of varying ideas. I am sure I began sketching out healing rays of light, variations of the cross and of the SFH letters, as well as combinations of different concepts. Finally, an 'aha' moment emerged. To me, the torch represented the light or spirit of healing and compassion. It just felt right."

And, as fate would have it, Sister Blandine felt the torch was the ideal representation of healing, as well. "Once she had selected the torch, I refined the design with the cross at the base and the



Saint Francis Hospital 1969

SFH initials within the flame and that was essentially it," Patterson says.

Since that time nearly 50 years ago, the Saint Francis torch logo has endured the test of time. Through the years, it has appeared on signage and many other mediums throughout the health system. "A neat aspect about design is its universality," Patterson says. "From that one sketch so many years ago, the Saint Francis torch has been displayed in a myriad of ways within the health system—including uniforms, badges, buses and letterhead. Every time I see that torch, it's a 'feel good.' I'm very proud I contributed to such a lasting and meaningful symbol of Saint Francis Health System."

### Family Ties

Patterson not only fondly refers to his creation as a 'feel good,' but also as his baby. This is because around the time he

was sketching away and bringing life to Saint Francis Hospital's future logo, his newborn daughter, Lori, was taking first breaths of her own at the hospital.

"Saint Francis is special to me and my family for so many reasons," say Lori Dixon, who (ironically enough) has been employed as rehabilitation therapy manager at the health system for the past nine years.

"First of all, it is wonderful to be reminded of my dad everywhere I look when I'm at work. For instance, I think of my dad every morning when I put on my employee badge and each time I glance at my computer with 40 or 50 Saint Francis torches floating around as the screensaver," Dixon says. "Not only was I born here, I was cured of cancer here. During that time, Saint Francis completely supported me as an employee and as a patient. And, as if that weren't enough—my younger sister, Lisa Rada, was also born at Saint Francis and works here as a nurse! I speak for both of us when I say how proud we are of

our dad and the lasting contribution he made to a place that means so much to us—and to the city of Tulsa."

### Staying Power

It is indeed remarkable to consider that what began as a mere sketch nearly 50 years ago, continues to shine brightly as the healing spirit of Saint Francis Health System.

"I'd have to say the Saint Francis torch has always been my favorite design," Patterson says. "It was truly a joy to create something special for a place that does so much for those in the community."

*I was told that Sister Mary Blandine Fleming (Saint Francis Hospital administrator at the time), wanted an image that would reflect **HEALING.***



The 2015  
**PAINTED PONY BALL**  
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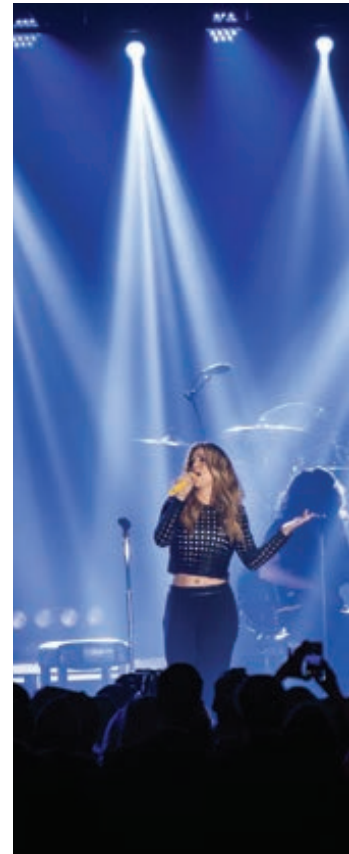
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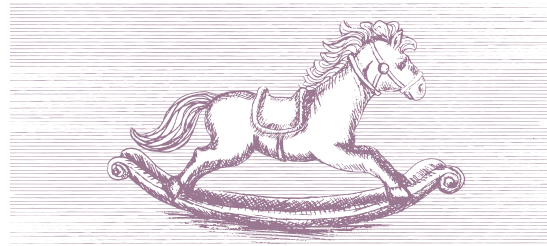
THE HONORABLE TERRY KERN WITH HIS WIFE JEANNETTE KERN (2015 PAINTED PONY EVENT CHAIRMAN) WITH KATHY HENRY AND JAKE HENRY JR., PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF SAINT FRANCIS HEALTH SYSTEM.



DR. NATHAN POWELL AND LORI POWELL



REID PERRY, OF THE BAND PERRY WITH CATHEY BARKLEY, KIMBERLY PERRY, MIKE BARKLEY AND NEIL PERRY.



DR. RAY SANDERS AND JANICE BAMFORD



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Nearly 1,000 guests attended the 2015 Painted Pony Ball Gala all to benefit The Children's Hospital Foundation at Saint Francis. With entertainment provided by Grammy-award winning The Band Perry, a live auction and dinner prepared by Chef Devin Levine at the Cox Business Center, the evening celebrated the corporate and community partners who have generously given to support eastern Oklahoma's only pediatric healthcare facility, The Children's Hospital at Saint Francis.

**\$250,000**  
 Saint Francis Health System  
 William K. Warren Foundation

**\$50,000**  
 Cathey and Mike Barkley  
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**\$25,000**  
 American Bank and Trust Company  
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# presence

a publication of Saint Francis Health System

## **MISSION**

*To extend the presence and healing ministry of Christ in all we do*

## **VISION**

*Saint Francis Health System will collaborate with others who share its values to be the regional leader in the delivery of quality Catholic healthcare services*

## **VALUES**

### **EXCELLENCE**

*Promoting high standards of service and performance*

### **DIGNITY**

*Respecting each person as an inherently valuable member of the human community and as a unique expression of life*

### **JUSTICE**

*Advocating for systems and structures that are attuned to the needs of the vulnerable and disadvantaged and that promote a sense of community among all persons*

### **INTEGRITY**

*Encouraging honesty, consistency and predictability in all relationships*

### **STEWARDSHIP**

*Ensuring prudent use of talents and resources in a collaborative manner*