

# GIVING NEWS

Together, investing in the health of our communities.

SERVING ASCENSION MEDICAL GROUP CLINICS, CALUMET HOSPITAL & ST. ELIZABETH HOSPITAL



**Ascension St. Elizabeth Hospital**  
Foundation

SPRING 2021

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## Cardiovascular Surgery Team Celebrates 30th Anniversary

The first cardiovascular surgery at Ascension NE Wisconsin - St. Elizabeth was performed on April 17, 1991. This year will mark a major milestone for the program and two of its clinicians as they celebrate the 30th anniversary of the first heart surgery on April 17, 2021.

**Congratulations and a special thank you to Dr. Zenoun O. Abouzelam and Nan Krizenesky, RN, who have been with the cardiovascular program since the beginning!**

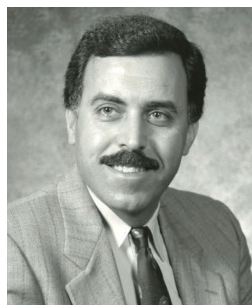
The first open heart surgery case performed by Dr. Abouzelam was a quintuple bypass and the patient's nurse was Nan, both of whom still work today as part of the cardiovascular team. Dr. Abouzelam and Nan have trained many generations of nurses and operating room staff to ensure excellent outcomes and provide compassionate, personalized patient care.



Dr. Zenoun O. Abouzelam

Dr. Abouzelam finished his cardiac surgery fellowship at the Medical College of Wisconsin in July 1989. After moving to the Fox Valley, he launched Ascension St. Elizabeth's heart surgery program in 1991. He was the first physician in northeast Wisconsin to surgically implant an Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator (ICD); a small electronic device connected to the heart to monitor and help regulate electrical issues.

Since then, Dr. Abouzelam established a minimally invasive mitral and aortic valve and a mitral valve repair surgery program, both firsts in northeast Wisconsin.



ZENOUN O. ABOUZELAM, M.D.  
CARDIOVASCULAR SURGERY

In the last 30 years, the cardiac surgery team at Ascension St. Elizabeth Hospital has performed thousands of surgeries, including very complex open heart surgeries with excellent outcomes.

Ascension St. Elizabeth recently launched its Transcatheter Aortic Valve Replacement (TAVR) to provide a minimally invasive option to elderly patients who were once considered high risk for surgical intervention.

"With the establishment of the structural heart program, the Ascension St. Elizabeth cardiac surgery and cardiology program has become the premier heart program in northeast Wisconsin. I look forward to celebrating my 30th anniversary here with such a wonderful team."

Nan, a lead RN in the ICU department at Ascension St. Elizabeth, has some great memories of working with Dr. Abouzelam and the team over the past 30 years. "Dr. Abouzelam protects and supports our entire team, saying that it takes a village to take care of one patient. Many patients and families have been touched by a community of providers, and Dr. Abouzelam is definitely one of the best."

St. Elizabeth Hospital Foundation  
1506 S. Oneida Street  
Appleton, WI 54915

P: (920) 831-1475  
sehf@ascension.org  
Website: [ascension.org/giveSEHF](https://ascension.org/giveSEHF)

Editor: Julie Miskoviak  
Communications & Events Specialist

## Message from your Foundation Director



**Chad Hershner**

*Director of Philanthropy*

*St. Elizabeth Hospital Foundation*

For me, Spring is a time of hope, joy, gratitude and optimism. As we move into this new season, there is more hope for our community and country as more people receive their vaccines.

We are filled with gratitude at Ascension St. Elizabeth Hospital as we celebrate 30 years of our cardiovascular program. This newsletter highlights our cardiovascular program, celebrates the career of Dr. Zenoun Abouzelam and shares more information about the advances in heart care.

Everyday, I count my blessings and reflect on what a joy it is to work with such an amazing Foundation team. Nikki Knight recently joined the team as our Foundation Coordinator. Julie Miskoviak has accepted a new role as communications and events specialist. Heather Zoromski has moved from her work on special events to work closely with donors as a Gift Officer.

I'm optimistic that with more practice maybe my golf game will improve. We invite you to join us for our Player's Choice Golf Outing from June 1-27 and our "Growing Forward" virtual event on Monday, June 28th.

Be Safe. Be Healthy. Stay Kind.



**Run or walk  
for a reason.**

**Pets & strollers welcome**

**PART OF THE**  **COMMUNITY FIRST**  
**FoxCities Marathon**  
Presented by  Building Goodness

 **Ascension**  
**5K RUN/WALK**

**Saturday, September 18, 2021**

**LIMITED SPACE** Secure your spot to be with us!

**[www.foxcitiesmarathon.org](http://www.foxcitiesmarathon.org)**

**PORTION OF PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT ST. ELIZABETH CANCER FUND**

## TRIBUTE & MEMORIAL GIFTS

*In honor or memory of...*

Glen Beckman  
Briana Boyce  
Karen M. Britten  
Paul Burkart  
James W. Castor  
Halie & Jaclyn Dederling  
James P. Diedrich  
Patricia Diehl  
Barbara J. Eckstein  
Daniel S. Evans  
Cookie Fielkow  
Emily Fisher  
Gregory H. Foster  
Mario L. Frassetto  
Jack A. Fuller  
Meghan Fuller  
Gloria Ganther  
Dolores Gear  
Gerald D. Golden  
Meghan A. Gremban  
Joanne Groth  
Robert L. Harmon  
June H. Hebel  
Ilera H. Heckel  
Nancy Heinemann  
Russell W. Holmes  
Douglas B. Horan  
Mary K. Jennerjahn  
Patricia A. Jordan  
Diane M. Kolakowski  
Carol A. Kressin  
Robert Laemmrich  
Elaine M. Lamers  
David R. List  
Donna M. Loderbauer  
Mary Love  
Kathleen M. Mertens  
Bernie Miller  
Aaron Nienstedt  
Jerry Noto  
Bonnie R. Nutting  
Auden Pearson  
Neil H. Pergande  
Grace Retzlaff  
Grant T. Richman  
Andrea M. Ritchie  
Daniel L. Rorabeck  
Gene A. Sauer  
DuWayne Scheid  
Carol "Tweet" M. Schmidt  
Rita R. Schmidt  
Arlen L. Schroeder  
Jon Schultz  
Selwyn Shmitt  
Joyce M. Sievert  
Mary E. Spielbauer  
St. Elizabeth Hospital Associates  
Donald I. Stilp  
Sheila Tibbetts  
Ken F. Van De Wetering  
Leo A. Van Den Brandt  
Vernon E. Wiese  
Barbara R. Watkins  
Michael J. Wilfer  
William Judkins  
Dolores M. Zuleger-Boyer  
Mary Grace Zwick

### *Leave a Legacy*

*Consider a legacy gift to St. Elizabeth Hospital Foundation through a **planned gift** by including the Foundation in your will or estate plan. If you have already designated St. Elizabeth Hospital Foundation in your will or estate plan, please let us know so that we can welcome you as a member of the **Heritage Society**. For more information, please contact us at 920.831.1475.*

## Introducing Michael Bergmann—Fox Valley Hospital President

We are pleased to announce Michael Bergmann has joined Ascension Wisconsin as Fox Valley Hospital President overseeing Ascension NE Wisconsin which includes Ascension St. Elizabeth Hospital, Ascension Mercy Hospital and Ascension Calumet Hospital.

Jenny Derks will remain the Vice President of Operations at Ascension Calumet Hospital and Mercy Hospital, reporting to Michael.

Mike and his wife, Kris, have four children and are delighted to call the Fox Valley home.



"I have a deep appreciation for the important role that our donors play in supporting our Ascension Northeast Wisconsin hospitals and programs. With their donations, we are able to truly fulfill our mission of providing care in the communities we serve, especially to those who are the most vulnerable and in need. Thank you for believing and investing in our mission."

## Your Foundation Team

We are pleased to share with you our Ascension St. Elizabeth Hospital Foundation team moving forward. We are happy to assist donors and connect your support with our healthcare mission-based programs and services.



Chad Hershner  
Director of Philanthropy



Nikki Knight  
Foundation Coordinator



Julie Miskoviak  
Communications & Events  
Specialist



Coree Van Thiel  
Grants Manager



Heather Zoromski  
Gift Officer



# JOIN US!

## 2021 PLAYER'S CHOICE GOLF OUTING

You can be a part of raising funds to support cancer care and other mission-based programs and services that benefit your families, neighbors and friends.

### You pick the day! June 1 - June 27, 2021 at the exclusive North Shore Golf Club.

- Choose **18-holes** or **9-holes** of golf with cart
- Men and women are welcome to golf — *you choose your team!*
- Includes food voucher, drink tickets, golfer gift & more!

#### EARLY BIRD SPECIAL

Register by May 1st for chance to win a Weekend Getaway!

#### RECOMMENDED TIMES OF PLAY

- **TUESDAY:** After 10am
- **WEDNESDAY:** After 11am
- **THURSDAY:** 7-11am or after 3pm
- **FRIDAY:** All Day
- **SATURDAY OR SUNDAY:** After 10 am (closed on Mondays)

**18-hole Registration \$250 per golfer; \$1,000 per foursome**

**9-hole Registration \$200 per golfer; \$800 per foursome**

**REGISTER AT: [SEHFEvent.givesmart.com](https://sehfevent.givesmart.com)**



**"Growing Forward" we are excited to offer this Player's Choice Golf Outing to our friends of the Foundation. Please join us as we gather virtually on June 28th. More details to follow!**

For sponsorship opportunities, please contact Julie at [julie.miskoviak@ascension.org](mailto:julie.miskoviak@ascension.org) or 920.831.1475.



[ascension.org/giveSEHF](https://ascension.org/giveSEHF)

