In Service to His Country:
Congratulating to
Donald Bittner, MD

St. Jude Neurosciences
Institute: Making the
Exceptional Common

St. Jude Crosson
Cancer Institute:
New Research Brings
Life-Saving Advances

Health Education Classes
and Support Groups

Critical Care Unit
Receives National Honor
In Service to His Country

Congratulations to Donald Bittner, MD

When Donald Bittner, MD, an orthopedic surgeon with St. Jude Heritage Medical Group, helped to successfully reattach the arms of a 12-year-old boy, the surgery did not take place in an advanced surgical suite at St. Jude — but in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Both of the Afghani child’s limbs had been nearly severed in a thrashing machine accident and after a 10-hour surgery, the boy joined hundreds of American soldiers and civilians whose lives were saved through the efforts of Dr. Bittner, a Captain in the U.S. Navy Reserve.

Yet, it was not for his surgical expertise that Dr. Bittner, one of Southern California’s most respected hand and wrist experts, recently received the military’s prestigious Legion of Merit Medal. Rather, the honor recognized his “extraordinary service and achievement” as a Navy commanding officer.

Presented at a formal military ceremony, the medal — one of the armed forces most important — cannot be earned through superior performance of normal duties, but only through exceptional accomplishment and contribution.

Dr. Bittner, who spends his weekends and vacations flying to naval posts across the country, received the honor for his innovation and success in improving the physical, mental and emotional readiness of the soldiers under his command. His leadership in addressing soldiers’ personal and emotional issues, as well as their physical wounds and health, propelled the 13 detachments under his command to extraordinary levels of readiness.

“It is a privilege to work with the remarkable men and women who sacrifice so much for our country — no other recognition was needed,” says Dr. Bittner who, in addition to his full-time practice at St. Jude Heritage Medical Group, serves as Deputy Chief of Staff, Navy Reserve, for the western United States. “It was an amazing and humbling moment to receive a medal for the privilege of helping them.”

Dr. Bittner’s years of service include a 12-month deployment to Afghanistan where he oversaw the organization and construction of dozens of battlefield hospital stations and clinics while also performing thousands of surgeries, often under difficult circumstances.
“It really is an honor to help our soldiers, who serve with such passion and integrity,” Dr. Bittner says, who recently co-authored a textbook on traumatic injuries that is used by military and civilian hospitals alike. “To play a role in helping ensure their physical and emotional health is a pleasure and joy.”

Those who work with Dr. Bittner say neither the medal, nor his humility about earning it, are surprising. “He is extremely caring and very humble,” says Cynthia Leva, a medical assistant, who explains that the “extraordinary service” documented by the honor is evident in his everyday interactions with patients. “You can see his desire to help and his commitment to making his patients’ lives better. Our soldiers are very lucky to have him.”

Dr. Bittner’s medical office is in Fullerton. For appointments, call (714) 626-9630.

Donald Bittner, MD, receives the Legion of Merit Medal from Rear Admiral Christina M. Alvarado.
The 75-year-old grandmother from Tustin and the 45-year-old mom from Placentia were both victims of ruptured brain aneurysms — and despite very poor odds — both would have their lives and well-being restored by a team of physicians and staff that specialize in redefining what’s possible.

Each initially went to the closest hospital, but were quickly transferred — just weeks apart — to St. Jude Medical Center, home to one of California’s most respected neurosciences institutes and stroke centers. Once inside the hospital’s Neurointerventional Suite, the minimally-invasive repair or “coiling” of the ruptured blood vessels was complicated by vasospasm which dangerously narrowed and weakened the arteries of both women — a complication successfully overcome during the technically-challenging procedures.

“The survival rate for a high-grade ruptured aneurysm is very low and the odds of making a full recovery are even lower,” explains Hamed Farid, MD, MBA, medical director, St. Jude Neurointerventional Radiology. “To see patients like Joni and Amber step back into their lives, with no permanent deficits or limitations, is a powerful reminder of why optimal outcomes matter and why, for us, the only acceptable standard is excellence.”

Amber’s path to recovery included a medically-induced coma and six weeks in St. Jude’s Critical Care Unit (CCU), while Joni’s journey involved nearly five months in the CCU, much of it spent unconscious and unresponsive.

“These nurses and doctors were put on this earth to do exactly what they do,” explains Don Feldman, who celebrated his 54th wedding anniversary sitting by Joni’s bedside. “They looked past all the tubes and wires and fought very hard for the person underneath, giving Joni extraordinary care. It was clear to me that if it was possible for Joni to get better, it would happen here.”

According to Jacque Taylor, BSN, RN, CNRN, SCRN, a neuro-certified nurse within St. Jude’s CCU who helped care for Joni and Amber, because so many physicians and staff see their work as a calling, there is tremendous passion and commitment to returning each patient to their family. “We know the national averages for survival and disability, but we see those numbers simply as a starting point,” she explains. “Through constant research, improvement and collaboration, we’re able to make ‘miracles’ a little more common.”

Amber, who has returned to her job and her role as an active mom of a 10-year-old, says it is impossible to find the right words: “How do you thank a hospital for doing what St. Jude did for me and my
family? You can’t,” she says, explaining that while her life was saved, her husband’s life was forever changed. “The almost unfathomable compassion and kindness from physicians and staff, during what was easily the worst time of our lives, made me a different man,” explains Neil, who says it wasn’t just those wearing scrubs that left an indelible impression on him.

When he sat crying in his car after first learning just how serious — and fatal — Amber’s condition was, a St. Jude parking attendant reached through the car window to put her arm around Neil’s shoulders and offer comfort. When Neil went to the hospital’s cafeteria for breakfast each morning, the cashier would ask him for updates, offer encouragement — and on one morning, pull from her pocket a book of prayers she had purchased for him. When Neil brought Amber back to the hospital to say thank you, the Environmental Services employee who provided warmth and humor while cleaning Amber’s room would be among the first to hug the couple. Physicians, nurses technologists, therapists and phlebotomists, who had cared for Amber and those who had only prayed for her — as well as Dr. Farid, who Neil says treated he and Amber like cherished friends — would each help the couple celebrate as they walked the hallways.

Joni’s husband, Don, says their experience was the same. “You’re so impressed by the kindness and skill in the CCU — and you understand why the unit wins awards — but then you realize that level of caring is everywhere,” he says, “even in the empathy of the volunteer who greeted me by name when I walked into the lobby. It’s hard to imagine another hospital could equal the level of care and compassion we received here.”

The St. Jude CCU was recently awarded the Beacon Award for Excellence (please see back cover). The St. Jude Neurosciences Institute has earned several honors, including being named an Advanced Comprehensive Stroke Center by The Joint Commission and American Heart Association/American Stroke Association. St. Jude is proud to be among only 100 hospitals to have earned this designation in the nation, and only 10 in the state. “The awards we’ve earned are wonderful,” Dr. Farid explains. “But, no plaque can equal helping a grandmother of eight or a mother of a 10-year-old beat the odds to not only survive, but face a complete recovery. That is the best award possible.”

To find out more about the St. Jude Neurosciences Institute or stroke center, please call (714) 446-5677 or visit stjudemedicalcenter.org/stroke.

Learn more about Amber and Neil’s story by watching their video at stjudemedicalcenter.org/amber.
A recent article in the New England Journal of Medicine described a new, more successful approach to treating advanced lung cancer. A landmark clinical trial demonstrated that in every measure from survival rates to quality of life, an immunotherapy — which helps the immune system recognize and destroy cancer cells — proved superior to the current standard of care, chemotherapy.

The St. Jude Crosson Cancer Institute participated in the groundbreaking research. “This trial will dramatically change the way many advanced or metastatic lung cancers are treated,” explains William Lawler, MD, priniciple investigator for for clinical research at St. Jude Medical Center, the only site in Orange County and one of the few in Southern California to participate in the study. “It’s another example of how we are using clinical trials to continuously push the edge in finding better, more successful treatments.”

Once viewed as a last resort for cancer patients with no other options, clinical trials are now often a first choice of treatment — allowing patients to benefit from new therapies years before those treatments become available. Clinical trials currently underway at St. Jude include promising treatments for nearly every type of cancer, from breast, lung, bladder, prostate, brain and stomach to leukemia and myeloma.

Recent progress, driven by clinical trials, has been impressive. “Not only are a growing number of cancers now curable, we are dramatically increasing the survivability of even the most advanced and aggressive cancers,” explains David Park, MD, medical director, Crosson Cancer Institute. Through partnerships with some of the nation’s top research consortiums, St. Jude is moving improvements from the laboratory to the bedside — while drawing patients from all over Southern California. “Often a patient will come to St. Jude for a clinical trial,” Dr. Park says, “and continue their care here because of the compassion and excellence they find here.”

Immunotherapies, like the one recently shown to improve lung cancer outcomes, are among the most exciting improvements in cancer treatment in decades, yet only a small handful of these therapies have finished the FDA-approval process — most are available only through clinical trials. “Until we find a cure for all cancers,” Dr. Park says, “Clinical trials will continue to offer some of the most innovative and effective treatment options available.”

To learn more about current clinical trials, including those enrolling new patients, please call our Clinical Research Department at (714) 446-5642 or our UCLA-TRIO Research Coordinator at (714) 446-7053.
Taking Some of the Stress Out of Caregiving

May 9, 6 p.m.
Taking care of an elderly parent or loved one can be exhausting — emotionally, financially and physically. Come and learn what you can do to preserve your health and your sanity, how to plan and prepare for what’s ahead, and what resources are available to help.

This overview will offer strategies and suggestions on how to handle legal issues, financial concerns, communication issues within the family, as well as how to reduce stress and prevent burnout. Discover services, resources and support groups that can help you succeed.

Managing Migraine Headaches

May 11, 6 p.m.
Learn how to avoid and minimize migraine headaches. Taught by a registered dietitian and health educator, this class will cover common and not-so-common causes and triggers, supplements, medications and other treatments that can help reduce the frequency and severity of migraines.

You’ll learn long-term prevention of migraines through lifestyle changes, so you can get back to living — and enjoying — your life.

Introducing UroLift: A Breakthrough Procedure for Men with Enlarged Prostate

May 18, 6 p.m.
A simple outpatient procedure, called the Urolift System, is successfully treating one of the most common issues men face: low or blocked urine flow due to an enlarged prostate. Most men over 60 have symptoms of an enlarged prostate — known as benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) — which often include frequent urination with resistant or interrupted stream as well as urinary urgency or leaking.

Join Michael Gazzaniga, MD, a widely-respected urologist at St. Jude Medical Center, who routinely performs the outpatient procedure: pulling back the prostate tissue that is pressing on the urethra with tiny permanent implants. The result is a highly-effective, minimally-invasive solution that avoids the side effects of medications and surgery. Dr. Gazzaniga will discuss why most men are eligible as well as how the procedure stacks up against other treatment options.

Waking Up to Fall Asleep: Do You Have Sleep Apnea?

June 8, 6 p.m.
Sleep apnea is the leading undiagnosed sleep problem in America — affecting almost 10 million people, most of whom have no idea why they feel so tired all the time. Waking up with headaches, snoring, feeling tired during the day even after spending eight or nine hours in bed are common symptoms.

If you feel tired throughout the day, or know someone struggling with constant fatigue, join our sleep expert to learn about symptoms, diagnosis, and solutions. If you’ve already been told you have sleep apnea, but have questions about your diagnosis or equipment, come for answers and solutions.

Nightmare Bacteria: What You Should Know

June 15, 6 p.m.
Antibiotic overuse and drug-resistant “superbugs” are serious and rapidly growing problems. Join a St. Jude infection prevention expert to learn what germs have grown resistant to every available antibiotic and why, as well as what’s expected in the next few years.

Find out which illnesses should be treated with an antibiotic — and which should not. Learn how you’re increasing your risk of an antibiotic-resistant infection and how you can protect your family’s health.

Successfully Managing Your Diabetes is Essential. Need Some Help?

June 27, 6 p.m.
Join Samim Enayat, MD, a highly-respected endocrinologist and expert in diabetes, to learn what’s new, what works, and how you can better control your diabetes. Learn about a new class of diabetes medication — SGLT2 inhibitors — that are creating modest weight loss as well as other advances in care. Afterward, a Q&A session will help get your questions answered.

Avoiding America’s Number One Killer — Heart Disease

June 28, 6 p.m.
Or maybe you’ve had a heart attack and want to regain your health? Research shows that four simple tenants — move more, stress less, love more and eat healthy — are the key to preventing or stopping heart disease, as well as a laundry list of other chronic conditions.

Come learn from our cardiac rehabilitation experts what these four elements should look like and how to add them to your life. Find out how to maximize your heart health and wellness with small daily changes, as well as what resources are available to make it easier.

Fall Prevention Toolkit: Help for Caregivers

June 29, 6 p.m.
Falls are a major factor in elderly injury and decline, but most are preventable. If you are a caregiver or family member of someone who is aging, join us to learn what factors make falls more likely, how the aging process contributes to falls, and how to “fall proof” your home.

Swollen Ankles and Feet? Take It Seriously

July 13, 6 p.m.
Chronic swelling of the feet and ankles is a common side effect of diabetes and poor blood flow (venous insufficiency) — and puts you at much greater risk for antibiotic-resistant infection. Join our certified wound care expert to learn how to protect yourself from diabetic wounds as well as problem wounds — and how to reduce swelling in the ankles and feet and increase circulation. Practical advice and tips, important health information, as well as a Q&A to get answers to your questions.
Support Groups

STJUDEMEDICALCENTER.ORG/SUPPORTGROUPS

Find help, information and camaraderie through our free support groups.

**Amp’d Up Amputee Support Group**
Third Tuesday of each month, 3 – 5 p.m.
St. Jude Centers for Rehabilitation & Wellness
2767 E. Imperial Hwy., Brea
Offers friendships, encouragement and outings — from adaptive sports to guest speakers — to help re-enter the community and discover new interests. Call (714) 992-3000, ext. 3706 for more information.

**Manic Depressive Support Group**
Every Monday, 10:30 a.m. – noon
St. Jude Community Services
130 W. Bastanchury Rd., Fullerton
Focuses on strategies to improve caregiving tasks and family members toward recovery, while offering encouragement and connection with others. Call DBSA Orange County at (714) 744-8718 for more information.

**Caregiver Support Group: Thrive Not Survive**
Second and fourth Wednesday of each month
10 – 11:30 a.m.
St. Jude Community Services
130 W. Bastanchury Rd., Fullerton
Focuses on strategies to improve caregiving tasks and encourage successful daily living, increasing caregiver confidence, and offering a safe place to share feelings and concerns. Contact Caregiver Resource Center at (714) 446-5030 or go to caregiveroc.org.

**Healing Hearts After Loss**
Every Thursday, 1:30 – 3 p.m.
St. Jude Community Services
130 W. Bastanchury Rd., Fullerton
This grief recovery support group is for anyone who is working through the pain of grief and loss. Please register for this free group by calling (877) 459-3627. For questions, Karyl Dupee, (714) 446-7035.

**Healthy Living with a Chronic Condition Education and Support Group**
Second Friday of each month, 10 a.m.
St. Jude Community Services
130 Bastanchury Rd., Fullerton
Whether you’re living with heart disease, fibromyalgia or another chronic condition, this group focuses on education, using and sharing skills you’ve learned, and staying healthy. Contact St. Jude Senior Services at (714) 446-7035 for more information.

**Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Support Group**
Second and fourth Friday of each month, 10 – 11:30 a.m.
St. Jude Community Services
130 W. Bastanchury Rd., Fullerton
Focuses on strengths, adaptive skills, issues and questions, and rehabilitative strategies for TBI survivors and caregivers. Contact the St. Jude Brain Injury Network at (714) 446-5626 for more information.

**CANCER SUPPORT GROUPS**

**Brain Tumor Patient and Family Support Group**
First Monday of each month, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
St. Jude Medical Plaza, 3rd floor, Suite 3138
2151 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton
Go with the Flow: Lymphedema Education
How to prevent and treat lymphedema, designed for anyone who has had lymph nodes removed or radiation to the underarm, groin, pelvis or neck. Call the St. Jude Wound Center, (714) 992-3000, ext. 2895, for dates and times.

**Hope: Cancer Patient and Family Support Group**
Second and fourth Monday of each month
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
St. Jude Medical Plaza, 3rd floor, Suite 3138
2151 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton
Support for those with any type of cancer, with a special breakout group for family and friends.

**Depression/Anxiety Recovery Support Group (Seniors)**
Every Monday, 10:30 a.m. – noon
St. Jude Community Services
130 W. Bastanchury Rd., Fullerton
Depression among those over 60 is common: come learn strategies to combat depression and anxiety, develop individualized coping skills, and strengthen your resilience and confidence. Contact St. Jude Senior Services at (714) 446-7035 for more information.

**Stroke Support and Education Group**
First and third Monday of each month, 1:30 – 3 p.m.
St. Jude Community Services Building
130 W. Bastanchury Rd., Fullerton
Allows stroke survivors and caregivers to share advice and experiences, encourage one another and become inspired to move forward. Make new friends, socialize, and get help overcoming common challenges. Please RSVP to attend at (888) 794-9466. Visit rthfoundation.org to learn more.
Journey to Health Support Group (St. Jude Heritage patients only)
Second and fourth Monday of each month, 4:40 – 5:30 p.m.
St. Jude Medical Plaza, 3rd floor, Conference Room
2151 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton
Second and fourth Friday of each month, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
St. Jude Medical Plaza, 1st floor, Conference Room
2141 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton
For patients who have completed treatment and want help in losing weight while improving their health and nutrition.

Ladies Night Cancer Support Group
First Tuesday of each month, 6:30 – 8 p.m.
St. Jude Medical Plaza, 1st floor, Conference Room
2141 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton
“Girl talk” and support for women just diagnosed, in treatment, or fully recovered.

Look Good, Feel Better
St. Jude Medical Plaza, 1st floor, Conference Room
2141 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton
Learn make-up, hair styling, and skin care techniques to help deal with changes that occur as a result of cancer treatment. For dates and times, call the American Cancer Society (800) 227-2345, option 4.

Prostate Cancer Discussion Group
Fourth Wednesday of each month, 6 – 7:30 p.m.
St. Jude Medical Plaza, 1st floor, Conference Room
2141 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton
Support, education and practical advice for men living with advanced prostate cancer.

Relaxation and Visualization for Well-Being
Third Monday of each month, 6:30 – 8 p.m.
St. Jude Medical Plaza, 3rd floor, Suite 3138
2151 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton
Cancer patients, families and caregivers learn how to bring the health benefits of relaxation into their life.

Yoga for Cancer Health
Every Friday, 10 – 11:15 a.m.
St. Jude Medical Plaza, 3rd floor, Suite 3138
2151 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton
Enjoy the health benefits and camaraderie of this mind-body approach to wellness, call to register (877) 459-3627.

COMMUNICATION RECOVERY
We offer innovative, small-group therapy to help community members regain their ability to communicate clearly and effectively. Led by a licensed speech pathologist, these small groups offer techniques for improving communication and overcoming speech disorders.

Participation in these low-cost groups begins with an assessment by a speech pathologist. To participate, please contact Jennifer Even, MS, CCC-SLP at (714) 578-8706, ext. 2339 or at Jennifer.Even@stjoe.org.

Aphasia Speech Group
Mondays, 10 – 11 a.m. and 11 a.m. – noon (choose time most convenient)
First Presbyterian Church of Fullerton
838 N. Euclid, Fullerton
Individuals with aphasia and other speech disorders can practice conversation and language skills with a variety of partners in a supportive environment. Unique opportunities to connect with others include: technology aphasia, aphasia and the arts, ladies’ groups, men’s club, multi-cultural group, young adult group and more.

Speech and Language Lab (ages three – 18)
St. Jude Centers for Rehabilitation and Wellness
2767 E. Imperial Hwy., Brea
Offers hands-on lessons, peer support, and individualized therapy to build and maintain age-expected speech and language skills. Children and teens are grouped by age.

FREE MEDICARE SEMINARS

Medicare Education and Social Security Basics
Turning 65? This free class will help take the guesswork out of Medicare decision-making. We’ll review the basics of Medicare including enrollment windows, what to do if you’re still employed, and social security benefits. Make your reservation online at stjhs.org/medicare or call (877) 459-3627. Hearing impairment, call: TTY (949) 381-4947.

St. Jude Heritage Medical Group
4300 Rose Drive, Yorba Linda, CA 92886
Community Room
6 p.m. Tuesday May 2
6 p.m. Saturday June 13
6 p.m. Wednesday July 12
6 p.m. Thursday August 10
6 p.m. Thursday September 12

Medicare Benefits
Covered by Medicare? Did you know every Medicare health plan has different benefits? Join us for a Medicare information session with health plan representatives to review their benefits and answer questions specific to your unique needs. By the end of this class, you’ll feel more confident in choosing the right health plan for you. Make a reservation online at stjhs.org/medicare or call (877) 459-3627. Hearing impairment, call: TTY (949) 381-4947.

St. Jude Heritage Medical Group
4300 Rose Drive, Yorba Linda, CA 92886
Community Room
6 p.m. Tuesday May 16
6 p.m. Wednesday June 28
6 p.m. Thursday July 27
6 p.m. Thursday August 24
6 p.m. Thursday September 21

Medicare has neither reviewed nor endorsed this information. Sales persons will be present with information and applications at the Medicare Benefits meetings. For accommodation of persons with special needs at benefit sales meetings, please call (877) 459-3627.
The other day, I was chatting with a man so grateful for the care his wife received at St. Jude Medical Center that he said, “I am so thankful to St. Jude. If I ever won the lottery, I would donate a part of my winnings to them!”

His sentiment isn’t uncommon. Many patients want to give back to the hospital that provided them or their loved ones with life changing care. But many also feel overwhelmed by the thought of writing a big check or giving up their assets today, especially when they have current family or financial obligations.

That’s where a charitable bequest — or leaving a future gift through your will or living trust — becomes the perfect opportunity to make a meaningful, lasting impact on the future of St. Jude while still allowing you the flexibility to live your life today.

WHAT IS A CHARITABLE BEQUEST?
Charitable bequests are gifts made through your will or living trust to charity. It is a living legacy of your compassion and concern for the future of patients and their families. Mr. Blaski’s story (opposite page) is the perfect example.

WHY CONSIDER MAKING A BEQUEST TO ST. JUDE?
A bequest helps St. Jude improve upon its nationally recognized services, build facilities where quality and innovation can flourish, offer the latest technology, clinical trials and research, and provide lifesaving, compassionate care to all who walk through our doors.

BEQUESTS CAN BE MADE AFTER TAKING CARE OF FAMILY.
You can remember St. Jude by including a percentage of the remainder of your estate or trust, after providing for your family. Only if there is enough for family and others important to you will the gift to the hospital occur.

BEQUESTS ARE FLEXIBLE AND EASILY MODIFIED.
Bequests allow you to distribute your assets in the manner most appropriate to your circumstances. You can specify a dollar amount, a percentage of the estate or the residual part of the estate, as well as make the gift contingent on specific future events. If your circumstances change, you can easily modify your will at any time.

BEQUESTS MAY ALSO REDUCE ESTATE TAXES.
Giving a charitable bequest can decrease the size of your estate and possibly reduce your estate taxes. Certain kinds of gifts, such as US savings bonds or retirement funds can generate significant income and estate taxes if given to living individuals, but will be fully tax free if given to St. Jude.

Many of our hospital’s most important facilities, technology and programs were made possible by donors who chose to leave their legacy through a charitable bequest. To learn more about this simple, flexible and most impactful way of giving to St. Jude, contact Carolyn Swanson at (714) 446-5857 or Carolyn.Swanson@stjoe.org.
St. Jude Receives $3 Million Gift to Advance Stroke and Patient Care

St. Jude Medical Center is pleased to announce a $3 million gift — one of the largest in the hospital’s history — from the estate of the late Marvin Blaski, a former patient who dedicated the gift in appreciation for the care he received after a stroke in 1996.

Two million dollars of the gift will fund the establishment of St. Jude Medical Center’s first endowed medical directorship — the Marvin Blaski Endowed Medical Directorship for Stroke. The additional $1 million will go to support future funding priorities for the hospital.

“Mr. Blaski’s generosity will benefit victims of stroke not just this year or next, but for decades,” explains Brian Helleland, chief executive, St. Jude Medical Center. “This is an extraordinary gift for which we are deeply grateful.”

The establishment of the Marvin Blaski Endowed Medical Directorship will further enhance the work of St. Jude’s Advanced Comprehensive Stroke Center, which has earned the highest level of stroke certification — a designation received by only 10 hospitals in California. As a stroke receiving center for both Orange and Los Angeles Counties, St. Jude is a referral center for highly-specialized and complex stroke care.

Hamed Farid, MD, MBA, the inaugural appointee of the endowed position, is medical director of St. Jude’s Neurointerventional Radiology and is widely respected for his expertise in preventing, treating and reversing the effects of stroke.

“This gift allows us to foster successful outcomes — benefiting patients today, tomorrow and well into the future,” he explains.

To leave your own legacy with St. Jude, contact the St. Jude Memorial Foundation at (714) 993-3033 to learn more about estate and planned giving.

To learn more about our Stroke Center, call please (714) 446-5677 or visit stjudemedicalcenter.org/stroke.

Upcoming St. Jude Memorial Foundation Fundraising Events

40TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC
Monday, May 15, 2017
Los Coyotes Country Club, Buena Park
Join us for an exciting day of golf and camaraderie. Proceeds support bringing the latest breast imaging technology (3D mammography) to St. Jude Crosson Cancer Institute.

10TH ANNUAL JOHN LIN GOLF TOURNAMENT
Thursday, June 15, 2017
Coyote Hills Country Club, Fullerton
Support the final year of this beloved tournament which raises funds for St. Jude Crosson Cancer Institute in honor of former board member John Lin, who we lost to cancer in 2008.

A WALK AMONG THE STARS: FASHION SHOW AND LUNCHEON
Sunday, October 29, 2017
Anaheim Marriott
This uplifting and inspiring event, featuring cancer patients and survivors as runway models, will benefit patient care at St. Jude Crosson Cancer Institute.

For more information on any of these events, contact St. Jude Memorial Foundation at (714) 992-3033.
St. Jude’s Critical Care Unit Receives National Honor

Congratulations to our Critical Care Unit for earning the prestigious Beacon Award for Excellence, one of the nation’s top honors for critical care and intensive care units.

Awarded by the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, the Beacon Award recognizes critical care units that exceed national benchmarks and demonstrate excellence in areas from patient outcomes and evidence-based practices, to staff engagement and collaboration. Among the approximate 420 hospitals in California, St. Jude is one of only 24 hospitals to earn the prestigious recognition.

Laura Ramos, MSN, RN, VP, patient care services and chief nursing officer at St. Jude Medical Center, says St. Jude’s Critical Care Unit sets a unique standard for optimal care and patient satisfaction. “When you speak with patients and families who received care in our CCU, you hear story after story of how their dedication and skill made a life-changing difference,” she explains. “Years later, patients can still tell you the names of our CCU nurses and physicians who cared for them. This award reflects the exceptional care that is a daily reality for our most vulnerable and fragile patients.”